



Quarterly Report

FOURTH QUARTER: April – June 2019

Service Delivery at a Glance

(Statistics for fourth quarter only)

- **1,171** new grants of aid
- **1,625** duty lawyer services
- **94** Family Dispute Resolution mediation conferences
- Safe at Home services
118 new files
- **67** new Mental Health Tribunal files
- **1,167** face-to-face advice services
- **31** reviews of grants officer's decisions
- **58%** of reviews varied or set aside the grants officer's decision
- **62%** of new grants assigned to the private profession
- **98%** of law firm bills paid within one working day



14,772
telephone
advice services



162,611
website
page views



100% of
applications for
legal aid considered
within one day

New Director of the Legal Aid Commission

After an extensive recruitment process the Attorney-General announced the appointment of Vincenzo Caltabiano as the new Director of Legal Aid. Vincenzo started in the role on 14 May 2019.

Vincenzo joined Legal Aid Tasmania after almost 11 years at Victoria Legal Aid (VLA) and 17 years in private practice.

Thank you to Susie Winter for the wonderful job she has done as the Acting Director for the past year

To find out more about Vincenzo and our other board members, visit our webpage:

<https://www.legalaid.tas.gov.au/about-us/our-board-2019/>



Vincenzo Caltabiano,
Legal Aid Commission
of Tasmania's new
Director

Elder Abuse

The service is already having success helping vulnerable older Tasmanians. We recently helped Jean (not her real name) who had moved to Tasmania to be closer to her son and grandchildren. Shortly after getting here her son started demanding that Jean do house work and give him money.

When she went to hospital her son demanded that Jean give him her cash card and pin number so that he could withdraw funds. Over a few months he was able to withdraw thousands of dollars.

Our Older People's Legal Service provided Jean with advice about her options to deal with the abusive behaviour. With the assistance of our lawyer, the demands for money have stopped and Jean is considering her next steps.

If you have a question about this please contact us on 1300 366 611 and ask for a referral to OPLS.



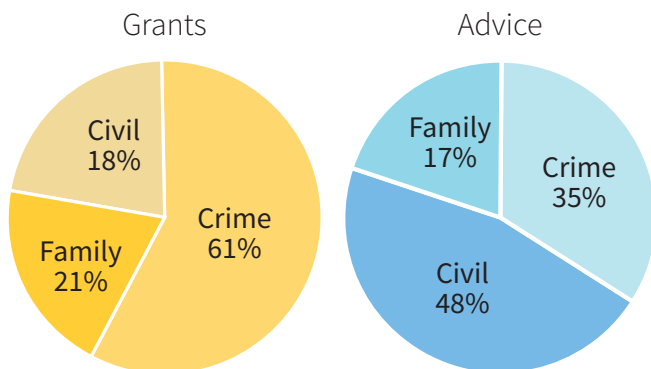
International Elder Abuse Awareness Day

We participated in the International Elder Abuse Awareness day walk in Hobart on 15 June 2019. People of all ages gather to mark the day. A choir of older people sang to get the march on the way. The song was then taken up by some school children who sang for the duration of the walk.

The Minister for Social Services, Roger Jaensch, launched a new Elder Abuse Prevention Strategy which aims to raise awareness and respond to elder abuse. In his address the Minister acknowledged the traditional owners of the land and noted the respect paid to Elders, something he suggested we all needed to remember regardless of our background.



Client Services



ICL/Separate Representative Conference

The Independent Children's Lawyers and Separate Representatives (ICL/SR) Conference, held on 17 May in Launceston, provided an excellent opportunity for staff and members of the profession from across Tasmania to meet and exchange ideas. A packed room heard from a range of speakers about the challenges faced in giving children a voice in cases that are about them.

The presentation by the Commissioner for Children and Young People was both challenging and inspiring. She caused us to think about the issues confronting young Tasmanians and our role, as professionals and individuals, in addressing these.

We thank the speakers, Kristen Wylie, Patrick Fitzgerald and all staff involved in putting on the conference.

In May we participated in AGFEST, one of Australia's largest field day events, attracting 63,000 visitors from all over the state. Legal Aid was one of 728 exhibitors and we engaged with over 1500 people about our services and programs.

White Ribbon Campaign

The White Ribbon Campaign is Australia's campaign to end men's violence against women. As a state service organisation, the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania are proud supporters of the White Ribbon campaign. <https://www.whiteribbon.org.au/>



Legal Aid is part of the Safe at Home program, which is the Tasmanian Government response to family violence. This program involves a range of services working together, to protect and support victims of family violence, including young people and children.

The Safe at Home team has lawyers available to provide legal advice and assistance to victims of family violence.

To make an appointment with one of our Safe at Home lawyers, call **1300 366 611**

Summary of Financial Performance

At the end of June 2019, Legal Aid Tasmania is tracking within the budget set by the Board in May 2018.

Financial Summary*	
Commonwealth Funding	\$6,540,176
State Funding	\$8,170,765
Other Income	\$906,511
TOTAL FUNDS	\$15,617,451
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$14,727,323
Capital Management Plan to contend with systemic risk in the Legal Aid Sector.	\$890,128

* Note these are management figures and have not been audited.

