Central West CLSD Program Partnership

Action Plan 2025 and 2026

Partnership Purpose	To work collaboratively to identify and address unmet legal and related non-legal needs of people in the Central West. We do this by strengthening referral pathways, working on projects and coordinating our efforts.
Partnership priorities	**Project | Activity**
Servicing remote areas	Investigate opportunities to deliver combined legal outreach (suggestions to return to Coonamble and for Will clinics in Brewarrina and Bourke)
	Develop legal service guide for all main towns in the region, including Mudgee and promote visiting legal services.
Partnership priorities	**Project | Activity**
Supporting young people and families	Investigate opportunities to support clients on the Winha-nga-nga list.
	Advocate for AOD day program for young people. Step one is to start talking about the idea outside of the immediate partnership.
	Support establishment of a professional community of practice for lawyers working with families involved with the Department of Communities and Justice by coordinating the inaugural meeting.
	Provide information to non-legal partners regarding changes to Family Law Act July 2025.
	Monitor compulsory schooling orders locally. Include as standing agenda item in legal services only meetings 2025 and 2026.
	Explore care and protection resource like Northern Rivers CLC publication.
Partnership priorities	**Project | Activity**
Supporting people in prison	Investigate access to power of attorney and enduring guardianship documents for people in prison within the region.
	Strengthen referrals for prisoners with public housing tenancies to NEWTAAS and Murra Mia. Support connections between local criminal lawyers and tenant advocates.

	Dedicate Q2 2026 quarterly CLSD meeting to supporting prisoners.
Other	Continue building and strengthening relationships between people working in legal/advocacy services and community sector organisations.
	Law Week CLSD Program meeting 2025 and 2026 – panel of different legal sector professionals
	Have bail centralisation reforms as standing agenda item at meetings to discuss how the changes are impacting people in the region and to identify issues that may need to be addressed.
	Additional concern now that NCAT Registry in Dubbo is closing, requiring people to attend face to face in Wollongong.
	Locate the services that can help clients with NDIS applications in the region