



annual report  
2013 - 2014

working to advance  
the rights of  
people with  
intellectual  
disability  
since 1986



Intellectual Disability Rights Service Inc.  
ABN 11 216 371 524

PO Box 3347  
Redfern NSW 2016

Suite 2C, 199 Regent Street  
Redfern NSW 2016

T +61 2 9318 0144

F +61 2 9318 2887

E [info@idrs.org.au](mailto:info@idrs.org.au)

W [www.idrs.org.au](http://www.idrs.org.au)

 [facebook.com/IntellectualDisabilityRightsService](https://facebook.com/IntellectualDisabilityRightsService)

 [@IDRS\\_NSW](https://twitter.com/IDRS_NSW)





# Table of Contents

A Word from the Chair .....	6
Executive Officer's reflections .....	8
About IDRS .....	10
Introduction .....	10
Vision .....	11
Purpose .....	11
Values .....	11
What we do .....	13
Legal Advice and Casework .....	14
Legal advice .....	15
After-hours advice.....	17
Legal Casework.....	18
Issue types of long-term legal casework.....	19
Case studies .....	20
Help dealing with fines.....	21
Persistent representation needed when behavioural problems become crimes....	22
Education and Training .....	23
Highlights.....	24
Impact of co-educators .....	26
Rights education for people with intellectual disability .....	27
Police training.....	28
Cops and Court .....	28
Future planning.....	29
Volunteer Training.....	30
Criminal Justice Support Network (CJSN) .....	31
CJSN turns 10.....	32
CJSN support numbers in each region .....	34
How many clients did CJSN support? .....	35
CJSN after hours on call service .....	35
If not for CJSN: .....	36
Feedback from stakeholders on CJSN.....	38
The Parents Project .....	39
Our team .....	40



Parents assisted by the project .....	41
Advice and Casework .....	43
Case study .....	44
Volunteer Court Support – pilot project .....	45
Capacity building.....	46
Systemic advocacy .....	47
Apprehended violence orders and defendants who lack capacity.....	48
IDRS and the National Disability Insurance Scheme.....	49
Supporting people with intellectual disability to access NDIS.....	49
Questions about what the NDIS will cover and how gaps will be filled .....	50
Successful certification against service standards .....	51
Submissions .....	52
Participation in Advisory and Working Groups .....	53
IDRS Staffing.....	54
Members of the IDRS Board .....	55
Thank you .....	56
Support and funding .....	56
Core funding.....	56
Specific project funding .....	57
Financial Statement.....	58

## A Word from the Chair

It's with great pleasure that I introduce the annual report for 2013-2014.

It has been a year in which our resources have been stretched to and beyond the limit, and I am delighted to say we have been able to meet the challenge.



One of the ways we are measured is the independent external audits of our service delivery as part of our accreditation.

Although meeting and exceeding our procedural obligations is of course important, it is even more critical to me that we are able to be the best we can be for our clients.

And it is here that our audit reports have been truly outstanding.

Our clients, in independent interviews, confirm that they are very happy with our services. Indeed their desire to be interviewed resulted in the auditor commenting that their enthusiasm to participate was due to the sheer gratitude they felt for the assistance they had received.

To be seen to be one of the most outstanding advocacy organisations is very gratifying and I want to thank all the staff, the volunteers, our indefatigable Executive Officer, and our board for their part in helping to achieve this outcome.

We do however face some darkening clouds and increasing challenges. For some years the shortfall in funding to provide our services has been concerning. Public funding is no longer keeping up with even the most stringently managed costs. This is despite the fact that our well managed teams of volunteers enable IDRS to deliver services to the intellectual disability community at a fraction of their value.

This coming year we will address these challenges and will continue to deliver the highest level of services, but equally importantly, to independently advocate for the rights of the intellectual disability community.

I do hope you enjoy reading this report and may perhaps consider ways you can support us in our mission.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Sprange". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*Mike Sprange*  
*Chairperson*



## Executive Officer's reflections

2013-2014 has been a busy and productive year at IDRS as reflected in this annual report.

This year has seen the beginning of a revolution in the disability sector with the commencement of the National Disability Insurance Scheme which holds so much promise for people with disability. IDRS has been active in the Hunter Region in assisting people with intellectual disability, particularly those who are isolated and have little or no family or other support, to become participants in the NDIS. We have seen some good opportunities and outcomes. We have also seen lots of room for improvement and will continue to advocate to NDIA to improve systems and access for people with intellectual disability to the scheme.

Through all our programs IDRS continues to provide strong, expert and effective advocacy for people with intellectual disability.

Our legal team has achieved good outcomes this year and is keen to expand its work in the areas of education and employment where we see marked discrimination toward people with intellectual disability.

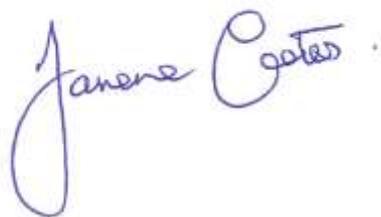
2014 marks 10 years since the beginning of the Criminal Justice Support Network. It is joy to me and a credit to the staff and the extraordinary volunteers that this small pilot program has developed into such a far reaching, effective and respected service.

Our Parent's Project continues to have some hard fought wins for parents with intellectual disability facing removal of their children. We are excited to have commenced a pilot of court support for parents with intellectual disability this year.

This year has seen an expansion of education and training delivery made possible by running some training for disability services on a fee for service basis. We hope to open up new rights training options for people with disability in 2014-15.

It is very rewarding to lead such a dedicated, good humored and energetic staff team who are tireless in their efforts to support people with intellectual disability to achieve good outcomes.

I would like to thank the IDRS Board members who lead and guide IDRS for their expert guidance and support during this challenging year.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janene Cootes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

*Janene Cootes*  
*Executive Officer*



## About IDRS

### Introduction

The Intellectual Disability Rights Service (IDRS) is a specialist legal advocacy service for people with intellectual disability. We work with and for people with intellectual disability to exercise and advance their rights.

We do this by providing legal advice, casework and support, advocating for improvements to laws and policies affecting people with intellectual disability. We provide assistance to legal and other professionals supporting people with intellectual disability and providing information to service providers and the community about the rights and needs of people with intellectual disability.

IDRS strongly endorses the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The purpose of the Convention is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by persons with disabilities.

IDRS is a community legal centre. IDRS receives its main funding from the NSW Department of Family and Community Services, Ageing Disability and Home Care (ADHC); the Australian Government Department of Social Services and the Public Purpose Fund (Law Society of NSW) through the Community Legal Centres Funding Program of Legal Aid.

## Vision

Our vision is of a society that understands, respects, promotes and safeguards the rights of people with intellectual disability. A society where people with intellectual disability are able to fully exercise their rights.

## Purpose

Our purpose is to work alongside people with intellectual disability to achieve our vision of a society where people with intellectual disability are able to fully exercise their rights as valued and respected citizens.

## Values

**We believe that people with intellectual disability are people first and are valued members of society entitled to:**

- live in and be part of a diverse and inclusive community
- live free from discrimination and prejudice
- be provided with the support needed to exercise their rights
- be afforded social justice and equality
- be included in meaningful and empowering ways in matters that affect them
- be treated fairly as citizens including by the criminal justice system
- use mainstream services that meet their individual needs
- support and adjustments by social agencies to minimise their disadvantage as a right and not as the result of pity, charity or the exercise of social control



## **We work towards creating a society:**

- that is inclusive, supportive and respects individual difference
- that enables the full and effective participation and inclusion of people with intellectual disability
- that respects the inherent dignity and worth of all human beings
- where legislation, services and policies positively support and assist people with intellectual disability

## **We are an organisation that values:**

- active and meaningful participation of people with intellectual disability in all aspects of our work including governance
- feedback about our work
- open communication, accountability, continual learning, innovation and excellence
- working collaboratively with people with intellectual disability and others to achieve our vision
- the integrity, skill and commitment of our staff, volunteers and Board

## What we do

### **We provide a state-wide service in the following areas:**

- **Direct legal work:** including some casework representing clients, providing legal advice, support and referral to assist people with intellectual disability to get the best possible outcome when they are involved in the legal system.
- **Support:** providing support persons for people with intellectual disability at court and at police stations.
- **Law reform and systemic change:** advocating for improvements to laws, practices and policies so that the legal rights and dignity of people with intellectual disability are protected and promoted.
- **Enhancing the skills of legal and justice professionals:** assisting legal and justice professionals to communicate effectively with, and provide quality services to, clients with intellectual disability.
- **Empowering people with intellectual disability:** enabling people with intellectual disability to exercise their rights by providing assistance, information and support.
- **Enhancing support networks:** assisting service providers, individuals and the community to better understand the needs of people with intellectual disability and to promote and respect their rights.



# Legal Advice and Casework

## **IDRS delivers legal services by providing:**

- Free legal advice by phone or in person to people with intellectual disability or, where it is not possible to advise the person with intellectual disability directly, to others who call on behalf of the person with intellectual disability.
- Referral to legal and disability services
- Information, training and resources to lawyers in NSW who are assisting clients with intellectual disability.
- Legal advice to people with intellectual disability who are in police custody 9am – 10pm 7 days week via staff solicitors and a network of volunteer solicitors.
- Legal casework and representation for people with intellectual disability in some cases.

The IDRS legal team staff comprises a Principal Solicitor (Margot Morris), two full-time solicitors (Tim Chate and Ali Craig) and a part-time solicitor involved in our Parents with Intellectual Disability, Care and Protection Project (Cindy Graham July – December 2013 and Marissa Sandler from January 2014).

The legal work of IDRS was enhanced by the contributions of practical legal training placement students Andrew Harrison (from September 2013), Bede Kennedy (August 2013 to April 2014) and Dominique McGovern (February to June 2014).

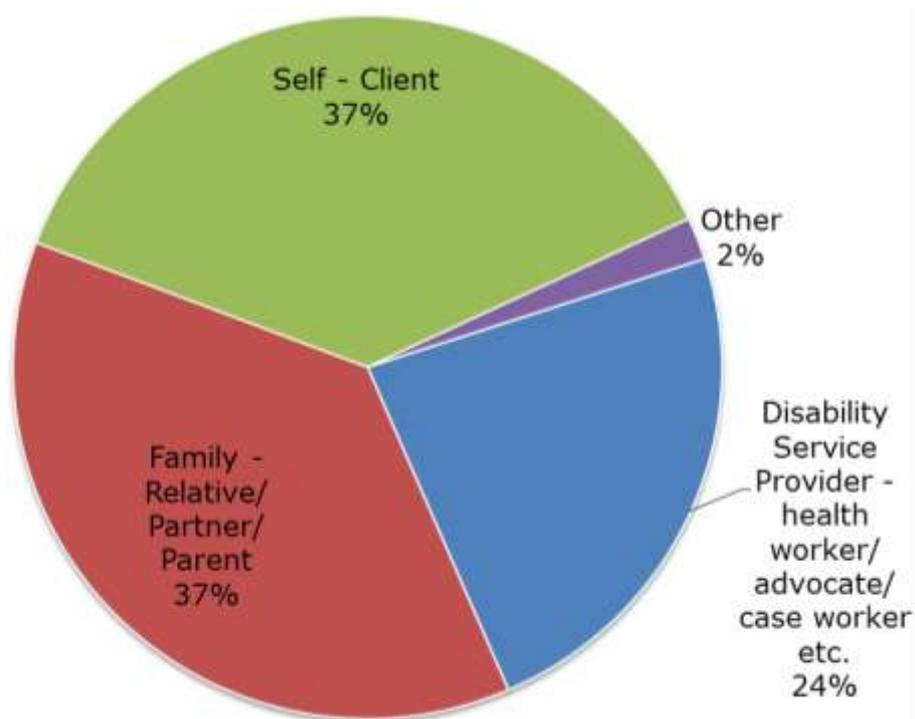
## Legal advice

IDRS provides legal advice to people with intellectual disability throughout NSW by phone or in person. This year 37% of requests for legal advice were made directly by people with intellectual disability.

However, people with intellectual disability often depend on family, friends, disability advocates and disability workers to initiate contact with IDRS on their behalf. IDRS can provide advice for a person with intellectual disability through a third party as long as that third party is clearly acting in the best interests of the person with intellectual disability and there is no reasonable basis for thinking that there is a conflict of interest between the third party and the person with intellectual disability.

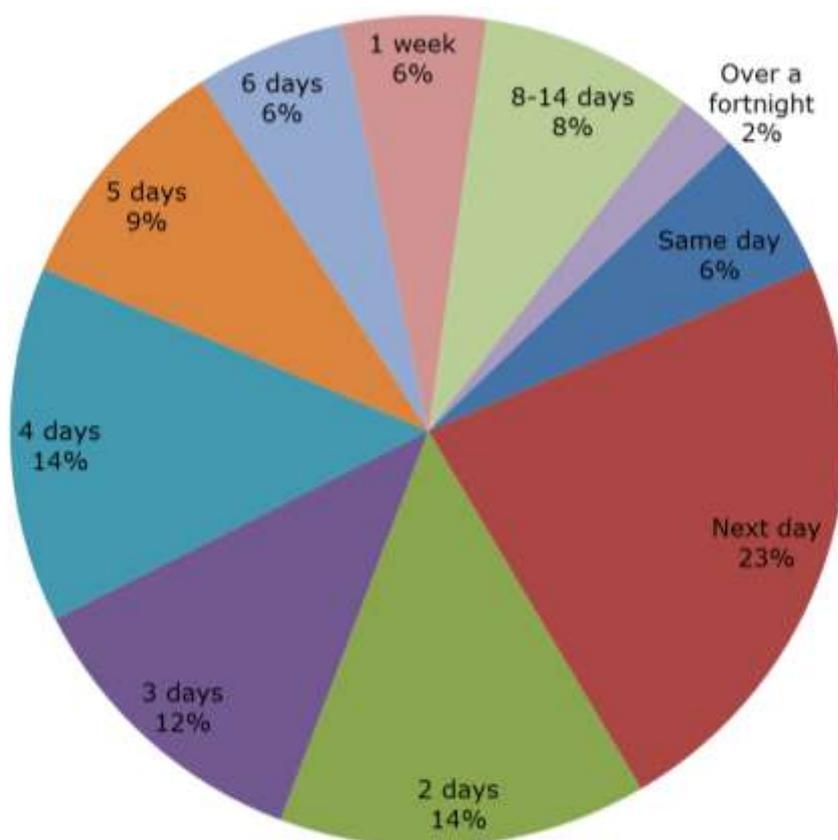
Whenever possible the person with intellectual disability participates in discussing their problem with a solicitor, often along with the initial caller.

### Who contacted IDRS to get legal advice?



Requests for advice are addressed face-to-face or by telephone, usually by appointment. Appointments generally take place within a few days. In 2013-14 over 50% of advice requests were responded to within 3 days. In urgent matters, for example if a person with intellectual disability is in police custody, advice will be arranged within hours.

## Legal advice provision (delay in days)



- \* Delay is the difference between first contact, and the time of the appointment
- \* Delay includes weekends, holidays and other days the centre is closed

After giving advice the IDRS solicitor will often take some follow-up action like making phone calls or writing a letter, and then a solicitor will have further contact with the client about the matter.

In 2013-2014 we provided legal advice and minor casework assistance to 417 people in 622 sessions.

Some common situations that lead people with intellectual disability or people in their circle of support to seek legal assistance are:

- being charged with a criminal offence
- responding to an application for an apprehended violence order
- being harassed by the police
- finding out what to do as a victim of crime
- being harassed by neighbours
- being financially or emotionally abused
- discrimination
- wanting to get rid of a guardianship or financial management order
- fines
- problems with debt
- being left out of a parent's will
- consumer issues
- being injured
- problems at work
- losing a job
- being treated unfairly
- needing to complain about government departments
- needing to complain about services
- problems with schools.

## After-hours advice

Volunteer lawyers give generously of their time and expertise to be on a roster that enables IDRS to provide legal advice from 9am to 10pm 7 days per week for people with intellectual disability who have been arrested and are in police custody. After-hours legal advice has been provided on over 50 occasions this year by either a staff lawyer or a volunteer lawyer. The lawyer works in conjunction with a CJSN support person who is at the police station with the person or with the CJSN after-hours on-call staff. This combination of support and legal advice can have a significant positive effect on the outcomes for the person who has been arrested.

We thank the lawyers who volunteered their time and services after-hours in 2013-2014.



## Legal Casework

During 2013-14, IDRS worked on 51 long-term legal cases for 44 different clients.

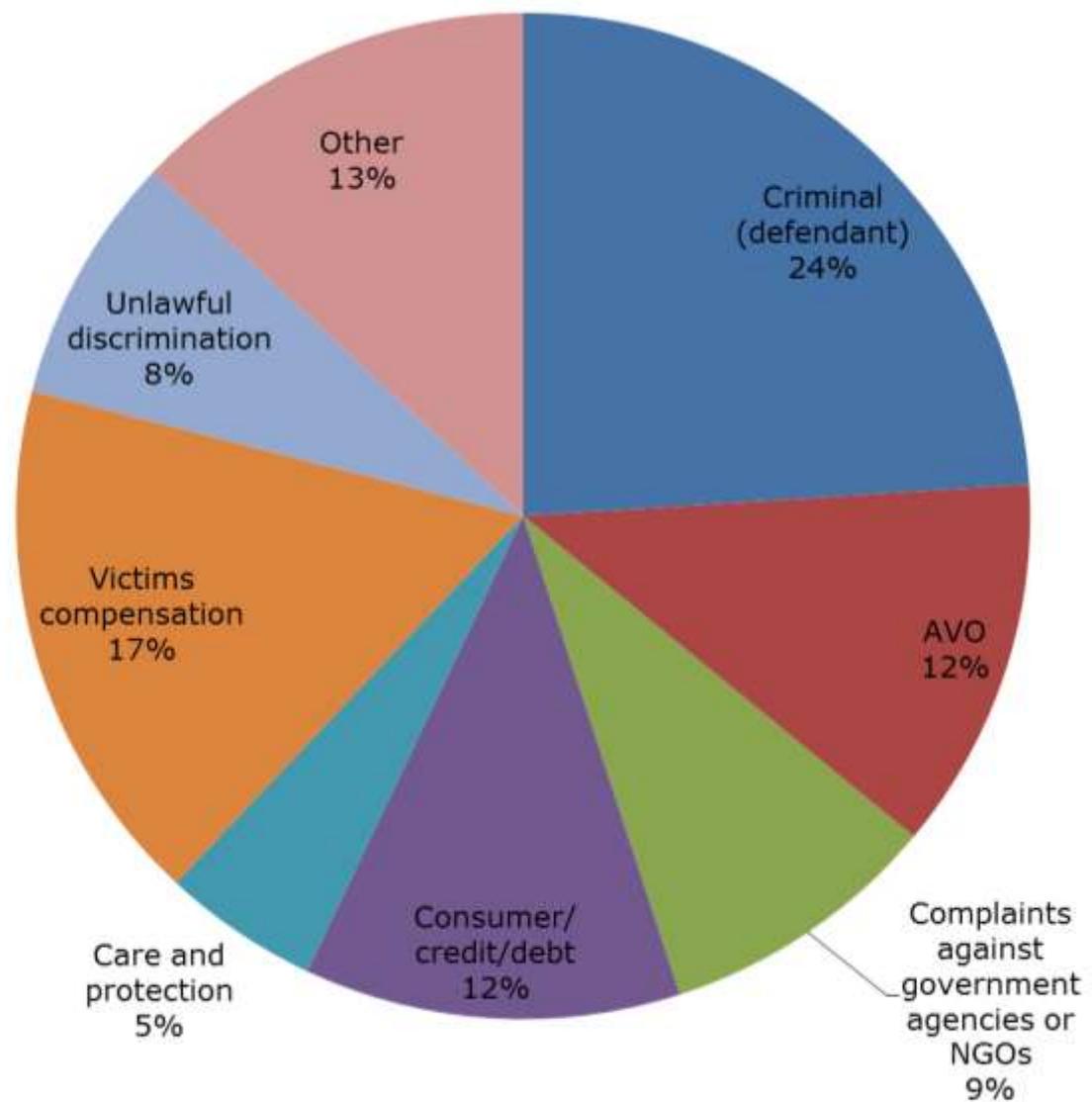
Factors considered in deciding which cases have priority to be taken on for long term legal casework are:

- The merits of the case and whether it has reasonable prospects of success
- Whether the person has access to alternate appropriate legal assistance/representation
- The strategic value and potential for positive systemic outcomes that the case presents for people with intellectual disability
- Whether IDRS is the most appropriate service to act for a client including whether IDRS is skilled in the particular area of law
- Whether IDRS has capacity to take on the case
- Any conflict of interest

Cases in which IDRS acted covered problem areas including:

- Apprehended violence orders
- Criminal charges
- Compensation for victims of crime
- Fines
- Debts
- Complaints against government agencies or non-government organisations
- Consumer complaints about products and services
- Unlawful discrimination
- Guardianship and financial management

## Issue types of long-term legal casework





## Case studies

### Assistance to secure an improved quality of education

Sarah was a child living in a small, remote rural town. As a result of her disabilities she had difficulties with language and other communication, and was impaired in her social interactions. She required additional support compared to the other children in her year at school.

Sarah experienced problems with her local public high school from the time she applied to attend. The school initially said she should attend a special school for people with disability, despite the children there not being of her age. Sarah nevertheless started at the public high school but was made to feel unwelcome. She was sent home for minor reasons. Her local doctor wrote to the school to point out the unfairness and to support her. Things did not improve. For 3 years Sarah was only able to attend school on a part-time basis because of inadequate support. Plans for increasing her hours of attendance were never followed through. Sarah was clearly not allowed to participate in school activities on the same basis as a student without a disability.

Finally, Sarah and her family sought legal help from IDRS. IDRS assisted them to make an application to the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) claiming that the school had unlawfully discriminated against Sarah on the grounds of her disability.

IDRS then represented Sarah at a conciliation conference and in subsequent negotiations with the school. An agreement was reached. One outcome was that the school agreed to give Sarah extra funding to have an aide with her in class so she could finally attend school on a full-time basis.

## Help dealing with fines

Troy lives permanently in Australia but is not an Australian citizen. He was enrolled on the Commonwealth Electoral Roll before 25 January 1984. This means it is compulsory for him to enrol to vote at elections and referendums. Unfortunately, Troy had a misunderstanding with an electoral commission representative who, not realising he was on the roll prior to 25 January 1984, told him that he did not have to vote as he is not an Australian citizen. Troy therefore did not vote in some subsequent state and local government elections and was sent penalty notice fines for not voting. He did not receive the penalty notices as he had moved without informing the electoral commissions. Troy received a notice from the Sheriff's Office that the State Debt Recovery Office had issued a property seizure order for enforcement against him, because of the unpaid fines. Faced with the prospect of officers from the Sheriff's Office visiting his address to obtain payment or to seize and sell his property to satisfy the outstanding amounts, Troy contacted IDRS for help.

IDRS investigated what had happened and liaised with the State Debt Recovery Office and the NSW Electoral Commission. In response to IDRS's submissions, the Commission withdrew the penalty notice enforcement orders against Troy. We helped Troy update his electoral enrolment details and advised him about his obligation to inform the Electoral Commission of any change to his address and his obligation to vote in all future federal, state and local government elections.



## Persistent representation needed when behavioural problems become crimes

Kim is an 18 year old woman with moderate intellectual disability. She has also been diagnosed with Schizophrenia. Each month Kim would suffer from bouts of acute mental illness. She lived with her elderly parents and sister with very little additional support. During an episode she became extremely disorientated and a dispute arose between her and her family. This led to her getting upset and it was alleged that whilst her family was trying to calm her down they were hit by Kim. Her family did not know what to do so they called the police for help.

Although they did not want Kim charged, the police charged her with 3 counts of assault and also issued her with an Apprehended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO). Kim had no understanding or memory of what had happened on that day and no understanding of what an ADVO means. When IDRS became involved in the matter we found that Kim did not understand what a court was or the role of the police or magistrate. She believed that her solicitor was a police officer.

IDRS was able to represent Kim. Although she had no previous convictions or history of violence, the Magistrate initially dismissed an application for a diversionary order under section 32 Mental Health (Forensic Provisions) Act 1990 indicating that he believed that because Sarah's disability could not be cured, he could not make a Section 32 Order.

IDRS pursued the matter further and made a subsequent application to a second Magistrate who found that Kim was not fit to enter a plea to the charges. IDRS made further submissions in relation to the ADVO application and argued that, because Kim would have no understanding of an ADVO, no order should be made. IDRS was able to link Kim and her family with support services and to argue at court that it was better that she be supported by services to manage her behaviour, rather than the court deal with the matter by making an ADVO she could not understand. Kim's charges and the application for an ADVO were eventually dismissed.

# Education and Training

IDRS education and training aims to:

- Empower people with intellectual disability by providing training and information about their rights and responsibilities; how to stand up for your rights and how to get help if you need it.
- Train people who can support people with intellectual disability to get assistance with legal and rights problems. This includes family, disability workers, advocates and also volunteers who assist IDRS in its work.
- Build the capacity of the community, particularly the justice sector, to respect and respond more effectively to the needs and rights of people with intellectual disability. To this end we provide training to the police, lawyers and other justice personnel.

The IDRS education team comprises one full time and one part time position. Our educators this year were Ben Garcia and Tina Dowse (part time). There has been significant innovation and change in the structure of the education program at IDRS this year which has consolidated and built on the quality work done by our predecessors.



## Highlights

- Two new casual co-educators with intellectual disability have joined the team this year
- The Rights Leadership Course has been streamlined and repackaged as a 4 module rather than 6 module course increasing our capacity to reach more people with this course.
- Despite the need to introduce fees for our Cops and Court and Common Legal Issues Workshops, they have continued to be well attended and reviewed.
- Co-educators participation and involvement in the development of training materials and content has increased in the past year.
- The education team has developed a number of important easy read documents for IDRS and CJSN clients this year.

In the past year the education team has provided direct training to 117 people with intellectual disability, 74 parents and carers, 365 disability and justice sector workers, 80 students and 55 CJSN volunteers, which means that 691 people have benefited from IDRS training over 81 sessions in the 2013-2014 financial year.

<b>Training for:</b>	<b>Training Sessions</b>	<b>Total Participants</b>
<b>People with intellectual disability</b>		
Rights Leadership Courses	8 courses	86
Other Rights Training	4	31
<b>Carers/Families</b>	2	74
<b>Disability Service staff</b>		
Cops and Court Common Legal Issues	6	89
<b>Justice Agency Staff</b>		
NSW Police Custody Managers Juvenile Justice staff	13	276
<b>Students</b>		
Social work students Criminology and Forensic students	3	160
<b>Volunteers</b>		
CJSN Court Support volunteers	3	23
CJSN Police station support volunteers	4	32
After hours volunteer solicitors	1	5



## Impact of co-educators

Most IDRS training is co-facilitated by a co-educator who has lived experience of intellectual disability. Robert Strike and John Vesely have continued their invaluable contribution as co-educators during 2013-14. Lynda Coleman and Chris Smith have joined the team this year and contributed their knowledge and enthusiasm to teaching the Rights Leadership course. Frances Cetinich and Alan Button have generously shared their personal stories in training CJSN volunteers. The contribution of the co-educators is consistently identified in feedback as one of the most distinctive and valued features of IDRS training.

This year the IDRS co-educators have raised awareness and provided insight into the lived experience of being a person with intellectual disability in a diverse range of forums. The educators they have, between them, trained volunteers about the challenges of becoming involved in the criminal justice system, lectured university social work students, presented at conferences, trained community workers, lawyers and TAFE students and have had a central role in each of the eight Rights Leadership Courses.

As one participant said in his feedback – “having people [co-educators] you can trust, with lives, with independence, living alone, role models of what you can do...stuff you put in my mind made me think that could be me one day”.

## Rights education for people with intellectual disability

The Rights Leadership Course is the main vehicle for IDRS Rights Training.

This training runs over 4 sessions of 2 hours.

Participants learn about rights and responsibilities. These include rights as a disability service user, a consumer, an employee, a member of the community as well as interpersonal rights and responsibilities and what to do if you get arrested or if you are a victim of crime. Equally importantly the course works to develop the skills of participants to stand up for themselves and know how to get help if a legal or rights problem comes up.

IDRS is privileged to share and learn from the experience and ideas of the Rights Leadership training participants. They richly inform the work we do.

This year 86 people participated in 8 Rights Leadership Courses run by IDRS. Two courses were conducted in non-metropolitan areas. IDRS appreciates the support of the disability organisations that have hosted and actively supported these courses.

'People like you are important in the world. You help people understand more about what is happening'- Rights leadership participant reflecting on the course.



## Police training

“The session was very relevant to both operational policing and custody management.”- course participant

“[The session] highlighted the difficulties encountered and prejudices against those with intellectual disability”- course participant

Training for police continues to be a major priority for IDRS. During this year IDRS provided training to 265 police custody managers in 12 Safe Custody Courses. The aim of this training is to equip custody managers with strategies and skills to recognise when a person in custody has intellectual disability, to ensure that a support person is called, to better understand the person’s needs and to ensure that the person’s rights are fully protected.

## Cops and Court

“It was an extremely informative and useful training. The materials and content was very informative and relevant”- course participant

“A great training day, relevant for the area we work in and the people we support.”- course participant

This 2 day fee for service course is tailored to front line disability support workers and advocates who work with people who have contact, or are at risk of having contact with, the criminal justice system. The course provides practical information for disability workers so that they can support someone with intellectual disability through the criminal justice system as a victim or defendant.

The course provides and facilitates an important link between IDRS and a wide range of disability support service providers. We ran four courses in 2013-2014, with a total of 68 disability workers attending.

## Future planning

This two hour workshop developed by the IDRS legal team is aimed at parents and carers and is designed to assist them to support people with intellectual disability to make and understand important financial decisions in their lives. The workshop also provides practical future planning information.

The workshop covers:

- Financial decision making after turning 18
- Rights of person to manage their own finances/decisions
- Explaining the law around decision making
- Appointing others to make financial decisions
- What is power of attorney?
- What financial decisions need to be made?
- When should parents ask the Guardianship tribunal to make a financial management order?

In the last year 74 parents and carers attended this workshop.



## Volunteer Training

“Loved the training and looking forward to my first support....Thank you”- Court support volunteer

Each volunteer court support or police station support person completes 2 days of training before commencing in either of these roles. The volunteer training courses have been reviewed and improved during the past year. Feedback from volunteers about the training remains consistently positive.

In 2013-2014, 23 new court support volunteers were trained in 6 courses. Thirty two volunteers were trained to support people with intellectual disability in their dealings with police. Reflecting the reach of our service in the period, we have trained new volunteers in Wagga Wagga, Sydney, Port Macquarie and Newcastle.

In 2014, 5 volunteer solicitors attended an evening training session prior to joining the roster to provide afterhours advice to people with intellectual disability in police custody. IDRS thanks law firm Gilbert and Tobin for kindly providing the venue for this training.

Special mention goes to the experienced CJSN volunteers who have shared their experiences, stories and wisdom in training new volunteers this year. Thank you also to the court staff, police, legal aid and community legal centre staff who give their time and expertise to enrich the volunteer training experience.

# Criminal Justice Support Network (CJSN)

The Criminal Justice Support Network (CJSN) provides support persons and advocacy for people with intellectual disability when they come into contact with the criminal justice system as defendants, victims or witnesses of crime. Support is provided at court, police stations, interviews with legal representatives, juvenile justice conferencing, community sentencing forums and court ordered mediations. Some court support is provided from correctional centres for clients who are in custody.

CJSN relies on an extensive network of trained and dedicated volunteers to provide most supports to people with intellectual disability at court and at police stations.

An after-hours service is available for people with intellectual disability who are arrested from 9am – 10pm seven days a week. The after-hours contact number is 1300 665 908.

CJSN has Regional Coordinators based in Sydney, the Hunter and the Illawarra/Shoalhaven. An Outreach Coordinator based in Sydney coordinates volunteer support persons in our Outreach Service Areas based on the Mid North Coast, Central Coast, the Riverina and the Central West of NSW.

CJSN staff are tireless and persistent advocates for people with disability who are involved with the criminal justice system. Staff find services and link people to services to support diversionary orders, liaising with legal representatives and justice agencies, problem solving to meet the needs of the person with intellectual disability.



In 2013-2014 CJSN's staff has been:

- Manager – Alex Faraguna
- Sydney Regional Coordinators – Jillian McCarthy and Mitch Mulqueen
- Illawarra/Shoalhaven Regional Coordinator – Corinna Nolan/Julia Wren
- Hunter Regional Coordinator – Kenn Clift
- Outreach Regional Coordinator – Jacqui Gunst
- Sydney/Outreach Administration Assistant – Ingrid Ferreira
- Illawarra/Shoalhaven Administration Assistant – Deihan Paulson
- Hunter Administration Assistant – Christine Fraser

## CJSN turns 10

This year, 2014, marks the 10 year anniversary of the Criminal Justice Support Network. In that time it has become a highly respected and effective service for people with intellectual disability.

It is now the expectation that people with intellectual disability will have support in their dealings with the criminal justice system in most areas of NSW.

The success and impact of the CJSN volunteer network of over 120 volunteers has been nothing short of remarkable. This was recognised at an early stage when CJSN volunteers were awarded the NSW Law and Justice Foundation Volunteer of the Year Award in 2005. Some volunteers have been with CJSN for the entire 10 years of its work.

The linking of CJSN community volunteers with some of the most isolated and vulnerable people in our community at a time when they are dealing with the

criminal justice system is a dynamic example of community connection and inclusion. The volunteers have become their skilled and determined supporters. The contribution of time, expertise and dedication of the volunteers is immeasurable.

The best and most important opinions about CJSN are those of the service users. In recent interviews and a focus group they said:

“They don’t judge you. They just help.”

“She (the volunteer) could have been playing with her grandkids but she was at court with me.”

Of course none of this would be possible without the dedicated, skilled and tenacious staff of CJSN over the 10 years who have developed a truly responsive service in partnership with the IDRS solicitors and all IDRS staff.

We will continue to celebrate the 10 year anniversary at events during the year with the volunteers.





## CJSN support numbers in each region

During 2013-14 CJSN has provided 1420 supports to 480 people with intellectual disability in NSW.

		Court	Police	Legal Appointment	AVL	Indirect Supports	ADR	Other	Total
	Sydney	376	69	31	79	53	14	6	<b>628</b>
	Illawarra/ Shoalhaven	199	12	28	8	13	1		<b>261</b>
	Hunter	201	20	5		7	7		<b>240</b>
Outreach	Central Coast	49	7	5	2	11	0		<b>74</b>
	Central West	12	3			8	0		<b>23</b>
	Mid North Coast	30	2	2		3	0		<b>37</b>
	Riverina	100	11	1	2	16	0		<b>130</b>
	All other areas	3	6			18	0		<b>27</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1420</b>

### Key:

- Indirect: indirect supports are usually support provided to clients at a police station when CJSN is unable to have a support person present in person.
- AVL: court support via audio-visual link for clients in custody (the support person sits with the client in gaol as they appear in court.)
- ADR: alternative dispute resolution, including Juvenile Justice conferencing, Forum Sentencing and court-ordered mediation.
- Other includes: Mental Health Review Tribunal and Probation and Parole hearings.

## How many clients did CJSN support?

Region		Number of clients supported
Sydney		217
Illawarra/Shoalhaven		78
Hunter		95
Outreach	Mid North Coast	14
	Central Coast	28
	Central West	13
	Riverina	39
	Rest of NSW	24

## CJSN after hours on call service

The CJSN after-hours on-call service has been reviewed during 2013-14 as the demands on the service and the resulting impact on staff covering the 24 hour afterhours service while also meeting the demands of their daily work grew. With current staffing and funding the 24 hour service was unsustainable. A number of strategies were considered.

A review of data showed that many calls received after 10pm were not situations that required support at a police station but often were other matters not related to CJSN. In A trial of reducing the availability of the CJSN after-hours service and legal advice from 24 hours to 9am – 10pm seven days a week was commenced in April 2014. The service is available to respond to any calls by 10pm each night.

Messages left after 10pm have been monitored and, as at 30 June 2014, only one call that may have resulted in CJSN support and legal advice has been identified. The reduction in hours has been widely advertised to police stations and disability services. We will continue to monitor and review the impact of the change.



## If not for CJSN:

### John

John is a man with intellectual disability and complex needs. He was charged with the serious offence of grievous bodily harm. He hoped to defend the charge, claiming that he ran into the victim accidentally. He said at the time the victim did not appear to have been hurt.

For over nine months John's court matter was passed from lawyer to lawyer with no real progress while CJSN supported him at court.

In that time, John became increasingly stressed and reluctant about attending court. He had been referred to services to support an application for an order under Section 32 Mental Health (Forensic Procedures) Act 1990, which allows a magistrate to dismiss charges on the condition that the defendant accept assistance outlined in a support plan. Although John agreed to services, they had not followed up to start working with him and his anxiety made it difficult for him to make the first move. It seemed the Section 32 application would fail.

The magistrate agreed to an adjournment.

CJSN staff contacted the services and made arrangements for them to meet with the client as soon as possible, while also encouraging the client to work with the services. CJSN attended the first meeting with John. As a result services had commenced by the time the case was next in court.

With the constant change in lawyers, the CJSN volunteer support person played a critical role in updating each successive lawyer about previous actions as each new lawyer seemed uninformed. Ultimately a Section 32 order was made after ten long months of court.

## Arthur

Prison staff contacted CJSN about a young man with intellectual disability and mental health problems who had been in prison for 6 months. The referral was to support him at Audio Visual Link court hearings at the prison. The prison staff had concerns for his welfare in prison. During the 6 months Arthur had been in prison two of his family carers had died and no one had explored whether there were other options that would enable bail to be considered. The CJSN volunteer reported the situation to staff.

CJSN staff located and contacted Arthur's brother who himself has an intellectual disability and was struggling to cope given the deaths in the family. CJSN managed to get some support for the brothers at home so that there was an alternative to prison for the court to consider. A bail application was made and the young man was released from prison. No bail conditions were imposed. CJSN has remained in contact and assisted with problem solving as issues have arisen and continues to support Arthur at court.



## Feedback from stakeholders on CJSN

### From a Legal Aid solicitor

“Thank you so much for sending L (the volunteer support person). She was invaluable today, a really fantastic support for C (client).....C did not take the outcome very well and refused to leave the courtroom and then the foyer of the court. She spent well over an hour coaxing him out. Anyway, I just wanted to say how grateful I was to you for organising it at short notice.”

### From an ADHC case manager

“I just wanted to send a big thank you to all at IDRS and CJSN who assisted my client, D, with his legal matter recently. If you could pass our thanks on, it would be appreciated. D, his family and I are very grateful for the support received. P (court support person) was fantastic and assisted greatly in reducing D’s anxiety when appearing in court. I, personally, am very grateful for IDRS’s guidance during the investigation. D was granted a Section 32. If D had not been supported to refuse to participate in an interview with police, I feel the matter may have had a different outcome.”

# The Parents Project

The Parents Project is a specialist service offered by IDRS to parents with intellectual disability. The Project assists parents who have either had their children removed from their care by Community Services, or who are at risk of having their children removed. The Project is funded by the Public Purpose Fund of the Law Society of NSW through Community Legal Centres Funding Program of Legal Aid NSW.

## Parents Project strategies

Using a range of legal and non-legal approaches to advocate for individuals and systemic change the Parents Project provides:

- Legal advice, casework and representation to parents with intellectual disability in child protection matters
- Non-legal advocacy, support and casework to parents with intellectual disability and those who support them
- Capacity building among professionals working with parents with intellectual disability – primarily disability advocates and support workers, child protection workers, lawyers and court staff
- Input into relevant policy debates and law reform processes and lobbies for systemic change that will improve the outcomes for families where at least one parent has an intellectual disability



Families where at least one parent has intellectual disability represent approximately one – two percent of families in Australia, yet an estimated 10-12% of care proceeding cases before the children’s court involve a parent with intellectual disability. It is estimated that one in six children in out of home care has a parent with intellectual disability.

The over-representation of parents with intellectual disability in Children’s Court proceedings and out of home care figures can partially be attributed to the widespread pessimism regarding the ability of people with intellectual disability to parent. Another contributing factor is the disadvantage that parents with intellectual disability suffer during interactions with Community Services and during Children’s Court proceedings.

Through individual and systemic advocacy, the Parents Project aims to compensate for the disadvantage and discrimination parents with intellectual disability experience during care and protection interventions.

## Our team

### **Current staff**

- Marissa Sandler- solicitor part time (January – June 2014)
- Julia Wren- parent advocate and support worker (February – June 2014)

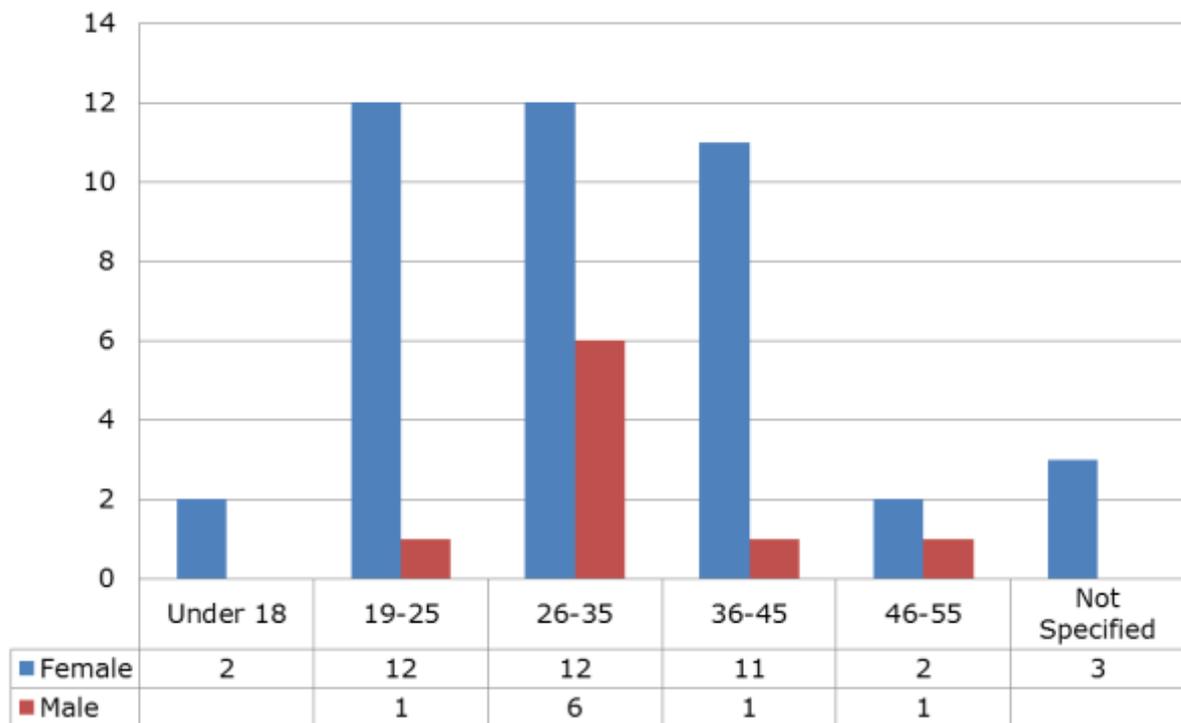
### **Other staff who worked with the project during 2013-14**

- Margaret Spencer project coordinator till February 2014
- Cindy Grahame solicitor parenting leave locum June – December 2013

The Parent’s Project thanks social work student Annie Malcolm for her work with the Parent’s Project during the year.

## Parents assisted by the project

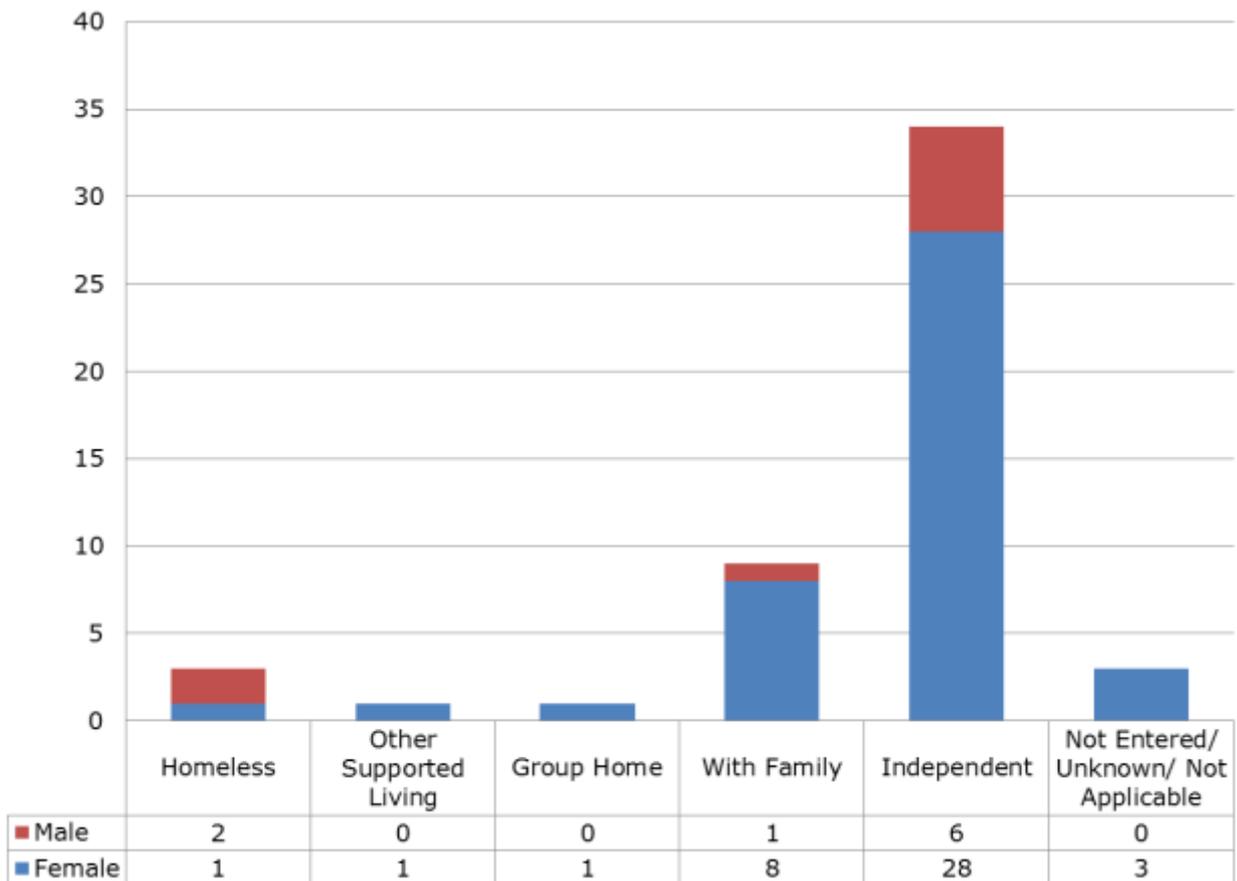
In 2013-2014 the Parents Project assisted 51 parents - 42 mothers and 9 fathers. Most parents we assisted are aged 18-45 (see table below), which correlates with child-bearing years.





The majority of the parents we assisted (67%) live independently (see below.) This is unsurprising since the vast majority of parents we assist have mild intellectual disability and are able to live independently, 18% live with family. Most received little or no disability support services.

Only one person lived in a group home. Through negotiation this person’s group home funding was ultimately rearranged to enable her to move into single accommodation before the birth of her baby and where support more appropriate to her changed needs was provided.



## Advice and Casework

The Parents Project provides assistance in the form of one-off advices and casework. Both legal and non-legal advice and casework is provided.

In 2013-2014 the Parents Project provided a total of 65 advices and worked on 44 cases broken down as follows.

### Advices

	Number of advices
Legal	29
Non Legal	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>

### Casework

	Number of advices
Legal	18
Non Legal	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>



IDRS involvement with parents is rarely one-off with 68% of parents receiving advice also needing longer term casework support. This is for a number of reasons including that care proceedings take between 9-12 months to finalise in court. Involvement with Community Services, prior to court, is a lengthy interaction which generally involves many hours of casework and advocacy by IDRS's parent advocate.

## Case study

IDRS was contacted by a couple after their child was removed at birth. The child was born with a number of complex health issues.

Community Services did not believe the parents had the capacity to meet their child's complex medical needs and removed the child. The couple was in a loving, long term relationship and had extensive family support.

Together IDRS's support worker and lawyer advocated for the parents to have the child restored to the parents' care. This involved advocating for appropriate parenting capacity assessments to be undertaken on the parents. The outcome of these assessments was that the parents had capacity to meet their child's needs. Community Services put in place a plan to restore the child to his parents. The matter was finalised in the court and orders were made that the child be restored to his parents.

## Volunteer Court Support – pilot project

In May 2014 the Parent's Project commenced a pilot volunteer court support scheme for parents with intellectual disability involved in care proceedings. All court support had previously been provided by our one part-time parent advocate and support worker. The volunteer scheme was developed because the demand for court support in care and protection matters far outstrips the Project's capacity to provide this vital support and with 10% of the funding for the project being cut in 2014-15 the shortfall will continue to grow. The pilot builds on the model of court support developed by IDRS in the Criminal Justice Support Network.

Under the pilot project, volunteers provide support to parents involved in care proceedings at court, during dispute resolution conferences and in meetings with lawyers.

Seven volunteers were recruited from our existing pool of CJSN volunteers – two in Wollongong, two in the Hunter region and three in Sydney. The volunteers selected have extensive experience providing court support in criminal matters. The volunteers completed 2 days of training in May 2014. As of 30 June 2014, four of the volunteers have supported parents at court.

Next year we will assess the impact and viability of a volunteer court support scheme becoming an ongoing part of the project.



## Capacity building

### Training

During 2013-2014, the Parents Project continued to provide its training course 'When DOCS Knocks' . This one day course details the NSW care and protection system, identifies challenges faced by parents with intellectual disability when navigating this system and provides tips and information for family support staff and disability workers supporting parents with intellectual disability. This year 2 the training courses were conducted.

The project's solicitor provided training for LawAccess solicitors on advising parents with intellectual disability on child protection issues. The project's parent advocate and support worker presented two information sessions at the WASH House to mothers with intellectual disability whose children are in care.

### Making Sense website

The 'Making Sense' Website has been completed in 2013-14. This online resource will provide essential information to lawyers, family support and disability workers and advocates working with and supporting parents with intellectual disability in care proceedings. The website will be further developed in 2014-15 to provide accessible information for parents with low literacy or intellectual disability explaining care proceedings in easy read format. IDRS thanks the Law and Justice Foundation for funding this website.

## Systemic advocacy

Systemic advocacy has focused on the proposed reforms to the NSW child protection legislation.

The reforms are due to come into force on 29 October 2014. We remain concerned that some of the reforms will have a disproportionately negative impact on parents with intellectual disability.

As part of group of NSW Community Legal Centres, IDRS has been involved in the consultation process around the proposed reforms. A position paper was developed and the group lobbied various members of Parliament around specific issues of concern.

We have held a series of meetings with policy officers from Family and Community Services involved in the implementation of the reforms, and have been able to raise our concerns about certain aspects of the legislative reforms. Through this forum we have been able to achieve an important amendment to the legislation. These meetings are ongoing. IDRS will monitor the effect of the legislative changes on parents with intellectual disability.

In light of the proposed changes to the legislation, the project's support worker presented at a NSWCLC meeting on the future of the NSW child protection system.

The legislative amendments are part of a raft of changes to child protection in NSW. 'Practice First' is an initiative currently being rolled out across the state which requires Community Service workers to focus on working with families to avoid removal of children and connecting them to appropriate services. While we support this approach, we believe that services will need to be specifically tailored to work with parents with intellectual disability for this initiative to succeed. We continue to lobby for this to happen when advocating for individual families and pursue opportunities to lobby around this issue at a systemic level.

During 2013-2014, the Parents Project solicitor convened the NSW Community Legal Centres Care and Protection working group.



## Apprehended violence orders and defendants who lack capacity

Supported by a research grant from CLCNSW, IDRS has published a discussion paper canvassing a number of issues of concern about the impact of Apprehended Violence Orders (AVOs) made against defendants who lack capacity.

IDRS remains concerned about the impact of AVOs made against people with intellectual and other cognitive impairments who may lack capacity to understand the order, the conditions imposed by the order or the consequences of breaching those conditions. In some cases the person may be incapable of complying with an AVO directly due to the impact of their disability. AVO's against people who lack capacity may offer little protection for people who feel afraid of the person.

While an AVO in itself is not a criminal matter, for someone who does not understand or is incapable of complying, breaching the AVO may be almost inevitable. Breaching an AVO is a crime and can lead to serious penalties. IDRS has worked with a number of people, with significant disability, who were in prison due to failing to comply with AVO conditions.

IDRS will organize a workshop with key people, government agencies and organisations to work on and develop recommendations about the complex issues raised in the paper.

IDRS thanks Kellie McDonald for her work in developing and writing the discussion paper.

# **IDRS and the National Disability Insurance Scheme**

IDRS welcomes the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and the great potential benefits that it offers for people with intellectual disability.

IDRS is keen to ensure that those people with intellectual disability who are isolated and have little or no family or personal support do not miss out on the NDIS and receive the support they need to make the best of the opportunity it presents.

These people have often been alienated by inflexible and non-responsive service provision in the past and are understandably cynical and reluctant to seek assistance.

## **Supporting people with intellectual disability to access NDIS**

Newcastle is the trial site for the NDIS in NSW. During 2013-14 Kenn Clift, Regional Co-ordinator of the Criminal Justice Support Network in Hunter Region has encouraged and supported 4 CJSN service users to apply to become participants in the NDIS.

He has found that the process has been quite complex and that it would be extremely difficult for someone with intellectual disability to manage on their own. Kenn's support has included assisting people to submit their application and supporting information; to deal with complex correspondence from NDIS; to prepare for and attend planning meetings; to work out a short list of potential service providers, to interview those services and decide which service they would like to work with them and the details of that.



For some there has also been the need to help with ending the use of a service, provided and choosing a new service, and with assisting one person to request an review of their NDIS package, resulting in a much better outcome for the person.

While most of the people Kenn has supported have ultimately benefitted from the NDIS, his experience has revealed that the process is not yet accessible for people with intellectual disability.

It is unlikely that any of the 4 people supported would have become participants of NDIS without Kenn's advocacy.

IDRS is concerned that there is no clear identified source of support for people with intellectual disability to engage with the NDIS if they do not already have personal support in their lives.

IDRS is also concerned that, as yet, there is no effective outreach from the NDIA for people who are isolated and unlikely to approach NDIS themselves.

## Questions about what the NDIS will cover and how gaps will be filled

IDRS and the NSW Council for Intellectual Disability have met with the National Disability Insurance Agency and state government ministers and agencies to raise questions about how the disability support needs of people with disability who are involved with the criminal justice system will be met.

It is unclear how the NDIA will define disability support, which is likely be covered by the NDIS as opposed to 'justice support' which may not be defined as eligible under NDIS and may be considered as a state issue. This is not a clear distinction. The two issues are intertwined for most of our clients.

## Successful certification against service standards

During 2013, the Intellectual Disability Rights Service has successfully completed Third Party Verification of compliance with the following standards:

- National Disability Advocacy Standards
- National Association of Community Legal Centres Accreditation Scheme

This has been a major undertaking with positive outcome.

IDRS thanks the clients and other stakeholders who generously gave of their time to participate in the audit processes.

IDRS will be audited on the NSW Disability Service Standards in August 2014.



# Submissions

IDRS has made the following submissions on law and policy reform issues during 2013-14.

- Australian Human Rights Commission about the temporary exemption application under s55 Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) by Department of Social Services (formerly FaHCSIA) in relation to the use of the Business Services Wage Assessment Tool (BSWAT)
- Productivity Commission on Inquiry into Access to Justice and comments on the Productivity Commission's Draft Report on Access to Justice
- NSW Attorney General regarding implications for people with intellectual disability in the Mandatory Sentencing for Serious drug and alcohol fuelled violence.
- NSW Attorney General on Mental Health (Forensic Provisions) Amendment Bill 2013
- Family and Community Services on Consultation Draft of the NSW Disability Inclusion Bill
- NSW Law Reform Commission on Consultation Paper 15 – Encouraging early Guilty Pleas
- NSW Ombudsman regarding its review of the Consorting Provisions by NSW Police
- Royal Commission on Issues Papers 7 – Statutory Victims of Crime Compensation Scheme in NSW

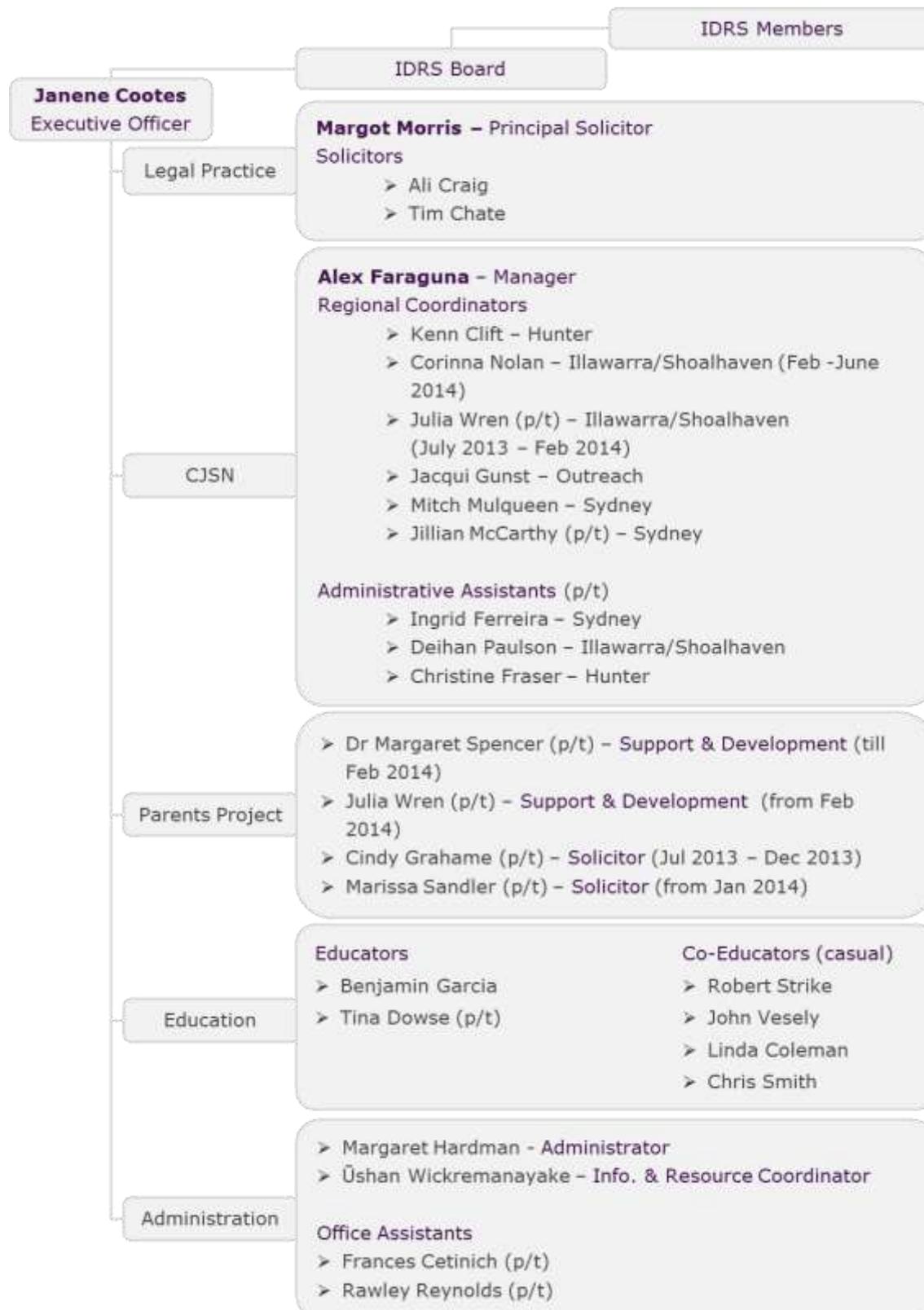
# Participation in Advisory and Working Groups

IDRS has taken active roles in the following government and community sector working groups to promote the needs and rights of people with intellectual disability.

- Department of Corrective Services Legal Practitioners Consultative Group
- Apprehended Violence Orders Legal Issues Coordinating Committee
- Department of Family and Community Services, Community Justice Program External Reference Group
- Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Scheme (WDVCAS) advisory committee
- Women in Prison Advocacy Network (WIPAN) general meetings
- Prisoners' Rights Working Group NSWCLC
- Australian Disability Rights Network
- NSW Disability Network Forum
- Care and Protection Working Party (Chair) NSWCLC
- Indigenous Rights Working Group NSWCLC
- Law Reform Working group on Apprehended Violence Orders and people with cognitive impairment NSWCLC
- Disability Advocacy Network Australia (Board Membership)
- Hunter Community Legal Centre (Board)
- Hunter Disability Network
- Hunter Co-operative Legal Service Delivery Program
- Goulburn Through Care meetings at Goulburn prison
- Shoalhaven Disability Forum
- Wollongong Home & Community Care Forum

# IDRS Staffing

The staff and the reporting structure of IDRS 30th June 2014.





IDRS also acknowledges and thanks the following staff who finished up with IDRS during 2013-2014 for their contributions to this year's work and achievements:

- Ben Crompton
- Cindy Graham
- Dr Margaret Spencer
- Jackie Dodds
- Joanne Karcz
- Karen Wells
- Pan Pemberton

## Members of the IDRS Board

IDRS depends on the time, energy and expertise of the Board of Directors to steer its work. We are fortunate to have the benefit of a Board of Directors who bring a wealth of skills and experience to their role. Their commitment to the rights of people with intellectual disability and the work of community legal centres is clearly demonstrated through their generous voluntary contribution to IDRS.

The members of the Board in 2013- 2014 were:

- Karen Bevan
- Ann Bolt
- Melissa Clements (till December 2013)
- Therese Griffith (Treasurer)
- Jenny Klause
- Edwina MacDonald
- Haley McEwan (from December 2013)
- Edwina Pickering
- Carmelo Raspanti
- Tamara Sims (till December 2013)
- Mike Sprange
- Janene Cootes (ex officio)



# Thank you

IDRS would like to thank the following people and organisations for their support during the year.

- Gilbert and Tobin
- Ashurst
- Sparke Helmore (Newcastle)

## Support and funding

IDRS operates on a not-for-profit basis, expending all income on the provision of services and the operation of the organisation. IDRS is a public benevolent institution.

IDRS relies heavily on government funding to provide services for people with intellectual disability.

### Core funding

During 2012-13 IDRS received its core funding from:

- NSW Department of Family and Community Services, Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC)
- Commonwealth Department of Social Services
- The Public Purpose Fund, Law Society of NSW, through Community Legal Centres Funding Program of Legal Aid NSW

## Specific project funding

We thank the following organisations for their contributions to funding specific projects:

- Law and Justice Foundation of NSW for funding the 'Making Sense' website for lawyers, magistrates, child protection workers and advocates working in care and protection to assist them in matters involving parents with intellectual disability.
- Community Legal Centres NSW Inc. for a Research Grant to produce a research paper on defendant incapacity and AVOs, and to facilitate a stakeholder workshop on these issues

Financial Statements in this report are for the Intellectual Disability Rights Service Inc. as a whole.

IDRS was able to earn income additional to government funding from a variety of sources in 2012-13. This income is applied to the cost of providing services. IDRS is eligible to apply for grants of legal aid in some matters when our solicitors provide legal representation for clients with intellectual disability. Further income is derived from bank interest, the sale of publications and some education projects which are done on a fee-for-service basis.



# Financial Statement

Following are the Income and Expenditure Statement and the Balance Sheet for Intellectual Disability Rights Service Inc from the audited financial report for 2013-2014.

If you would like to view the full report you can do so on IDRS website [www.idrs.org.au/annual-reports](http://www.idrs.org.au/annual-reports)

**INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY RIGHTS SERVICE INCORPORATED**  
**ABN: 11 216 371 524**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Interest		22,268	32,848
Commonwealth Dept of Family & Community Services		215,761	223,693
Department of Ageing, Disability & Home Care (NSW)		996,656	964,990
Grant - Miscellaneous		121,679	189,432
Other Income		172,747	160,618
		<b>1,529,111</b>	<b>1,571,581</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Accounting & Bookkeeping		29,996	28,421
Admin Charges		127,168	127,963
Advertising		946	4,400
Annual Leave & Maternity Leave		8,106	4,954
Audit Fees		8,536	8,682
Bank Charges		1,171	1,084
Cleaning		7,487	5,781
Consultancy Fees & Outsourcing		-	13,870
Depreciation		18,010	15,131
Electricity		12,343	11,781
Host Agencies		18,303	20,829
Hire Equipment		3,438	5,026
Insurance		12,689	12,986
Information Technology Support		20,154	13,839
IT Web Maintenance		4,691	1,739
Legal Cost and Disbursements		5,627	5,835
Long Service Leave		5,121	3,291
Photocopying, Printing & Stationery		20,519	25,881
Postage & Couriers		4,063	4,457
Practising Certificates & Professional Supervision		8,489	1,800
Purchase of Minor Fixed Assets & Rebuild Network		720	805
Rent		74,898	71,922
Regional Training		-	247
Repair & Maintenance		15,790	3,345
Salaries & Wages		978,178	941,917
Staff/Volunteer Training & Continuing Education		39,892	51,697
Storage		2,597	1,976
Subscriptions & Library		15,404	12,300
Sundry Expenses		1,441	4,803
Superannuation		94,002	90,930
Telephone		29,828	32,599
Travelling & Accommodation Expenses		27,419	41,987
Website Project - L&J Making Sense		-	8,717
		<b>1,597,026</b>	<b>1,580,995</b>
Current year loss before income tax		(67,915)	(9,414)
Income tax expense	1(a)	-	-
Net current year surplus after income tax		<b>(67,915)</b>	<b>(9,414)</b>
<b>RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<b>318,359</b>	<b>327,773</b>
<b>RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<b>250,444</b>	<b>318,359</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



**INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY RIGHTS SERVICE INCORPORATED**  
**ABN: 11 216 371 524**  
**ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT AS AT 30 JUNE 2014**

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash on hand		568,474	617,969
Accounts receivable and other debtors	2	42,947	46,776
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>611,421</b>	<b>664,745</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	3	33,729	49,786
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>33,729</b>	<b>49,786</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>645,150</b>	<b>714,531</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Grants received in advance		147,240	163,922
Payables		61,368	55,655
Provisions	4	78,327	73,945
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>286,935</b>	<b>293,522</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	4	67,771	62,650
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>67,771</b>	<b>62,650</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>354,706</b>	<b>356,172</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>290,444</b>	<b>358,359</b>
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Capital reserve		40,000	40,000
Retained surplus		250,444	318,359
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<b>290,444</b>	<b>358,359</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



Intellectual Disability Rights Service Inc.  
ABN 11 216 371 524

PO Box 3347  
Redfern NSW 2016

Suite 2C, 199 Regent Street  
Redfern NSW 2016

T +61 2 9318 0144

F +61 2 9318 2887

E [info@idrs.org.au](mailto:info@idrs.org.au)

W [www.idrs.org.au](http://www.idrs.org.au)



[facebook.com/IntellectualDisabilityRightsService](https://facebook.com/IntellectualDisabilityRightsService)



[@IDRS\\_NSW](https://twitter.com/IDRS_NSW)



working to advance  
the rights of  
people with  
intellectual  
disability  
since 1986

