

South Coast Cooperative Legal Service Delivery Program Partnership

The South Coast Cooperative Legal Service Delivery Program Partnership is one of 12 regional justice partnerships in NSW.

The partnerships aim to improve legal outcomes for people who experience social and economic disadvantage.

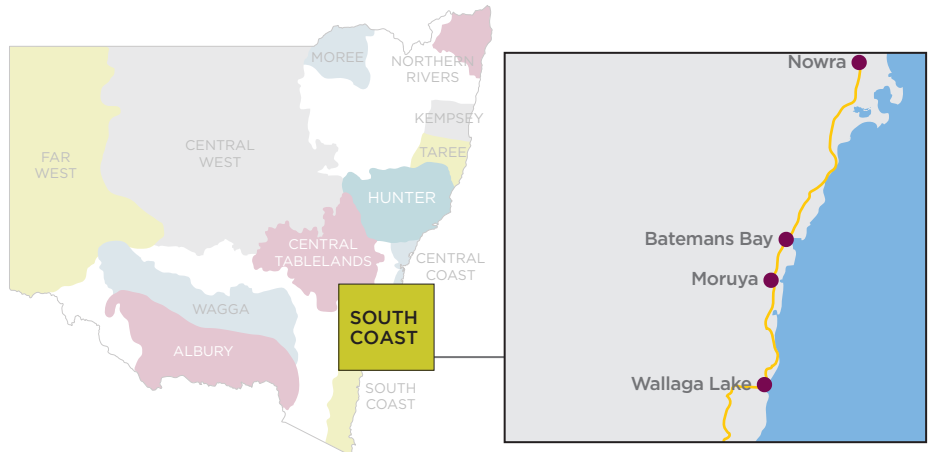
CLSD Program partnerships are a coalition of legal and non-legal services including:

- community legal centres
- financial counsellors
- Legal Aid NSW regional offices and outreach services
- the Aboriginal Legal Service
- private solicitors
- tenancy services
- disability services
- Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention Legal Services
- domestic violence services
- drug and alcohol services
- mental health services
- neighbourhood centres
- courts
- youth services.

Why are CLSD Program partnerships important?

People who experience social and economic disadvantage often have complex and interrelated legal, health, financial and social needs. CLSD Program partnerships identify areas of unmet legal need in their communities and take collaborative action to address that need.

Systemic issues and problems that are raised by partnerships are regularly fed back to the NSW Legal Assistance Forum, the Law and Justice Foundation as well as other relevant bodies such as the Law Society, ombudsman schemes and government agencies.



How does the CLSD Program work?

Each partnership has a regional coordinator. Face to face meetings of the partners are held four times each year. Information about meeting dates and locations can be found on the Legal Aid NSW website www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/clsd.

The quarterly meetings are a great opportunity for partners to share information about new services, emerging legal issues and legal needs in the region.

Each partnership has an action plan that provides a framework for priorities and collaborative work by the partners. Action plans are flexible and updated regularly.

Outside of the quarterly meetings the regional coordinator reaches out to potential new partners, monitors the action plan and helps partners to develop and implement projects.

CLSD Program Projects

Partners use an evidence based approach to respond to unmet and emerging legal needs. Funding is available to support collaborative projects that provide, facilitate or enhance access to legal services in the region.

Projects developed by the South Coast partnership include:

- Know your rights morning tea.
- Dealing with Fines days – particularly in Aboriginal communities.
- A local Youth Law Diary.

- Joint outreach by Lifeline Financial Counselling and Legal Aid NSW for inmates at the South Coast Correctional Centre.
- Work with the Law and Justice Foundation on a legal needs analysis for southern NSW.
- Keeping your Finances Safe workshops for over 50's.

South Coast region priorities:

- Improving access to legal and related non-legal services for:
 - inmates at South Coast Correctional Centre
 - vulnerable clients
 - Older women at risk of homelessness
 - people living on the Far South Coast
- Increase the capacity of volunteers and workers in the aged care sector to support older people experiencing legal problems.
- Develop the skills of community workers to identify legal problems

How can you get involved?

Contact the South Coast Regional Coordinator:

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