

In Kind

Sparke Helmore's social sustainability report FY2025/2026

Our impact

FY2025/26 was another year of growth and meaningful impact for Sparke Helmore's Pro Bono Practice, marking 10 years since the firm first met the National Pro Bono Target.

We also celebrated 10 years of our Wills Workshop program, providing practical legal assistance to communities across regional and rural NSW, as well as in the Goldfields-Esperance region of WA. From Coffs Harbour and Walgett to Parkes and Kalgoorlie, our teams worked alongside Cancer Council, Legal Aid NSW and community legal centres to help clients put their wishes in place.

These programs not only support communities but give our people opportunities to develop new skills and connect with those they serve.

As Special Counsel Emma O'Connor reflected after the Parkes workshop 'I enjoyed both the opportunity to feel as though I was genuinely helping someone, but also that I got to learn something new.'

We continued to strengthen relationships with community organisations, charities and purpose-driven organisations, alongside the establishment of our dedicated Not-for-profits, Charities and Social Impact service line in July 2026. Together, our pro bono and commercial work support deeper, longer-term relationships with organisations working to create positive social outcomes.

While the numbers tell an important story, they only capture part of our impact. Behind every hour is a client who needed help, a community that welcomed us, a colleague who shared their skills, and a partner organisation that made the work possible.

Our pro bono work

An overview of our achievements

21,827 pro bono hours completed

3,455 hours spent on secondments to community legal centres and pro bono clearing houses

1,575 hours spent by lawyers volunteering at community advice clinics and self-representation services

40.3 average pro bono hours per full-time equivalent lawyer

69% hours worked for individuals experiencing disadvantage or whose matter raised an issue of public interest

31% hours worked for eligible charities and not-for-profit organisations

54% of our lawyers participated in pro bono legal work

431 new pro bono matters opened

Our top five client groups



Community Legal Centres



First Nations communities



Individuals experiencing financial hardship



Health



Arts and cultural organisations

In the community

A snapshot of our community activities

\$10,000

given to The Landback Foundation for the firm's Christmas donation.

Our people embraced the Christmas spirit of giving, supporting a number of community organisations through donations, gifts and hampers. These organisations included Catherine House in Adelaide, Share the Dignity and RizeUp in Brisbane, Canberra Hospital Foundation in Canberra, Father Bob's Foundation in Melbourne, Soul Hub for Hope and Allambi Care in Newcastle, Variety WA's Toy Drive, St Bart's and Share the Dignity in Perth, and Rev. Bill Crews Foundation in Sydney.

We cooked and shared 'Meals from the Heart' with families and staff at our local Ronald McDonald House chapters.

Our people stepped out in support of legal walks for justice across the country, raising funds for JusticeNet, LawRight and Law Access WA.

159 team members took part in the four-week challenge—STEPtember—together taking nearly 11,597,454 million steps

Raising **\$12,220** for the Cerebral Palsy Alliance

A further **\$17,000** given to local charities through our Community Program

Plus our other various local office fundraising events—that's over

\$39,000 in donations!

For more information about Sparke Helmore's pro bono and community activities, please contact Morgan Long via morgan.long@sparke.com.au or +61 2 9260 2573. More information is also available at www.sparke.com.au

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