

# Strategic Plan

## 2015-18

### Vision

To lead in the creation of a fair and just society.

### Mission

To make the legal system accessible to disadvantaged members of the community.

To challenge systemic disadvantage within the community.

To advocate for and assist service users to advance their rights and broaden their awareness of their responsibilities.

To develop the confidence, skills and ethical conduct of Monash law students through participation in the clinical legal education program.

Working for Justice  
smls.org.au



## Strategic Goals

1

**In order to maintain sector-leading service to the community and provide value to partners, SMLS will:**

- Nurture diverse, mutually-beneficial and sustainable partnerships with key organisations
- Invest in the partnership with Monash University and the clinical program and endeavour to maintain best practice clinical education for law students
- Value the capacity for larger projects, increased viability and resource availability afforded by its key partnerships
- Explore new partnerships, building on and leveraging from existing, long-term and effective partnerships to address community legal needs

2

**In order to contribute to and support the capacity of communities to respond to legal needs, SMLS will:**

- Promote the capacity of its clients and the wider community to contribute to a fair and just society
- Commit to genuine empowerment of both clients and members of the wider community
- Recognise the importance of providing accessible legal education for its community and hence invest in preventative and early intervention strategies
- Provide staff and volunteer training and development to ensure client service and community engagement is effective and empowering

3

**In order to lead in fostering a strong legal framework and culture, SMLS will:**

- Position itself as a sector leader by maintaining strong community ties, positive standing within the sector and the provision of best practice legal services to its clients
- Capitalise on its capacity to ensure the service is sustainable and remains relevant to both its community and the broader sector
- Acknowledge and promote its uniqueness and strengths within the sector
- Contribute to effective and community-centred advocacy, policy development and law reform