



Grants Program Newsletter
Edition 16, November 2018

New grantees, our 2019 grant round launch, new publications and more!

Funding Announcement!

We are delighted to announce that the Victorian Legal Services Board Grants Program has awarded \$4.2 million to the following 18 outstanding organisations.

Peninsula Community Legal Centre Inc. \$250,000.00 over 2.5 Years
Unravelling the complex infringement system: A Health, Legal and Community Response to Enhance pathways for vulnerable clients with infringement debt in the South East.

Health Justice Australia \$150,000.00 over 3 Years
Building the Health Justice Partnership Pipeline

Anglicare Victoria \$260,000.00 over 2 Years
Clean Slates: A Health Justice Partnership between the Gippsland Community Legal Service and Community Mental Health Services

Springvale Monash Legal Service Inc. \$330,000.00 over 2 Years
Sporting Change

The Torch Project \$100,000.00 over 1 Year
Women's Arts Officer in Prisons and Community

Mental Health Legal Centre Inc. \$80,000.00 over 1 Year*Advance Statements***Justice Connect \$180,000.00 over 2 Years***Joining Up Justice: Building smart integrations between justice agencies to improve the experience of looking for legal help and to link more Victorians with pro bono legal help.***Fitzroy Legal Service \$268,000.00 over 15 Months***Rachel and her Children***Eastern Community Legal Centre Inc. \$495,000.00 over 2 Years***Eastern Integrated Practice Project***Federation of Community Legal Centres (Victoria) Inc. \$120,000.00 over 1 Year***Stories of Strength: A Storytelling and media project for women with lived prison experience***First Step \$100,000.00 over 2 Years***First Step Health Justice Outreach Project and Evaluation (First Step HOPE)***Hume Riverina Community Legal Service (Upper Murray Family Care)**

\$340,000.00 over 2 Years

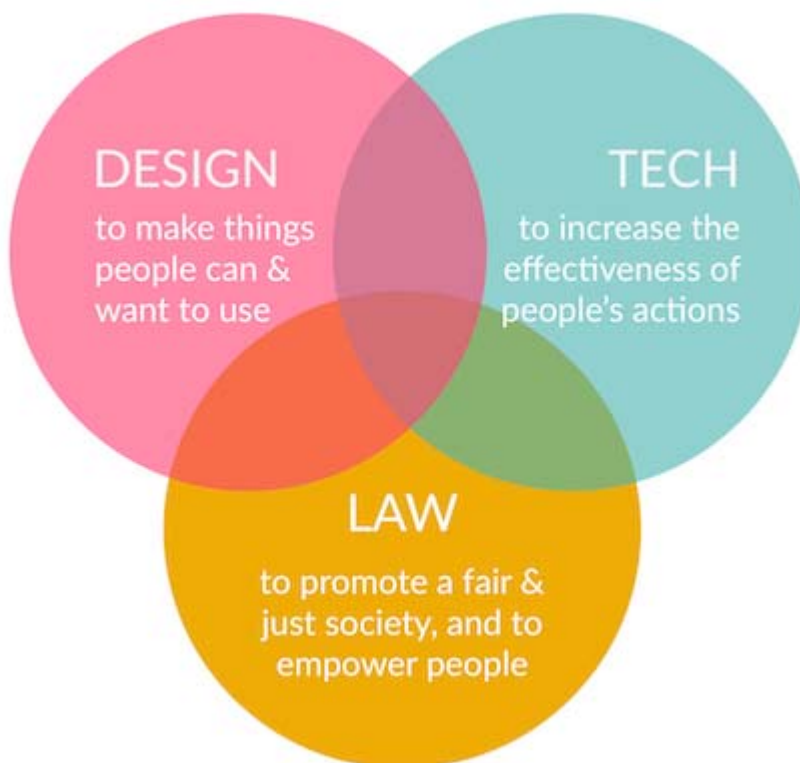
*Invisible Hurdles Project (Stage 2)***Mind Australia Limited \$430,000.00 over 2.5 Years***Justice in Mind***Northern Community Legal Centre \$330,000.00 over 2 Years***Abused and Abandoned: Family Violence in the Australian Indian Community***Sir Zelman Cowen Centre, Victoria University \$120,000.00 over 1 Year***The Ripple Effect: Legal education for diverse faith-based communities***PartnerSPEAK \$100,000.00 over 2 Years***The provision of peer support through legal processes to non-offending partners of people found to be accessing child abuse material online***Refugee Legal \$199,200.00 over 2 Years**

Family Violence and Migration Law Project

Inner Melbourne Community Legal Centre \$347,000.00 over 2 Years
Community Legal PACER Partnership (CLPP)

To learn more about these projects please visit our [website](#).

Interested in our 2019 Grant Round?



Design, Tech, Law: Dr Margaret Hagan

2019 Priority Theme: Designing Justice Differently Using Human-Centred Design and Technology

We are excited to launch our 2019 Grant Guidelines on the morning of Tuesday **4 December** 2018. At the launch you will learn details of the 2019 grants round priority theme of improving access to justice through human-centred design and technology. This event will include an introductory design workshop, delivered by our design partners [Portable](#), to stimulate your ideas. Human-centred design puts the user at the centre and combines a practical, repeatable

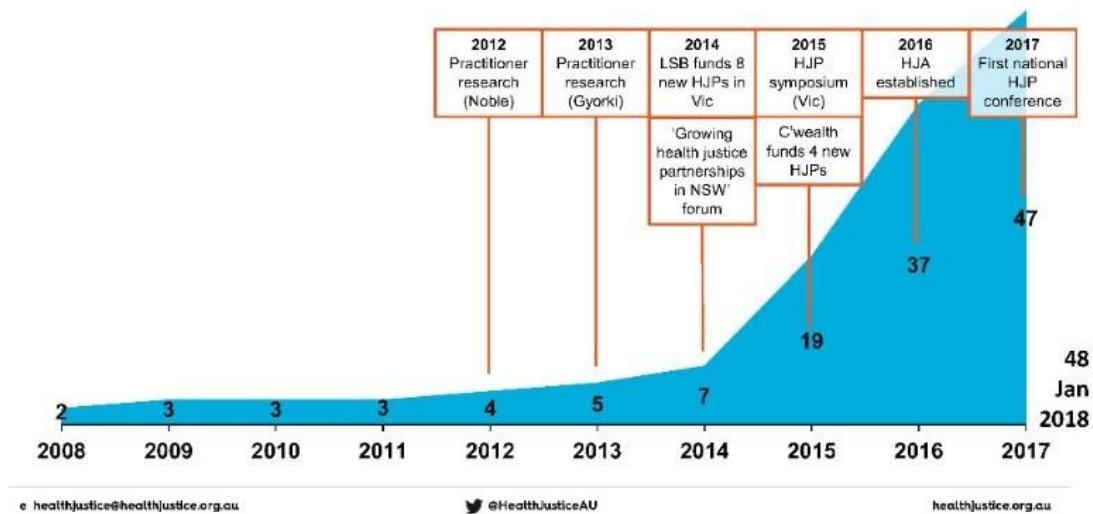
approach to arriving at innovative solutions to improving access to justice. A light lunch will be provided after the workshop concludes.

If you are interested in applying to our 2019 grant round then please make sure you come along!

Please [register here](#).

The Power of Strategic Funding

Health Justice Australia have mapped the evolution of HJPs in Australia



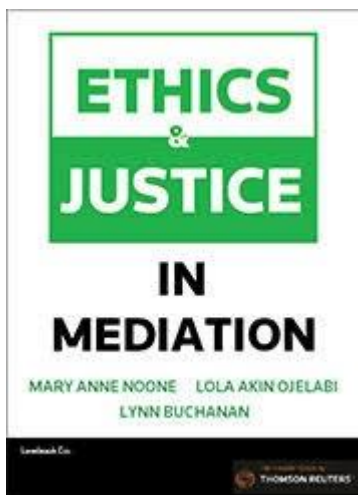
There has been a proliferation of HJPs throughout Australia and we are very proud of the role the Victorian Legal Services Board's Grant Program has been able to play in building that momentum. This innovative model of service delivery, that sees legal and health practitioners work collaboratively to deliver services, is proving to be an effective way of increasing access to justice as well as benefiting people's health and well-being.

As demonstrated in Health Justice Australia's graph above, in 2014 we funded 8 new HJPs throughout Victoria, more than doubling the number of Australian HJPs; we have since funded many more. It has been an honour to work with these services and support their evolution. It is a testament to the outstanding work of those foundational HJP practitioners that the model is being adopted throughout the country.

Health Justice Australia has undertaken the significant task of mapping the

health justice landscape. Their [Mapping a New Path: The health justice landscape in Australia, 2017](#) report outlines which services are collaborating and where, how they're working together, who they serve and the assistance they provide. This report is a must read!

New Book: Ethics & Justice in Mediation

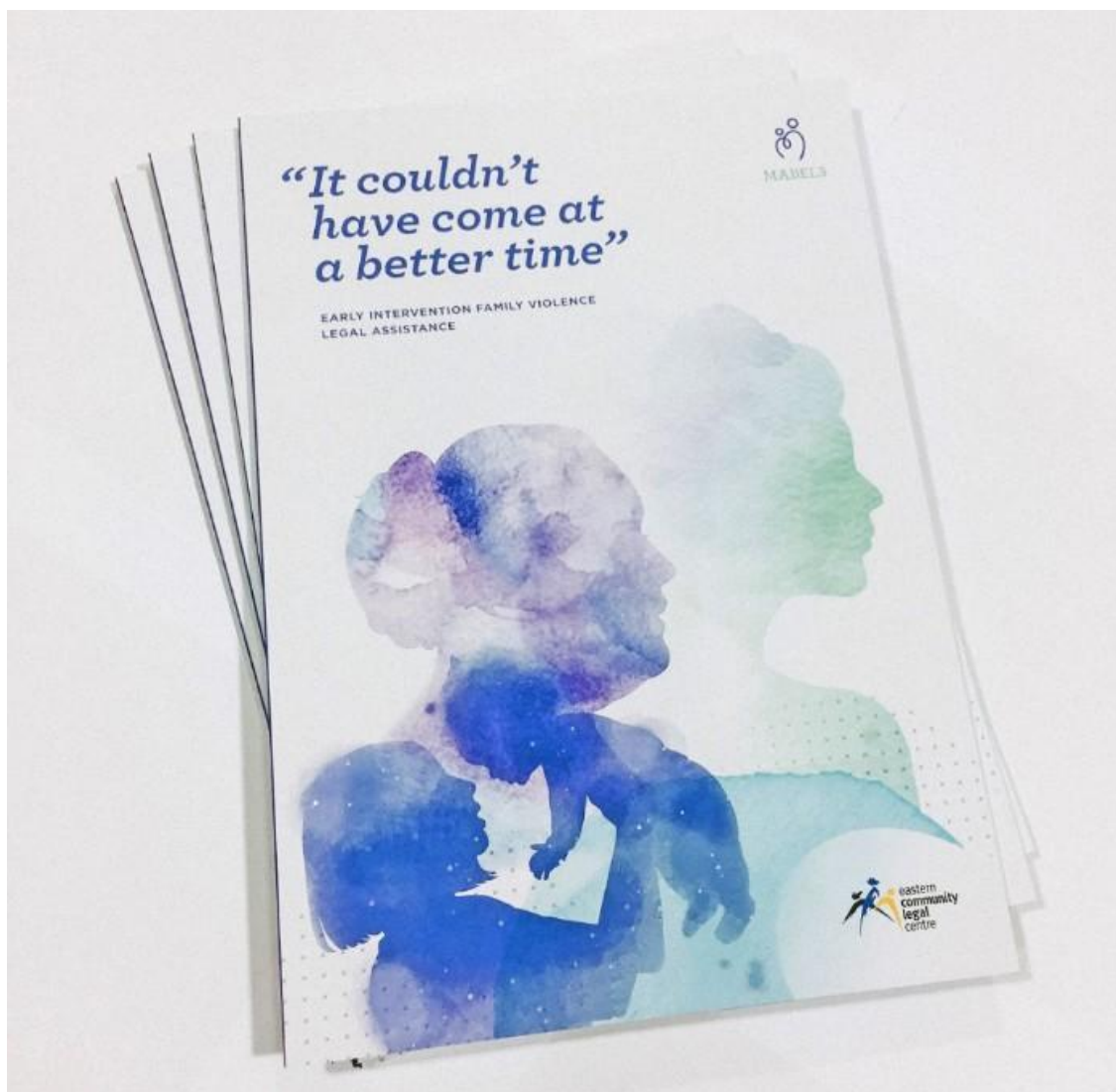


A LaTrobe University research project, funded by the Grants Program in 2011, has formed the foundations of a newly published book. Written by Mary Anne Noone, Lola Akin Ojelabi and Lynn Buchanan, [Ethics and Justice in Mediation](#) provides guidance for mediators through the ethical and practical challenges that arise in different mediation contexts.

Informed by interviews with experienced mediation practitioners, the book equips mediators with the skills required to identify the approach best suited to achieving just and ethical outcomes. It outlines the relevant mediation standards and values that apply and demonstrates the different approaches available to mediators to help them ensure balanced outcomes for all parties to a mediation

New Reports

MABELS: It couldn't have come at a better time



We were delighted to attend the launch of the Early Intervention Family Violence Legal Assistance report in September. The report is based on a literature review of how each of the health, family violence and legal sectors have defined early intervention. It also uses the experience, knowledge and best-practice skills developed through MABELS. Funded through the Victorian Legal Services Board Grants Program, MABELS is a Health Justice Partnership between ECLC, Boorndawan Willam Aboriginal Healing Service and two Victorian local government councils. The program, which began in early 2015, provides an opportunity for early intervention for women experiencing family violence.

"For me it couldn't have come at a better time. The information and support I received was really good, and really helped me through some dark days. I know it was one question that my MCH nurse had asked me, if she hadn't asked the question, I wouldn't have raised it. It was just something general like 'How are you doing?', but it made me realise it wasn't just about the baby."

– MABELS Client

[Read this report](#) for critical insights into shared leadership and integrated funding, early intervention family violence models and legal professional privilege.

Overcoming Invisible Hurdles



Invisible Hurdles Partners: HRCLS Invisible Hurdles Lawyer Andrea Georgiou, HRCLS Principal Lawyer, Sarah Rodgers, NESAY Community Services Manager Joy Ware, NESAY CEO Leah Waring, NESAY Manager Youth and Families Georgie Gray, AWAHS representative Ray Ahmat, AWAHS Drug and Alcohol Counsellor Adrian O'Callaghan, Federal Member for Indi, Cathy McGowan, and Wodonga Flexible Learning Centre Principal Huw DerwentSmith in January 2018.

Today the Invisible Hurdles team launched their new report, *Overcoming the Invisible Hurdles to Justice for Young People*. In launching the report, Hume Riverina Community Legal Service (HRCLS) Principal Lawyer Sarah Rodgers said of the many reasons behind the project's success, the significant commitment by the partners was crucial to the outcomes.

Invisible Hurdles is an integrated justice practice designed to produce better legal outcomes for young people experiencing family violence in North East Victoria. Their initial pilot, funded by the Victorian Legal Services Board Grants Program, saw HRCLS embed a free lawyer into three organisations: Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Health Service (AWAHS), Wodonga Flexible Learning

Centre and North East Support and Action for Youth Inc. (NESAY).

Dr Liz Curran, Associate Professor of Law at the ANU College of Law, led the research and evaluation of the project with Pamela Taylor-Barnett. Dr Curran said the research showed how allowing time for natural progression and learning was pivotal.

“The most important thing we learnt was that young people, the vulnerable and even professional services providers don’t trust lawyers and the legal system and that trust takes time to build,” Dr Curran said. “So it was critical the project was funded and able to run for three years, because it took two years to break down those barriers and build trust and respect. In the final year of the project, when those relationships were strong and working smoothly, we saw a massive increase in referrals and consultations.”

The second stage of Invisible Hurdles is one of 18 projects funded in the Victorian Legal Services Board Grants Program 2018 funding round.

[Download your copy of the report here.](#)

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