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VISION

A South Africa in which the rights enshrined in the Constitution are realized and upheld, and responsibilities are complied with to ensure equality, justice and quality of life for all

MISSION

To be a leader in the provision of accessible, sustainable, ethical, independent and quality legal services to the poor and vulnerable

VALUES

- Passion for justice
- Ubuntu
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Service Excellence
- People-centred development

EDITORIAL NOTE

Valued Stakeholders,

Welcome to another exciting edition of our stakeholder newsletter, Umlungisi. The year 2015 went by in such a hurry! We definitely started the year running before we even touched ground with lots of news to share from last year's exciting events and other developments. Please spare some time to read more about the work of Legal Aid South Africa.

[Read more >>](#)



Legal Aid South Africa successfully participated in Access to Justice Week campaign

Legal Aid South Africa successfully participated in Access to Justice Week campaign (17 – 21 August 2015). This was in partnership with the Department of Justice and Correctional Services, South African Women Lawyers Association (SAWLA), the Master's Office, Family Advocate, Public Protector and SAPS

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Section 27 executive director, Mark Heywood applauds Legal Aid SA's impressive performance at National Achiever Awards

Delivering public services within a limited budget is no easy feat. Despite budget constraints, and on the other hand increased demand for legal aid, Legal Aid South Africa has maintained an excellent performance record, delivering on its mandate to increase access to justice

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Legal Aid SA achiever awards 2015- recognising performance excellence

At a glitzy ceremony in Durban on the 18th of September 2015, Legal Aid SA held its National Achiever Awards. Held annually, the awards recognise performance excellence amongst Legal Aid SA employees in carrying out the organisation's mandate of providing quality legal services to the poor and vulnerable.

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Legal Aid SA sponsored creative writing competition to strengthen scholars' knowledge of the constitution

A schools creative writing competition organised as a partnership initiative between Legal Aid SA KZN Regional Office, Department of Education and Department of Justice & Constitutional Development not only strengthened the learners' knowledge and understanding of the constitution

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REGIONAL NEWS

Legal Aid South Africa continues to assist thousands of South Africans access justice

Legal Aid SA continues to play a leading role in ensuring access to justice for the poor and vulnerable – having assisted close to 4 million people in the last 5 years. The core purpose of Legal Aid SA is to fulfill its Constitutional mandate and in doing so, to have a meaningful impact on the lives of poor and vulnerable persons and ultimately on society. To achieve this, it has to use its resources efficiently and effectively.

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Constitutional court clarifies the right to legal aid representation in commissions of inquiry

Our stakeholders will no doubt be aware of the tragic events that occurred at Marikana, and culminated in the Commission of Inquiry which was chaired by retired Justice Ian Farlam. During the course of the Commission of Inquiry, there was litigation by some of the interested parties aimed at compelling Legal Aid South Africa to provide legal representation to the injured and arrested Marikana miners. This litigation ended in the Constitutional Court which dismissed our application for leave to appeal on the basis that the matter had become moot.

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Pensioner to enjoy his full grant after many years

Protecting and defending the rights of the vulnerable is not just a catch phrase for Legal Aid SA. The assistance given to 73-year-old pensioner, Mr Flippias, get access to what is rightfully his, his pension money, is one such example of the organisation's commitment to upholding the constitutional rights of all.

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Legal Aid SA Helps restore client from unlawful eviction

An urgent application and total mediation by Ms Luna Lingani, Supervisory Attorney at Legal Aid SA's Krugersdorp Justice Centre was enough to see Ms Rowena Demas of Davidsonville returned to her marital home on Monday, 28 September 2015, after unlawful eviction by former husband and policemen.

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Wills week sees many assisted by Legal Aid SA with their wills

Legal Aid South Africa, Athlone Justice Centre (JC) office was actually one of the designated stations at which wills could be drafted as part of the project initiated by the Law Society of South Africa.

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National women's day 2015 photos

President Jacob Zuma and Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa share a light moment before the start of the National Women's Day event programme in Sasolburg. It was the first time that both the President and Deputy President attended the National Women's Day event together.

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Legal Aid SA continues to bag industry accolades

This year has seen Legal Aid SA continue on an upward path in its quest to become the best legal services provider in the country.

Once again, the organisation received an unqualified audit from the Auditor-General – this being the 14th year that the organization has received an unqualified audit, with no emphasis of matter. This achievement is testimony to the many streamlined management processes that we have put in place over the years, as well as the good governance practices that we have employed and that we are continuously improving .

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