# knowmore

### Service snapshot



**knowmore** is an independent service giving free legal advice to people who are considering telling their story or providing information to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

**knowmore** is a unique, national legal service, providing trauma-informed and holistic services to survivors and other people considering engaging with the Royal Commission. Callers can access legal help, social worker/counsellor support and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Advisors to talk to if they wish.

We have offices in Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. Free call: 1800 605 762 info@knowmore.org.au www.knowmore.org.au

**knowmore** began providing services to the public on 8 July 2013 – as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, we've helped:



2760 unique clients



#### Our current client-facing team includes:



#### Calls came from



VIC 1 WA 1 SA TAS ACT	<u>0%</u>
WA 1 SA TAS ACT	1%
SA TAS ACT	8%
TAS ACT	<b>3</b> %
ACT	<b>5</b> %
	<b>3</b> %
NT	1%
	<b>2</b> %
Unspecified/Overseas	<b>7</b> %

### **Community outreach and liaison**



Face to face services were provided to **974 clients** 





knowmore has conducted or participated in 607 community outreach and liaison events



**34** Royal Commission private sessions that **knowmore** staff have accompanied clients to as their support person

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### Counselling/ social work

All clients have access to social work/counselling assistance in addition to legal assistance

**1052 clients** received social work/counselling support either directly or through case consultation





**562 clients** have been referred to other support services from **knowmore** 

### **Specialist staff for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients**

knowmore has a strong commitment to providing culturally appropriate services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients



18% of our clients

identify as being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent



We employ 5 experienced male and female Aboriginal Engagement Advisors and an Aboriginal lawyer



We also work closely with interpreters and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community organisations to ensure that we are engaging respectfully and appropriately with people

#### **Our clients**



82% were aged 45 and over



44% identified as females



55% identified as males



26% required more than one advice session

### **Feedback**

From a service provider..

"You're all incredible at what you do and make a huge difference to the experience of our clients engaging with the Royal Commission. Your sensitivity to their needs and flexibility in your approach provides our service users with a soft entry into the sticky legal system of compensation and redress and the daunting task of relaying their experience to the Royal Commission."

From a panel lawyer..

"The information and service provided by knowmore is very positively received and is helpful to survivors."

From a client...

"My gratitude for the belief, humanity, assistance and guidance you personally have provided to me in helping me get to this life-changing point in my journey."

#### From a client...

"Thank you for your caring, empathetic and professional (in that order) dealing with me today. I am very appreciative of how I have been looked after."

