Grants recipients are encouraged to let us know about any news or upcoming events relating to their projects, so that we can include them in future issues of this bulletin.

If you would not like to receive these updates in future, please simply let us know via return email.

NEW GRANTS OFFICER AT LSB

Kelly Tasiopoulos has recently joined our team. Kelly will be taking over the role of Grants Officer from Simone Marrocco who will be on maternity leave from April 2011 for twelve months. For any queries in regards to past, present or future grants, please feel free to contact Kelly on 9679 8039 or at ktasiopoulos@lsb.vic.gov.au.

2011 PROJECT GRANTS ROUND OPEN IN JULY

The 2011 Project Grants round will open in July this year. This round will support projects with a budget of up to $60,000 and a maximum duration of approximately one year. Grants may be sought for activities that lead to improved laws and legal services, enhanced access to justice and better informed consumers of legal services. Organisations and individuals can apply for projects that are relevant to Victoria.

The application form and guidelines will be available on the Legal Services Board’s website shortly at http://www.lsb.vic.gov.au/Grants.htm. If you have any questions relating to our grants program, or would like to discuss a potential application, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Susan Ball, Grants Manager, or Ms Kelly Tasiopoulos, Grants Officer or 9679 8000, or please email grants@lsb.vic.gov.au.

2011 MAJOR GRANTS ROUND HAS CLOSED

The 2011 Major Grants round opened in November 2010 and closed on 4 March 2011. The focus of the grants round was the prevention of violence against women. The wide consultation conducted throughout 2010 generated a significant interest in the Major Grants Round. Successful applicants are yet to be announced.

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY IMPROVING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

In 2007 La Trobe University received funding to examine the key features of an integrated legal service delivery model. The project looked at practices of the co-located services of West Heidelberg Community Legal Service and Banyule Community Health to explore the potential of an integrated approach to legal service for disadvantaged clients. In September this year Associate Professor Mary Anne Noone and Kate Digney published a research report titled Improving Access to Justice: The Key Features of an Integrated Legal Services Delivery Model.

SIR ZELMAN COWEN CENTRE LAUNCHES ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PROTECTION PAPER

In June 2010 the Sir Zelman Cowen Centre at Victoria University published Collaborative Approaches to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Protection, An examination of the operation of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007. This publication was part of a grant awarded by the Legal
Services Board to develop tools to educate and support implementation and compliance with the new Aboriginal heritage legislation.

To obtain a copy of this report email cowen.centre@vu.edu.au.

**WHITTLESEA COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS LAUNCHES VOCAT MANUAL**

In April 2011 Whittlesea Community Connections together with Whittlesea Community Legal Service launched the *Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal (VOCAT) Best Practice Manual and Discussion Paper*. The Manual has been developed as a resource for Community Legal Centres and legal practitioners who conduct VOCAT applications. The Best Practice Manual is one outcome of a research project conducted by Whittlesea Community Legal Service over the past two years, funded by a grant from the Legal Services Board. The Discussion Paper provides an analysis of the current legal framework for the assistance of victims of crime in Victoria with a particular focus on VOCAT.


**CHANGEMAKERS AUSTRALIA COMPLETES CHARITY LAW REFORM PROJECT**

In 2009 Changemakers Australia received a grant to research some of the impacts of the current definition of charity on the not for profit sector. The Charity Law Reform project has completed its research into the barriers to advocacy under charity and tax laws. The report, *Freedom to Speak – Capacity to Act*, describes how advocacy has been restricted and what needs to be done to support advocacy.

This report is available at [http://www.changemakers.org.au/](http://www.changemakers.org.au/).

**JESUIT SOCIAL SERVICES TACKLES THE ISSUE OF YOUNG PEOPLE ON REMAND**

Jesuit Social Services received a major grant in 2009 to tackle the issue of young people being remanded in adult custodial facilities. A report was published in 2010 titled *Young People on remand in Victoria: Balancing individual and community interests* that analyses current Australian and International trends in evidence-based prison policy. This includes remand and its place in the criminal justice system.


**FITZROY LEGAL SERVICES LAUNCHES LAW HANDBOOK ONLINE EDUCATION PORTAL**

The Fitzroy Legal Service together with Holmesglen will launch its latest offering from the Law Handbook Online - the new Education Portal for schools and TAFE Institutes on 4 May 2010 at Holmesglen, Moorabbin. The Education Portal aims to change the way students think about the law and introduce them to the drama of democratic debate and community advocacy. The Education Portal was funded with a major grant from the Legal Services Board.

CREATIVE MINISTRIES NETWORK DEVELOPES QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK ON
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

In 2009 Creative Ministries Network received a project grant to develop a framework around restorative justice in the area of work-related death and injury. The project involved extensive investigation of best practice models of restorative justice theory and practice, development of a Quality Assurance Framework and specific practice materials. As a result, the following four publications were published in March 2010:

- *Restorative Justice Service after a traumatic death: Quality Assurance Framework*
- *Restorative Justice Service after a traumatic death: practice materials, volumes 1 and 2*
- *Restorative Justice Manual: Theory*
- *Restorative Justice Manual: Practice*


WESTERN REGION HEALTH PUBLISHES STAMP BROCHURE

In 2010 Western Region Health received a major grant to develop STAMP - Supporting Traditional African Mediators Project. The project aims to develop a family violence training program for traditional African mediators based in Melbourne, particularly in the Western suburbs providing education and interventions that promote non-violent conflict resolution amongst African-Australian families. Western Region Health has recently produced a brochure to outline the aims of this project.


FURTHER INFORMATION


SUBSCRIPTIONS: To subscribe/unsubscribe from the Legal Services Board Grants Program E-Bulletin, please email grants@lsb.vic.gov.au.