

**LAW  
CLINIC  
POTCHEFSTROOM**

Annual Report  
2019



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# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Chrisna Landsberg

The Potchefstroom Law Clinic (hereinafter referred to as the Law Clinic) was officially established on 5 August 1981 and form part of the Faculty of Law of the North-West University.

The Law Clinic is an organisation committed to legal education and access to justice and operates in the Provinces of the North-West and Mpumalanga.

## The Law Clinic is involved with the following projects:

### Legal education:

- The practical legal training of final year law students within the LLB Programme of the NWU.
- Short courses involving legal practitioners, paralegals, social workers and others.
- Training to members of the communities within the areas where the Law Clinic operates.
- Training to School learners about their basic human rights.

### Legal aid services:

The Law Clinic renders free legal aid services to poor and indigent people through the following activities:

- Walk-in-clients at our offices situated in Potchefstroom.
- Walk-in-clients at the Ikageng satellite office of the Potchefstroom Magistrate's Court.
- Walk-in-clients at our offices situated in Nelspruit.
- Back-up legal services to communities at community-based paralegal advice offices situated in the North-West Province (North-West Access to Justice Cluster)

- Back-up legal services to communities at community-based paralegal advice offices situated in the Mpumalanga Province (Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster).
- Legal representation to children in the North-West Province (Child Justice Unit).

### Capacity building programmes:

These programmes are directed towards, *inter alia*, paralegals and members of the community to develop their legal skills and operational capacity to practice such skills in the communities where they operate.

Within these activities the Law Clinic co-operates with a number of organisations such as Legal Aid South Africa, government departments, provincial paralegal organisations, different NGO's and CBO's to be successful and to fulfil its purpose.

Furthermore, the Law Clinic receives funding from international and national donors, as described herein, to enable it to be involved in these activities. Without this funding the Law Clinic would not be able to conduct its activities.

Through its activities the Law Clinic wishes to improve the quality of life of the people in the Provinces of the North-West and Mpumalanga.

### Advisory services:

The Law Clinic renders advisory services to community members to enhance a "rights based" community and to, instead of taking the law into their own hands, use the law to enforce their rights.



**CHRISNA  
LANDSBERG**

Director: Law Clinic



## The Law Clinic employs the following personnel:

### **Ms Chrisna Landsberg**

Director  
Attorney  
Principal Attorney – Candidate Attorneys  
Lecturer – IURI 414, IURI 422

### **Mrs Zaida Essop**

Project Manager – Legal Services  
Attorney  
Principal Attorney – Candidate Attorneys  
Lecturer – IURI 414, IURI 422

### **Mr Schalk Meyer**

Project Manager – External Programmes  
Attorney  
Principal Attorney – Candidate Attorneys  
Lecturer – IURI 414, IURI 422

### **Mrs Natasha Alkers**

Project Manager – Mpumalanga Access  
to Justice Cluster  
Attorney

### **Ms Boipelo Mosepele**

Project Coordinator – Child Justice Unit  
Attorney  
Lecturer – IURI 414, IURI 422

### **Mr Jean Viljoen**

Project Coordinator – North-West  
Access to Justice Cluster  
Attorney  
Lecturer – IURI 414

**Ms Rose Teffo**

Project Coordinator – North-West  
Access to Justice Cluster  
Supervising Attorney  
Lecturer – IURI 422

**Ms Nopasika Mnisi**

Attorney  
Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster

**Ms Aurelia Makukule**

Attorney  
Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster

**Mr Charles Useni**

Attorney  
Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster

**Mrs Lizelle Du Pisani**

Secretary to Director  
Financial Administration

**Mrs Willemien Smit**

Administrative Assistant  
Legal Services, Candidate Attorneys,  
Students, Short Courses

**Ms Dusty Bower**

Receptionist and Office Administrator

**Mrs Rita Pretorius**

Receptionist and Administrative  
Assistant  
Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster

**Mr Ben Sasnowske**

Secretary – School for Legal Practice

**Ms Carla van der Sandt**

Candidate Attorney

**Ms Marzel Diedericks**

Candidate Attorney

**Ms Bridget Goliath**

Candidate Attorney

**Mr Thabo Mohapi**

Candidate Attorney

**Ms Chichi Longwe**

Candidate Attorney

**Ms Charity Sephiri**

Candidate Attorney

**Mr Thankiso Moeketsi**

Candidate Attorney

**Mr Jesse Fondo**

Paralegal  
North-West Access to Justice Cluster

**Mr Meshack Khali**

Paralegal  
North-West Access to Justice Cluster &  
Presenter (workshops)

**Mr Christopher Waki**

Paralegal  
North-West Access to Justice Cluster &  
Presenter (workshops)

**Mrs Maggie Matsane**

Paralegal  
Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster

**Ms Salaminah Dikeledi Esau**

Cleaner



# LEGAL SERVICES

## Free legal services

The Law Clinic employs attorneys, candidate attorneys and paralegals to provide free legal services to poor and indigent people

The Law Clinic operates from our offices situated in Potchefstroom, as well as from a satellite office at the Ikageng satellite office of the Potchefstroom Magistrate's Court. Our operating hours are from 08:00 to 16:30 from Mondays to Fridays. Our satellite office is open from 09:00 to 13:00 from Mondays to Thursdays.

We offer students the opportunity to do community service at the Law Clinic for them to understand the social plight of the poor and marginalised members of the community. Students gain practical experience and make a meaningful contribution to the public.

**Students Assistants working at the Law Clinic are exposed to the following skills:**

- Consultation with clients;
- Client file administration;
- Observation of court appearances of attorneys and candidate attorneys;
- Drafting correspondence;
- Research;
- Drafting pleadings;
- Observation of round table discussions of attorneys and candidate attorneys
- Preparing for court appearances with attorneys and candidate attorneys (strategic planning and analytic thinking skills).



## We assist clients with the following:

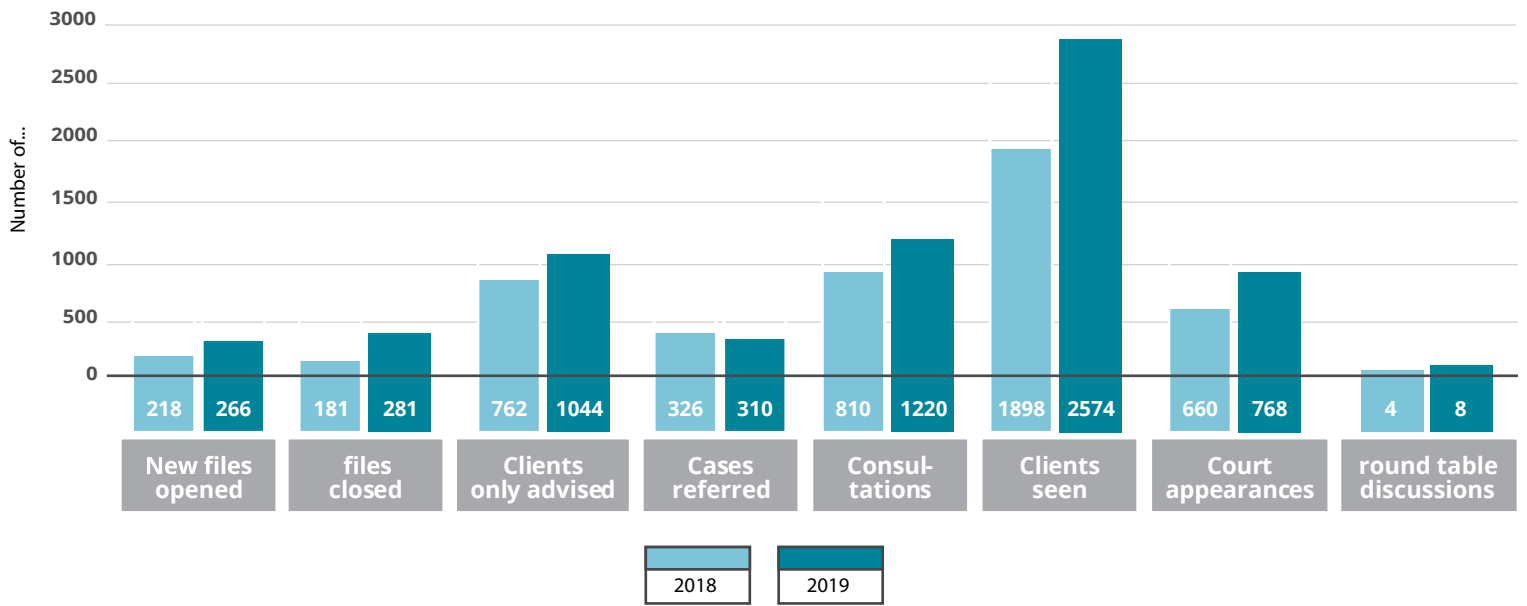
- Civil matters
- Labour matters
- Evictions
- Maintenance Orders
- Divorce actions
- Children's Court
- Domestic violence
- Delict
- Division of property
- Contract
- Money claims
- Criminal
- Rehabilitation
- Mediation
- Spoliation

The Law Clinic received the Vice Chancellors award for Service Excellence in community engagement- legal services by the North West University.

## Statistics for the law clinic for 01 January 2019 – 31 December 2019

Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
No of open files brought forward	159	172	180	166	176	165	170	178	177	167	168	155
No of new files opened	24	20	18	25	23	24	34	28	12	42	11	5
No of files closed	11	12	32	15	34	19	26	29	22	41	24	16
No of consultations where clients were advised only	99	79	85	72	105	76	110	99	121	104	79	15
No of consultations where clients were referred	38	35	37	20	28	26	21	53	32	58	31	127
No of consultations with clients on existing files and new files	103	97	98	133	115	78	138	84	74	107	80	32
Total no of clients seen	240	211	220	225	248	180	269	236	227	269	190	59
No. of court appearances	50	54	58	81	69	67	103	94	68	96	11	17
No of mediations / round table discussions	4	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Time spent: Mediations / Round table discussions (minutes)	220	0	0	60	60	0	90	0	0	0	0	0

## Comparison of statistics from 2018 to 2019:





# STUDENT TRAINING

## Practical legal training

The Law Clinic places great emphasis on the practical legal training of our students. We believe that it is important for our students to have a good understanding of legal practice before they complete their degree. The Clinic

conducts two practical legal training courses for LLB students in their final year of study. These courses are compulsory for all final year law students at the Faculty of Law of the North West University.

### We present the following modules:

- IURI 414 (final year students, first semester) for which a total of 187 students registered for this module on the Potchefstroom Campus; and
- IURI 422 (final year students, second semester) for which a total of 192 students registered for this module on the Potchefstroom Campus.

The students have to attend a weekly practical session of two hours per week at the Law Clinic, amounting to approximately 20 hours per module. Students also have to attend

a weekly formal lecture, which amounts to approximately 10 hours per module..

Ms Ninette Crous (Lecturer at the NWU, Faculty of Law) was responsible for the theoretical component of these subjects, whilst the legal practitioners of the Law Clinic are responsible for the practical training sessions. The entire Law Clinic team is involved with and committed to providing students with the opportunity to enhance their practical legal skills.



Two student firms consisting of 4 final year law students each, taking part in a mock trial against one another

### Practical sessions include:

- Legal profession
- Professional and ethical conduct
- Consultations and taking of instructions from a client – includes simulated practical exercises
- File management – includes simulated practical exercises and work on real client files
- Drafting of correspondence – includes simulated practical exercises
- Civil litigation and drafting of pleadings – includes simulated practical exercises
- Case analysis, legal research and drafting a legal opinion – includes simulated practical exercises
- First appearances and postponements
- Trial advocacy and court etiquette – includes simulated practical exercises
- Alternate Dispute Resolution
- Divorce, Maintenance and Domestic Violence – includes simulated practical exercises
- Parental rights and responsibilities – includes simulated practical exercises
- Child Justice Act
- Bail applications – includes simulated practical exercises
- Pleas – includes simulated practical exercises
- Mock-trials and Moot Court – includes simulated practical exercises
- Sentencing
- Bill of cost – includes simulated practical exercises

The module marks are compiled from the practical work done, as well as a written test and examination. The practical work constitutes 60% of the final mark.

We believe that students must be enabled to obtain knowledge in all the different career possibilities available to them in the legal profession. As part of the Law Clinic's initiative to give students the true feeling of practice in the real world, local Magistrates, Attorneys, Prosecutors, Advocates and other legal professionals are invited to give lectures. This, as well as the community service projects as set out below, enables students to actively engage with different legal practitioners and to make an appropriate career choice.

# Student Projects

## Community service projects for final year law students

The Law Clinic believes that students should be involved in community engagement as part of their preparation for the legal profession. Students are as such required to do 12 hours of community service in the field

of law per annum. As such students conduct their community service hours by taking part in one or more of the following activities of the Law Clinic:

### 1. Interaction with walk-in clients at the Law Clinic

During the first semester 52 of the students that were enrolled for IURI 414 and during the second semester 53 of the students that were enrolled for IURI 422, opted to become a student assistant at the Law Clinic and as such were exposed to the following learning activities:

- Consultation with clients;
- Client file administration;
- Observation of court appearances of attorneys and candidate attorneys;
- Drafting correspondence;
- Research;
- Drafting pleadings;
- Observation of round table discussions of attorneys and candidate attorneys
- Preparing for court appearances with attorneys and candidate attorneys (strategic planning and analytic thinking skills).

The students that took part in this activity conducted a combined total of 682 hours of community service for 2019.

### 2. Participation in the School's Moot Court competition

The Law Clinic assisted the Department of Education and Department of Justice with training and supervising the school learners who took part in the Schools Moot Court competition which took place in Potchefstroom on 6th and 7th September 2019.

The students taking part in this project were responsible to train and mentor the learners who participated in the mock trials.

5 students took part in this activity and together they conducted a combined total of 30 hours of community service for 2019.

### 3. Community workshops

During June 2019 students attended visits to community-based paralegal advice offices situated in Ventersdorp and assisted the attorney of the Law Clinic to conduct community workshops. 3 students took part in this activity conducted a combined total of 28 hours of community service for 2019. Due to time constraints (students having to be out of Potchefstroom from 08:00 – 16:30) students could not take part in this project for the rest of the year.

In cooperation with STOP (Stop Trafficking of People), a registered non-profit organisation that aims to combat all aspects of human trafficking in South Africa, students were given the opportunity to present workshops to various schools situated in the Potchefstroom area. 10 students took part in the STOP community project. The students who took part in this activity conducted a combined total of 72 hours of community service for 2019.

## 4. Participation in any other service-learning project identified by the PC Law Clinic

### 4.1 National Prosecuting Shadow Project


During the week of 08 to 12 July 2019 students were given the opportunity to attend court appearances with public prosecutors at the Potchefstroom Magistrate's Court. 12 students took part in the project and assisted with the administrative tasks of the public prosecutors. Students contributed a combined total of 512 community service hours.

### 4.2 Prison Alert project

Students attended prison visits with attorneys and paralegals of the Law Clinic, as well as school learners. The students were required to present workshops to the school learners on topics identified by the Law Clinic. During the first semester 11 students and during the second semester 17 students took part in this activity. The students who took part in this activity conducted a combined total of 98 hours of community service for 2019.

### 4.3 Private law firms

Students were also allowed to do their community service hours at private law firms. The law firms were given guidelines detailing the type of activities the students should be involved in. The law firms were required to provide the Law Clinic with proof of the community service conducted. During 2019 152 students took part in this activity and conducted a combined total of 1772 hours of community service for 2019.



# CHILD JUSTICE UNIT

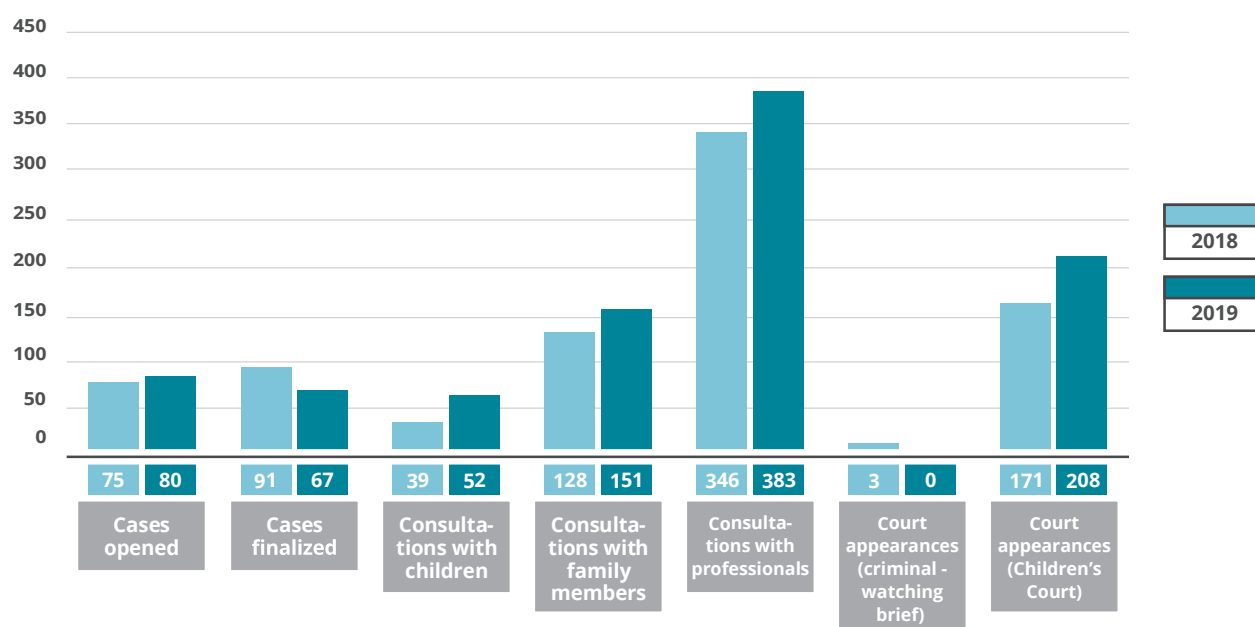
The Child Justice Unit (CJU) was established in terms of a cooperation agreement with Legal Aid South Africa in July 2011 and has the following goals and objectives:

- Providing legal services to children
  - Litigation in the interest of the child
  - Mediation
  - Family Group Conferences
  - Pre-trial proceedings
- The encouragement and promotion of alternative dispute resolution in matters where children are involved.
- Providing legal opinions to social workers and Children's Courts.
- Research on children's rights.
- Encouragement and promotion of accessible and child friendly Children's Courts
- Provide training and education to social workers, children and the community with a focus on children's rights
- The development of collaborative partnerships with other organizations that share the vision of the CJU.
- Prevent or end gross human rights violations and promote positive change in policies or actions of government or relevant non-state actors in the area of human rights
- Educate and/or train human rights victims, workers or defenders
- Monitor, seek redress for and/or report on human rights violations, including supporting victims of human rights abuses
- Promote observance and implementation of international human rights standards
- Promote and strengthen national or regional human rights institutions or mechanisms

## Statistics for the CJU for 01 January 2019 – 31 December 2019

Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
No. of <b>existing cases</b> (carried over)	64	68	72	75	81	85	83	77	78	90	86	90
No. of cases <b>opened</b>	5	5	8	11	9	6	6	5	12	3	9	1
No. of cases <b>finalized</b>	1	1	5	5	5	8	12	4	0	7	5	14
No. of cases <b>carried over to next month</b>	68	72	75	81	85	83	77	78	90	86	90	77
No. of <b>consultations with children</b> (telephonic and in person)	0	1	9	1	7	6	8	1	11	3	4	1
No. of <b>consultations with family members</b> (telephonic and in person)	9	2	32	10	14	8	16	9	18	14	12	7
No. of <b>consultations with professionals</b> (telephonic and in person)	34	18	32	44	43	39	34	18	22	56	30	13
No. of <b>court appearances</b> (criminal - watching brief)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of <b>court appearances</b> (Children's Court)	8	17	22	19	26	17	22	21	17	18	13	8
No. of <b>court appearances</b> (Regional Court/District)	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
No. of <b>court appearances</b> (High Court)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of <b>Mediations</b>	0	1	6	4	1	3	0	1	2	2	1	0
No. of <b>Negotiations</b>	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of <b>opinions sought</b>	3	4	3	3	2	1	7	5	0	0	0	0
No. of <b>meetings</b>	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
No. of <b>workshops</b>	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
No. of <b>attendees of workshops</b>	0	55	0	43	0	122	125	0	0	0	0	0

### Comparison of statistics from 2018 to 2019:





Currently there are 77 files on the CJU's database. In some of the cases more than one child are affected and being represented (i.e. brothers and sisters), therefore the CJU is on record for 87 children (29 male and 58 female) in total

## Training: 2019

Children, the community and social workers are trained and educated on promotion of children's rights, the legal processes involved in matters regarding children and the protection of children found to be in need of care and protection.

In November 2019 the CJU presented 5 community workshops to different communities in the North West Province as follows:

The topics for the workshops included: child neglect, parental rights and responsibilities, gender based violence, elderly abuse, child abuse and substance abuse. A total number of 345 community members attended the workshops.

Dates	Venue	Attendees
2 February 2019	Kid Garden Creche, Ikageng	8
22 February 2019	Bambanani Youth Project, Ikageng	47
24 April 2019	Mosaic Centre, Potchefstroom	43
24 June 2019	Thuso Ya Batho Centre, Promosa	122
29 July 2019	Thuso Ya Batho Centre, Promosa	125

## Nelson mandela day

For this year's Mandela Day outreach project, the CJU collected clothing and tin foods for the Thuso Ya Batho Centre in Potchefstroom. On 29 July 2019 the CJU visited the Thuso Ya Batho Project in Promosa, Potchefstroom and donated the items collected. A workshop on substance abuse, child neglect and elderly abuse was also held.

From left to right: Ms Mosepele (CJU), Mr Rampou (Management of Thuso Ya Batho Centre), Mr Waki (CJU), Ms Freeks (Founder of Thuso Ya Batho Centre), Ms Sephiri (CJU) and Ms Goliath (CJU)



During July 2019, the CJU donated baby clothes to Vessels of Mercy, an NGO situated in Ikageng that takes in abandoned babies and children that were removed from harmful circumstances.

Ms Boipelo Mosepele (CJU) handing over baby clothes to Vessels of Mercy.

# OUTREACH PROJECTS

## North-West Access to Justice Cluster

The Law Clinic, in co-operation with Legal Aid South Africa and various NGO's and CBO's operates an Access to Justice Cluster in the North-West Province

The cluster is a co-operation between various legal service providers and other organisations with the aim of providing access to justice and services to poor and marginalised people in rural and remote areas.

### Back-up legal services

In 2019 the Law Clinic provided back up legal services to 11 community based paralegal advice offices. The back-up legal services offered to community-based paralegal advice offices (hereinafter referred to as CBPAOs) are provided by legal practitioners, candidate legal

The main activities of the cluster include back-up legal services to paralegal advice offices, community workshops, networking and advocacy. The Law Clinic is acting as the secretariat of the NWAJC and handles all the administration and financial management of the Cluster.



practitioners and paralegals in the employ of the Law Clinic.

The Law Clinic provided back-up legal services from 01 January 2019 – 31 December 2019, to 11 CBPAOs, namely:

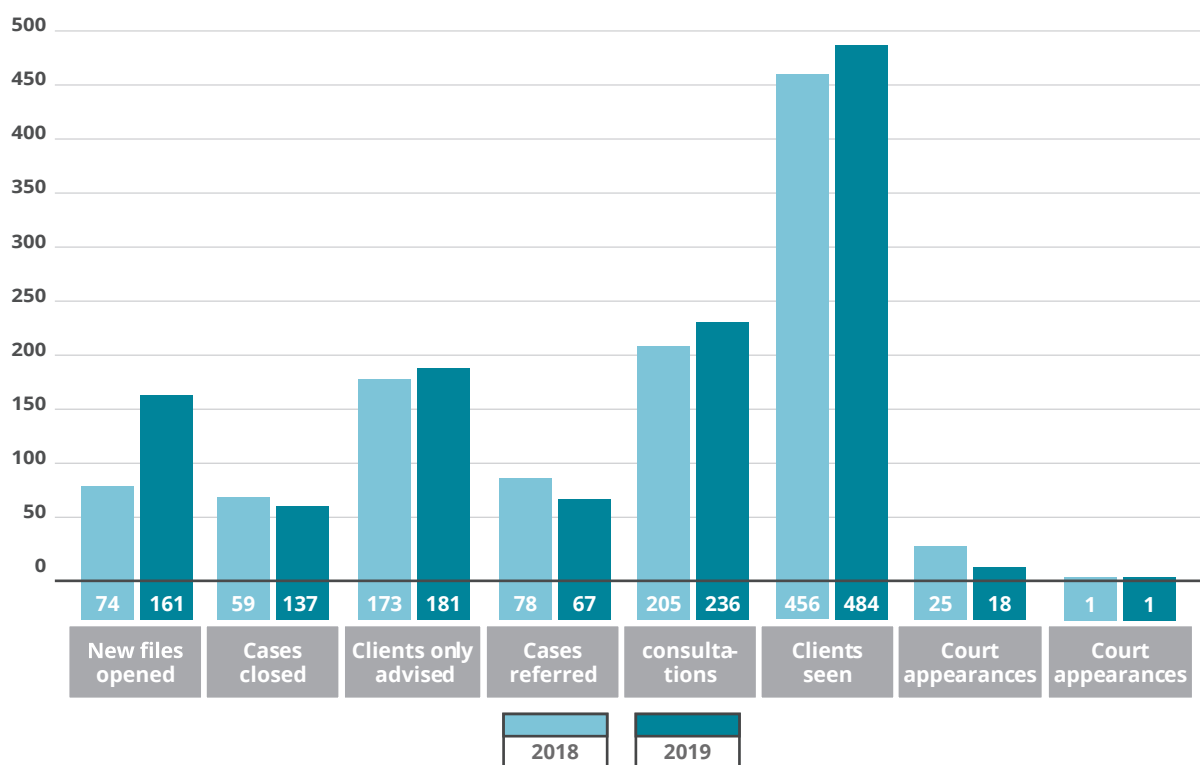
1. Tlhaofalo Advice Centre (Ntsweletsoku, Zeerust);
2. Bojanala Legal Advice Centre (Phatsima, Rustenburg);
3. Lethabong Legal Advice Centre (Lethabong, Rustenburg);
4. Lethabong Drop-in Centre (Jericho, Brits);
5. Letlhabile Network Against Domestic Violence, Child Abuse and HIV-Aids (Letlhabile, Brits);
6. Jouberton Legal and Human Empowerment Centre (Jouberton, Klerksdorp);
7. Orkney Legal Advice and Development Centre (Kanana, Orkney);
8. Boikhutso Paralegal Advice Office (Boikhutso, Ventersdorp);
9. Reabetswe Support group and Advice Office (Tswelelang, Wolmaransstad)
10. Leeudoringstad Advice & Development Centre (Kgakala, Leeudoringstad);
11. Lebaleng Advice and Development Centre (Lebaleng, Makwassi);

In the case where a file is opened the paralegals assist in obtaining outstanding information from the client, and forward it to the Law Clinic. The paralegals also play an important role in providing feedback to clients when it is difficult to reach them.

## Statistics of the NWAJC for 01 January 2019 – 31 December 2019

Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
No of open files brought forward	73	74	72	69	67	96	104	67	75	107	122	111
No of new files opened	3	3	1	1	52	19	5	9	36	22	8	2
No of files closed	2	5	4	3	23	11	42	1	4	7	19	16
No of consultations where clients were advised only	5	12	1	41	1	19	2	42	6	38	13	1
No of consultations where clients were referred	8	4	0	13	0	5	0	9	4	19	5	0
No of consultations with clients on existing files and new files	24	24	0	34	11	35	2	45	16	31	13	1
Total no of clients seen	37	40	1	88	12	59	4	96	26	88	31	2
No Of Court Appearances	1	1	1	2	3	1	2	4	2	0	1	0
No of mediations / round tables	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Time Spent: Mediations / Rtd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60
Kilometres Travelled: Court	100	399	6	534	123	111	136	105	390	0	160	566
Kilometres Travelled: PAO	244	1018	0	1150	0	995	0	1865	408	2228	130	0
No Of Workshops Conducted	1	0	0	3	1	3	1	7	1	5	1	0
No of Workshop Attendees	19	0	0	48	45	58	57	161	21	90	14	0

### Comparison of statistics from 2018 to 2019:



## Community workshops

The aim of the community workshops presented by the Law Clinic is to raise awareness within communities regarding basic human rights and responsibilities. These workshops are held at traditional offices and / or CBPAOs throughout the North-West Province and aim to build capacity within the communities

Various community workshops were planned with the cooperation of traditional leaders and/ or the community based paralegals throughout the North-West Province.

A total of 22 community workshops were held during the reporting period, reaching a total number of 456 members of the community.

The workshop themes were: wills and estates matters, divorce, type of marriages, universal partners, Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, Unemployment Insurance Fund, bail applications, South African Constitution, rights of victims of abuse, maintenance, parental rights and responsibilities of parents, evictions, bail applications, expungement of criminal records and the Small Claims Court.

Date	Place	Topic	Attendees
31 January 2019	Jouberton	Wills & Estates	19
15 April 2019	Lebaleng	Divorce, Type of Marriages, Universal partners	21
15 April 2019	Leeudoringstad	Divorce, Type of Marriages, Universal partners	21
16 April 2019	Orkney	COIDA & UIF	6
22 May 2019	Lebaleng	Bail, Criminal records	45
20 June 2019	Orkney	UIF & Divorce	16
25 June 2019	Reabetswe	SA Constitution & Estate matters	23
25 June 2019	Lebaleng	Small Claims Court	19
12 August 2019	Orkney	UIF & Type of marriages	10
14 August 2019	Matlosana (Jouberton)	Evictions / Will & Parental Rights	20
15 August 2019	Weltevreden	Parental Rights / Customary Marriages	32
20 August 2019	Tlhoafalo	Wills & Estates	22
22 August 2019	Lethabong	UIF, COIDA & Wills	20
26 August 2019	Reabetswe	Divorce, Maintenance, Types of Marriages, Wills & Estates	23
28 August 2019	Leeudoringsta	Maintenance	34
02 September 2019	Letlhabile	Rights of Victims of Abuse, Divorce, Maintenance	21
11 October 2019	Tlhoafalo	Maintenance & UIF	25
17 October 2019	Letlhabile	Evictions	25
18 October 2019	Boikhutso	Evictions, Wills & LC	12
22 October 2019	Lethabong LAC	Wills & Estates & LC	15
23 October 2019	Jouberton	Wills & Estates & LC	13
19 November 2019	Orkney	Wills & Estates	14

## School Workshops

During the reporting period of 2019, the Law Clinic decided to host one school workshop for Resolofetse Secondary School, in Potchefstroom. 57 (FIFTY-SEVEN) grade 10 learners participated in this project

Date	School	Topic	Attendees
12 July 2019	Resolofetse Secondary School	Substance Abuse & Maintenance	57

## Prison Alert Project

The Prison Alert Project aims to prevent crime within the community and to raise awareness amongst school learners of the consequences of engaging in criminal activities.

School learners from various schools within the Potchefstroom area were taken to the Potchefstroom Remand Detention (previously unknown as Wilgeboom Correctional Services) situated outside of Potchefstroom for a one-day visit.

School learners from 5 (FIVE) Schools participated in the project during June 2019. The learners are taken on a tour inside the prison and prisoners give motivational speeches to the learners to achieve the goals of the project.

Final year law students are also involved in this project.

Five (5) prison alert presentations took place during the month of July 2019 and total of 28 (TWENTY-EIGHT) students participated in this project and a total of 100 (ONE HUNDRED) learners from the various schools participated in this project.

Date of Excursion	No. of Law Students	No. of School Learners
10 July 2019	5	20
17 July 2019	7	20
24 July 2019	5	20
26 July 2019	3	20
31 July 2019	8	20

# Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster

The Law Clinic, in co-operation with Legal Aid South Africa and various NGO's and CBPAOs operates an Access to Justice Cluster in Mpumalanga.

The cluster is a co-operation between various legal service providers and other organisations with the aim of providing access to

justice and services to poor and marginalised people in rural and remote areas. The main activities of the cluster include back-up legal services to paralegal advice offices, community workshops, networking and advocacy.



## BACK-UP LEGAL VISITS

The Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster provides back-up legal services to the following community-based paralegal advice offices:

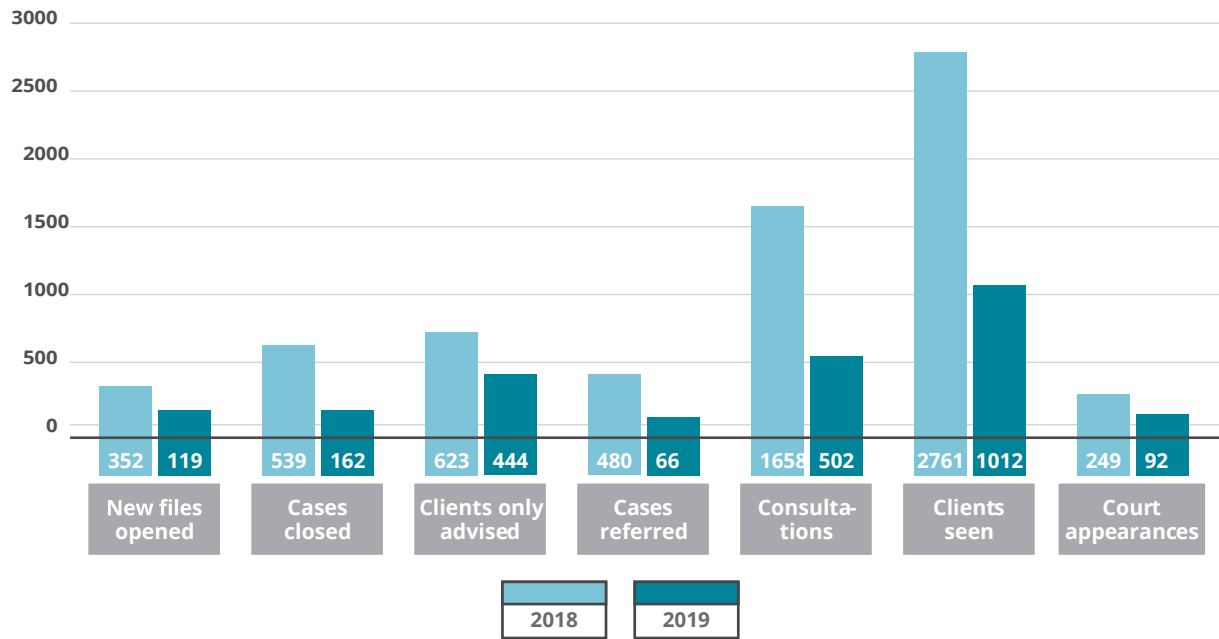
- Masisukumeni (Tonga)
- Ukuthula (Kwaggafontein)
- Leandra
- Bohlabela (Bushbuckridge)
- Kwa-Guqa (Witbank)
- Nkomazi
- Standerton

## Statistics of the MAJC for 01 January 2019 – 31 December 2019

Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
No of open files brought forward	128	125	123	140	136	119	121	131	125	125	112	107
No of new files opened	6	22	28	11	9	12	17	8	7	12	9	1
No of files closed	9	24	11	15	26	10	7	14	7	25	14	5
No of consultations where clients were advised only	37	20	34	27	36	25	47	54	47	70	47	16
No of consultations where clients were referred	6	4	6	11	5	0	7	1	0	16	10	3
No of consultations with clients on existing files and new files	33	71	55	50	56	33	65	38	28	37	36	7
Total no of clients seen	76	95	95	88	97	58	119	93	75	123	93	26
No of court appearances	7	6	3	4	13	14	5	11	2	14	13	9



## Comparison of statistics from 2018 to 2019:



# SHORT COURSES

## Legal Education and Access to Justice

The Law Clinic has developed and conducts a number of Short Courses which have been registered at the North-West University

The Law Clinic offers the following Short Learning Programmes and / or Short Courses to paralegals, administrative staff, candidate attorneys and attorneys:

1. Introductory Short Learning Programme for Paralegals (Phase I) (T33 100 1)
2. Advanced Short Learning Programme for Paralegals (Phase II) (T34 100 1)
3. Short Learning Programme on Basic Legal Training for Administrative Staff (T53 100 1)
4. Short Learning Programme on Mediation Skills (T50 100 1)
5. Short Learning Programme on Alternative Dispute Resolution for Paralegals (T52 100 1)
6. Short Learning Programme on the Children's Act for Paralegals (T54 100 1)
7. Short Learning Programme on the Consumer Protection Act for Paralegals (T49 100 1)
8. Short Learning Programme on the Law of Contract for Paralegals (T48 100 1)
9. Short Learning Programme on Labour Law for Attorneys (T51 100 1)
10. Short Learning Programme on the Consumer Protection Act for Attorneys (T55 100 1)
11. Short Course on Administration of Estates (T81 100 1)
12. Short Learning Programme on Legal Aspects of Governance and Compliance (T84 100 1)
13. Short Learning Programme on Gender Based Violence (G62 100 1)
14. Introductory Short Course on Legal Aspects of Governance and Compliance (J19 100 1)
15. Short Course on Community Engagement and Access to Justice (J20 100 1)
16. Short Course on Gender Based Violence (G62 100 1)

These courses are offered mainly to organisations whose primary aim is to improve the realisation of access to justice to poor and marginalised members of the community

## Training Conducted

The Law Clinic presented the 5-day Short Learning Programme on Mediation Skills for Paralegals (T50 100 1) to community-based paralegals, management committee and staff members of community-based paralegal advice offices as follows:

Regions	Venue	Date	Number of attendees	Advice Offices that attended
Mpumalanga	Bundu Lodge, Nelspruit	2019.01.21-25	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nkomazi</li> <li>• Masisukumeni</li> <li>• Bohlabela</li> <li>• Kwa-Guqa</li> <li>• Leandra</li> <li>• MAJC</li> </ul>
North West	Lemon Blossom Guest House, Potchefstroom	2019.02.04-08	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jouberton</li> <li>• Leeudoringstad</li> <li>• Lethabong</li> <li>• Letlhabile</li> <li>• Ventersdorp</li> <li>• NWAJC</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Limpopo	Polokwane	2019.04.08-12	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bloodriver</li> <li>• Ditenteng</li> <li>• Mankweng Advisory</li> <li>• Mankweng PAO</li> <li>• Manthata</li> <li>• Matlala</li> </ul>
Western Cape	UWC Law Clinic	2019.05.27-31	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athlone</li> <li>• Elsie's River</li> <li>• Heideveld</li> <li>• Langa</li> <li>• Mitchells Plain</li> </ul>

Regions	Venue	Date	Number of attendees	Advice Offices that attended
Gauteng	Stay City Hotel, Johannesburg	2019.07.22-26	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dobsonville AO</li> <li>• Ntsu Comm</li> <li>• Adv Centre</li> <li>• Citizen Journalism Net</li> <li>• Thusang Morwalo AO</li> <li>• Ramogodi Adv Centre</li> <li>• SA D/L Research Inst</li> <li>• Magaliesburg AO</li> <li>• Thembisa AO</li> <li>• Leago Legal AO</li> </ul>
Free state	Hugenoot Gastehuis, Bloemfontein	2019.10.21-25	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sisonke Youth Development</li> <li>• Phakama Advice Office</li> <li>• Ficksburg Community Advice Centre</li> <li>• Mafube Advice Centre</li> <li>• Nketoana Advice Office</li> <li>• Henneman Victim Empowerment Forum</li> </ul>

Regions	Venue	Date	Number of attendees	Advice Offices that attended
Free state	Hugenoot Gastehuis, Bloemfontein	2019.10.21-25	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dihlabeng Development Initiative</li> <li>• Qholaqhwe Advice Office</li> <li>• Batho Ba Lerato</li> <li>• Tshereletso Against Women Abuse</li> </ul>

The Law Clinic presented the 2-day Short Learning Programme on Gender Based Violence (G62 100 1) to community-based paralegals, management committee and staff members of community-based paralegal advice offices as follows:

Regions	Venue	Date	Number of attendees	Advice Offices that attended
Eastern Cape	King Williams Town	2019.11.26-27	31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adelaide Advice Office</li> <li>• Berlin Advice Office</li> <li>• Care Alicedale</li> <li>• Dordrecht Advice Office</li> <li>• Entlango Primary Agricultural Cooperative</li> <li>• Herschel Advice Office</li> <li>• LUCARC</li> <li>• Masiphakameni Local Development Agency</li> <li>• Mqanduli Advice Office</li> <li>• Qunu Advice Office</li> </ul>

Regions	Venue	Date	Number of attendees	Advice Offices that attended
Eastern Cape	King Williams Town	2019.11.26-27	31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Siyanakekela Community Based Organization</li> <li>• Tyinira Rural Development Agency</li> </ul>
Western Cape	Cape Town	2019.12.03-04	28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atamelang Community Development</li> <li>• Beaufort West Legal and Dev Office</li> <li>• Cederberg Matzikama Aids Network</li> <li>• Citrusdal Advice Office</li> <li>• Kgatelopele Social Development Forum</li> <li>• Merweville Advice and Dev Office</li> <li>• Nelspoort Advice and Dev Office</li> <li>• Sandveld Local Development Agency</li> <li>• Saron Advice Office</li> <li>• Step Up Advice Office</li> <li>• Strydenburg Future Leaders Org</li> <li>• Thuso Advice and Development Centre</li> <li>• Touwsrivier Advice Office</li> </ul>

The Law Clinic presented the following courses to community-based paralegals during the Dullah Omar School held from 05 to 10 September 2019 at the Cape Town Lodge in Cape Town:

<b>Short course / short learning programme</b>	<b>Number of attendees</b>	<b>Number of days</b>
Introductory Short Learning Programme for Paralegals (T33 100 1)	30	5
Advanced Short Learning Programme for Paralegals (T34 100 1)	22	5
	<b>52</b>	<b>10</b>



# SCHOOL FOR LEGAL PRACTICE

The Faculty of Law of the North-West University host the School for Legal Practice for the North-West Province in association with the Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) and other major role players in the legal profession. The Law Clinic acts as the secretariat and is responsible for the financial administration of the School for Legal Practice.

The School for Legal Practice is situated on the Potchefstroom Campus of the North-West University and caters mainly for law graduates of the North-West University. The medium of instruction is English in order to accommodate learners from other provinces.

Students who complete the school programme may apply to the High Court of South Africa for a one-year reduction from their articles and may write the Attorneys Admission Examination immediately after completion of the school programme.

The school is administered as prescribed by the Policy Statement of the LSSA and students are issued with the training material developed by the LSSA. Assessment is also in accordance with the Policy Statement. Instructors are appointed annually from legal practitioners with appropriate experience in a specific legal field.

35 Students were enrolled in the School for Legal Practice during 2020

## The module programme includes the following subjects:

- Criminal Court Practice
- Constitutional Practice
- High Court Practice
- Magistrate Court Practice
- Legal Costs
- Personal Injury Claims
- Matrimonial Matters & Divorce
- Insolvency
- Wills, Estates & Trusts
- Commercial Litigation
- Commercial Contracts
- Forms of Business Enterprise - Online
- Legal Practitioners Bookkeeping
- Introduction to Practice Management - Online
- Professional Legal Ethics
- Customary Law - Online
- Drafting Workbook for Portfolio of Evidence - Online
- Financial Consciousness - Online
- Legal Writing
- Client Counselling (Taking Instructions)
- Research
- Computer Skills (if required)
- Trial Advocacy
- Alternative Dispute Resolution/Mediation
- Labour Law





# INVOLVEMENT IN OTHER PROJECTS

## **South African University Law Clinic Association (SAULCA)**

SAULCA is a voluntary association of all South African university law clinics, established in approximately 1982 to promote and protect the interests, values and goals of its members. SAULCA's vision is to be a professional and efficient organisation committed to democratic values and human rights, and dedicated to promoting excellence in clinical legal education and access to justice.

The Director, Ms Chrisna Landsberg and Mr Schalk Meyer serve on the Executive Committee of SAULCA.

## **AULAI Trust**

AULAI Trust is a fund created for the benefit of all university based legal aid & clinical legal educational institutions in South Africa.

The Law Clinic forms part of the AULAI Trust cluster programme and as such manages two clusters, namely the Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster and the North-West Access to Justice Cluster.

Mr Schalk Meyer, is the Programme Manager for the Trust, and the Law Clinic handles the programme management of the Trust.

## **Legal Aid South Africa**

The Law Clinic has two cooperation agreements with Legal Aid South Africa, one for the provision of legal assistance to children (the Child Justice Unit) and another for the provision of access to justice to the poor and marginalised people in rural and remote areas in the Mpumalanga province (the Mpumalanga Access to Justice Cluster).



# CONTACT DETAILS

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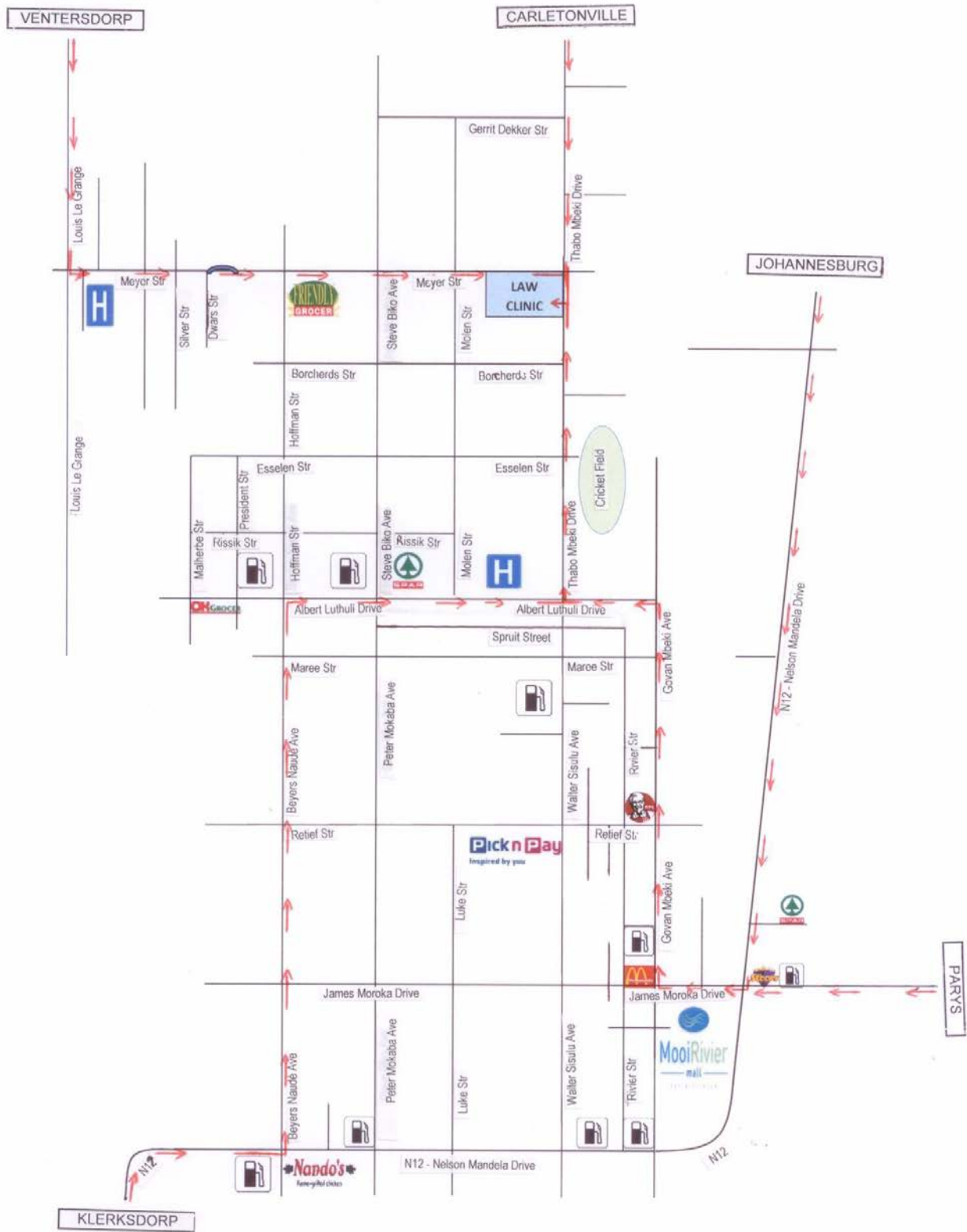
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# Map to the Law Clinic



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Law Clinic renders outstanding services as set out in this report. Without the contribution from all our donors it would not have been possible to render the much needed services to the community. This joint venture is of great benefit to the people we wish to serve and the Law Clinic wishes to acknowledge the contributions from all our donors.

