



PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 30, 2024

New directors to help drive ARC Justice’s strategic plan

ARC Justice – a rights-based, for-purpose organisation incorporating community legal centres in Bendigo and Shepparton – has welcomed four board members to help drive a bold five-year plan.

Chaired by Melinda Charlesworth, the board now includes Narlinga Morgan, Ed Butler, Sarah Gee and Erin Turner, in addition to long-standing directors Clare Fountain, Kate Scarce and Melissa Ralph.

ARC Justice CEO Damian Stock said the four new directors, who bring an injection of new skills and experience, will ensure the board can “govern for success”.

He said the board members will help the organisation deliver its ambitious *2024-2029 Strategic Plan*, adopted late last year.

“The plan defines ARC Justice’s vision ... that we exist so rights are known and acted upon, and communities are fairer ... and explains how will deliver on it,” Stock said.

“This strategy will ensure we understand what our community needs and includes a commitment to walking with First Nations Peoples and communities. It provides a road map to ensure people know and use their rights. To guide us on this journey, we’ve brought a diverse new skill set onto our board.”

Narlinga Morgan is an experienced public health executive and proud Yorta Yorta woman. She has a deep commitment to social justice, equality, Aboriginal affairs and human rights. “Narlinga builds strong teams and designs services that meet the needs of our priority communities,” Stock said.

Ed Butler, who has more than a decade of experience in for-purpose communications, specifically in the legal help sector, brings strategic communications nous. “His focus on accessible communication will help make human rights understood as real, everyday solutions for people in regional Victoria.”

Sarah Gee, a commercial lawyer and owner of a Bendigo law firm, brings additional strategic, risk, finance and governance know-how to the board. Stock said her talent for modernising regional organisations will help ARC deliver value to funders, develop internal skills and engage local communities.

Erin Turner is a consumer advocate “who works with governments and regulators to make markets fairer for Australians”, Stock said. Erin is the CEO of the Consumer Policy Research Centre, a not-for-profit think tank.

About ARC Justice

ARC Justice is a rights-based, for-purpose organisation incorporating the Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre and Housing Justice based in Bendigo and the Goulburn Valley Community Legal Centre based in Shepparton. ARC provides legal and tenancy support services across 13 local government areas in central and northern Victoria, with a team of 54 staff working to advocate for and uphold the rights of rural and regional Victorians.

Media contact

Erin Delahunty
ARC Justice Communications Lead
0460 778-751
erind@arcjustice.org.au