

LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

INSTITUTIONAL HONOREE

CLEARY GOTTLIEB STEEN & HAMILTON LLP

Long, impressive record of creative and critical pro bono services to nonprofits

CLEARY GOTTLIEB

Throughout Lawyers Alliance's 53-year history, dedicated and talented attorneys from Cleary Gottlieb have been central to the delivery of high-quality pro bono legal services that improve New York City. Cleary Senior Counsel Ed Greene was among the small group of attorneys who created the Council of New York Law Associates, the predecessor to Lawyers Alliance, in 1969. For Cleary, commitment to pro bono has been a core value of the firm since its inception, and in recent years it has emphasized leadership in nonprofit law, offering holistic legal advice to pro bono nonprofit clients and drawing knowledge from across the firm.

The firm has partnered with Lawyers Alliance on 59 different pro bono matters for 52 organizations since July 1, 2017, as well as dozens of projects involving attorney externs. Cleary has brought new organizations to life through incorporation and tax exemption, provided valuable expertise on corporate structuring and governance, and helped groups navigate legal issues related to pandemic relief. Cleary has positively impacted the criminal justice system in New York City, helping to launch and advise the **Brooklyn Community Bail Fund, now known as Envision Freedom Fund**, which has evolved into a key force in the immigration bond fund space. The firm is currently drafting a template fiscal sponsorship agreement for **Good Call**, a nonprofit founded to make the arrest process and its aftermath less painful for detained individuals and their loved ones. Thanks to Cleary volunteers, nonprofits are better able to navigate legal issues that are critical to their programs.

Cleary was the first firm to sponsor an extern at Lawyers Alliance. From 1989 through this year, 89 Cleary associates have worked full time at Lawyers Alliance for four to six month rotations. This has enabled Lawyers Alliance to expand its work, deepened the nonprofit law knowledge at Cleary, and reinforced a public service spirit among firm attorneys and alumni.

Q. How does the firm encourage and support business and transactional lawyers at all levels to participate in pro bono?

The firm is flexible in matching the needs of the communities we serve with our lawyers' skills and interests, and lawyers from across all practice groups are welcomed and encouraged to take on a wide range of pro bono matters. Our pro bono team is led by a dedicated, experienced attorney focused on pro bono corporate and transactional matters who is readily available to consult on all of our pro bono corporate and transactional projects. We do our best to offer something for everyone in our corporate and transactional groups while effectively serving our communities' needs.

Q. How has the firm's pro bono program evolved during the last few years?

Cleary Gottlieb is fully committed to the success of the firm's pro bono program. Over the last several years, the firm has dedicated extensive resources to its transactional and corporate practice, recognizing that this work intersects directly

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with the movement for racial justice and is truly the foundation of community economic development in New York City.

Cleary Gottlieb attorneys have represented the following Lawyers Alliance clients in the last three years: **Academy of Medical & Public Health Services, African Health Now, Center for Community Alternatives, Center for Family Life in Sunset Park, Communitas America, Community Voices Heard, Council of Peoples Organization, Drag Queen Story Hour, Dress for Success Worldwide, Envision Freedom Fund, Extreme Kids and Crew, FamilyKind, Good Call NYC, InnovateEDU, I'RAISE, Kings Against Violence Initiative, Lantern Organization, Lawyers Alliance for New York, Learning Through an Expanded Arts Program, Long Island City Cultural Alliance, Manhattan Valley Development Corporation, Music & Memory, Neighbors for Allied Growth, Notice Foundation, Person Centered Care Services, Practice Makes Perfect Holdings, Roads to Success, White Coats for Black Lives, World Policy Institute, You Gotta Believe!, and Youth Boxing for Change.**

Firm lawyers who worked with these clients and/or who were **externs** during this time include: Michael Albano, Pierre Allegaert, Charles Allen, Travis Arbon, **Emily Arndt**, Laura Bagarella, **Isa Julson Barahona, Emily Barry**, Kelsey Barthold, Jesse Benov, Catherine Borneo, Adam Brenneman, **Amanda Brown**, Julia Brownstein, Paul Brudnick, Audry Casusol, Synne Chapman, Brendan Cohen, Emory Cook, Roger Cooper, Nicholas DiStefano, Virginia DuPont, Elizabeth Dyer, Jason Factor, **Stephanie Fontana**, Grace Gao, Jonathan Gifford, **Ariel Giumarelli, Richard Goldring**, Suzannah Golick, Helena Grannis, Douglas Gretz, David Groman, Robert Gruszecki, Kyle Harris, John Harrison, David Herrington, Katherine Hughes, Daniel Ilan, Paul Imperatore, Sheilah Kane-Weiss, Judith Kassel, Thomas Kessler, Julia Knight, Jonathan Kolodner, Nimat Lawal, Jee Eun Lee, Samson Lim, Richard Lincer, Emerson Lovell, David Maranjian, Duane McLaughlin, Aaron Meyers, Wolete Moko, Francesca Odell, Sean O'Neal, Benet O'Reilly, Jennifer Park, Tracy Pecher, Nathaniel Pribil, Sandra Rocks, Julia Rozenblit, **Harshil Shukla**, Michael Sims, Caroline Soussloff, Katherine Van Bramer, Wankun Wang, Andrew Wasilick, Declan White, Olivia Wittels, and Diana Wollman.

“Since we were founded in 2014, Cleary Gottlieb has been one of our closest partners, helping us build from scratch the infrastructure and capacity to help nearly 11,000 New Yorkers attain their freedom from pretrial and immigrant detention. They not only provide us with top class, client-centered legal representation, but they are also a strong ally in the fight for social, racial, and economic justice.”

— Carl Hamad-Lipscombe
Executive Director, Envision Freedom Fund

2022 CORNERSTONE AWARDS