2025 CORNERSTONE AWARDS • INDIVIDUAL HONOREE



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Clinic frequent flier deepens support beyond limited scope engagements

Deborah Verdile first volunteered with Lawyers Alliance at a limited scope clinic held virtually at the start of the pandemic, and has since participated in eight other Lawyers Alliance clinics. Her dedication doesn't stop there – she has taken on direct representation matters for clients stemming from the clinics. After a clinic consultation with **Mekong NYC**, which serves, organizes, and builds power within the Southeast Asian refugee and immigrant community, Ms. Verdile updated its governance documents. Similarly, following an initial consultation, Ms. Verdile reviewed and revised a contract for NYC Salt, a nonprofit using photography to engage and empower youth, enabling it to collaborate with an international camera company on a student-designed camera strap. She has continued working with the organization on other contracts as well.

Q. How do the nonprofits you've worked with enrich their communities?

They all provide meaningful support for, and have a positive impact on, the communities they serve in different ways. I recently worked with NYC Salt. Their programs help students reach their full potential and achieve college and future career success. This can have a lasting and positive effect on these

students' lives, as well as their families and communities. I also recently worked with another nonprofit, Mekong NYC, a social justice organization serving the Southeast Asian community. The organization enriches the lives of their community by providing needed services, community events, arts and cultural activities, and other activities and support. These are just a few examples of the amazing nonprofits I've worked with through Lawyers Alliance.

"I could not be more appreciative of Lawyers Alliance and Deborah, her colleagues, and Thomson Reuters for all the help they have given us in the contract negotiation. There is no way we could ever afford this service and no way I, or anyone on my staff, would be able to translate such lengthy contracts. Deborah was incredibly helpful in helping me understand and negotiate the terms."

Alicia Hansen
 Founder and CEO, NYC Salt

Graduate of:

Yale Law School

Lawyers Alliance clients:

Harlem Junior Tennis and Education Program
Housing Conservation Coordinators
Kingsbridge BID
Mekong NYC
Not Another Child
NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault
NYC Salt
Pawsability Dog Club
Turning Point for Women and Families
Union Settlement House