

In this issue

1. National AIDS Council and Legal Aid SA pledge action to eliminate stigma attached to HIV & TB

[Read more >>](#)

2. Legal Aid SA actively involved in Access to Justice Week

[Read more >>](#)

3. Legal Aid South Africa shares experience with Iraq

[Read more >>](#)

4. Empowering aspiring lawyers

[Read more >>](#)

5. Nelspruit justice centre protects toddler's inheritance

[Read more >>](#)

6. Legal Aid South Africa march against xenophobia

[Read more >>](#)

7. Legal Aid South Africa successfully advocates for equality, dignity and freedom of security for the mentally ill or intellectually disabled

[Read more >>](#)

8. Legal Aid SA wins Constitutional Court victory in property ownership case

[Read more >>](#)

9. Legal Aid SA Krugersdorp Justice Centre hosts Customary Marriages workshop

[Read more >>](#)

10. Quest for women's access to equal justice

[Read more >>](#)

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

Greetings to you all. In line with our commitment to providing you, our valued stakeholders with regular updates about our activities, we are pleased to once again share with you the latest news around issues of access to justice and our efforts to make this a reality. Our fight for justice and equality is still continuing and we are proud to say we have been able to help many more people and communities, effectively and efficiently with our limited resources. [Read more >>](#)



National AIDS Council and Legal Aid SA pledge action to eliminate stigma attached to HIV & TB

Deputy Minister of Health Dr Joe Phaahla in June 2015 announced concrete measures to tackle persistent forms of stigma and discrimination that continue to affect large numbers of people infected with HIV and/or TB. These measures include a legal advice and litigation service offered through a legal advice call centre and nationwide network of Justice Centres run by Legal Aid South Africa.

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Legal Aid South Africa shares experience with Iraq

Legal Aid South Africa hosted a delegation from Iraq as part of a knowledge-sharing visit to assist that country in establishing a sustainable legal aid system to ensure access to justice for its citizens.

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Legal Aid SA actively involved in Access to Justice Week

The commemoration of Women's Month continues with old and new campaigns all consigned to enhance the lives of marginalised groups. In partnership with the Department of Justice and Correctional Services, SAWLA, the Master's Office, Family Advocates, Public Protector and SAPS, Legal Aid SA participated in the Access to Justice Week campaign

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Empowering aspiring lawyers

The sustained growth of Legal Aid SA depends on how well we can attract, develop and retain the best talent. The organisation aims for a diverse workforce with a wide variety of individual characteristics, and perspectives.

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REGIONAL NEWS

Nelspruit Justice Centre protects Toddler's inheritance

Pulling out all stops to ensure the rights of children are protected is common practice at Legal Aid South Africa. A recent deceased estate matter, successfully handled by Nelspruit Justice Centre Senior Civil Attorney, Eben Smith is proof of this. In this matter, Mr Smith worked day and night to ensure that the estate of a deceased father of two was shared fairly between his sons.

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Legal Aid march against xenophobia

April, 2015, South Africa was faced with yet another wave of xenophobic attacks against foreign nationals since 2008, prompting an international outcry. As a custodian of human rights, it came naturally for Legal Aid SA to join in national efforts to curb xenophobia.

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Legal Aid South Africa successfully advocates for equality, dignity and freedom of security for the mentally ill or intellectually disabled

The Constitutional Court in June issued a judgment that will expand the rights of mentally ill accused persons. The court held that certain provisions of the Criminal Procedural Act were constitutionally invalid to the extent that they provided for compulsory imprisonment of accused adults and compulsory hospitalization or imprisonment of children found to be mentally unfit to stand trial.

[Read more >>](#)

Legal Aid SA wins Constitutional Court victory in property ownership case

On a day of torrential rain, howling winds and swirling squalls a Port Elizabeth woman will find comfort from a decision by the Constitutional Court that guarantees the home she bought with her life savings will at last be hers.

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Legal Aid SA Krugersdorp Justice Centre hosts Customary Marriages workshop

With the arrival of a new law called the Recognition of Customary Marriages Act (RCMA) in November 2000, South Africans in customary or traditional marriages were finally given all the same protections as those enjoyed by people in civil marriages.

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Children remain a high priority in this country

Almost every week South Africa wakes up to headlines of abuse, violence, exploitation, and neglect of children. Protecting children from violence, exploitation and abuse is not only a basic value, but also an obligation clearly set out in Section 28 of the South African Constitution.

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Quest for women's access to equal justice

When Virginia Sarrahwitz bought a house in 2002, it was more than an investment. It was a safe haven for herself, her daughter and granddaughter. What should have been a joyous occasion was instead, the start of a long fight for property rights that lasted 3 years, only ending in June this year.

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