



Decades of deep pro bono commitment establishes firm as go-to partner for nonprofit clients

Dechert LLP has partnered with Lawyers Alliance since 1992, providing pro bono assistance to 237 nonprofit clients on nearly 300 legal matters, including 25 new cases the past year. The firm's example of pro bono involvement set by its leadership has permeated across the institution. Throughout this multi-decade partnership, Dechert attorneys ranging from the co-chairs of the firm to junior associates have dedicated their expertise and time in meaningful ways on Lawyers Alliance matters.

Clients have repeatedly praised Dechert for its work, often requesting to work with the firm again. **Grand Street Settlement**, a multi-service agency on the Lower East Side, has worked with Dechert since 2019, on a thorough review of its bylaws and assistance negotiating multiple leases. With Dechert's help, Grand Street was able to expand its Early Head Start and Head Start programming. **Neighborhood Trust Financial Partners (NTFP)**, a leading provider of financial empowerment services and products geared towards low-income individuals in New York City, worked with Dechert to review and negotiate a key services agreement to enhance its employer offerings. NTFP returned to Dechert to review and negotiate a simplified template agreement that can be used with future credit union and other counterparties that want to participate in its Pathways to Financial Empowerment program. Dechert has provided expertise in every major area a nonprofit could need during its lifetime. It is a go-to partner for complex matters, and is quick and responsive to client needs.

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

Central to Dechert's pro bono program is a recognition of the importance of using our skills to strengthen the communities in which we live and work. We have supportive firm policies and provide training and mentoring to encourage pro bono participation – but, most importantly, we have strategic partnerships with organizations like Lawyers Alliance, which helps us make the connections with the nonprofit sector and provide us with the support and guidance to enhance our ability to provide effective and impactful assistance.

Q. As you look to the future, how do you see the firm's pro bono program evolving to meet the needs of nonprofits as they enrich their communities?

Dechert recognizes that the nonprofit sector is on the frontlines in our communities, filling critical service gaps addressing a vast array of economic, social, and environmental issues. We hope to build deeper, long-term relationships with many of our nonprofit clients – with the hope that we can help them increase their impact in serving the communities in which their services are so desperately needed.

“Our attorneys were responsive and helpful. And patient along the way when we hit hurdles. They got the job totally done for us. We're very grateful.”

— Amie Karp
Clinical Director,
Crime Victims Treatment Center

Dechert attorneys have worked with the following Lawyers Alliance clients in the last three years: **Academy for Teachers, All Our Kin, ASNEAA (Africa, South America, North America, Europe, Asia and Australia), ATD Fourth World Movement, Auxiliary of Elmhurst Hospital Center, Black Farmers United NYS,**

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Blk + Brwn Book Designers, Bushwick United Housing Development Fund Corp., Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, Children's Institute of Fashion Arts, Civic News Company (f/k/a/ Chalkbeat), Communitas America, Communitas Archive, Crime Victims Treatment Center, Dancewave, Dancing Classrooms, Diaspora Community Services, Donaldson Adoption Institute, DOROT, Empire Mock Trial, Eryc Taylor Dance, Essex Street Market Vendor Association, Exponents, Faith in New York, Flatbush Avenue District Management Association d/b/a Church-Flatbush Community Alliance, Food Education Fund, Forgotten Foods Center, Girl Vow, Global Trauma Research, Grand Street Settlement, Grantmakers In The Arts, Grow Brooklyn, Hanson Place Child Development Center, Heart of Dinner, Hospital Clinic Home Center Instructional Corporation ACE Integration Head Start, I Will Graduate, I'RAISE Girls & Boys International Corporation, iEARN-USA, Inspirationally Grieving My Baby, Jazz Drama Program d/b/a Jazz Power Initiative, Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation, Knowledge House, La Fuerza Unida, Learning through an Expanded Arts Program (LEAP), MindBuilders Creative Arts, National School Climate Center, National Urban Fellows, Neighborhood Trust Federal Credit Union, Neighborhood Trust Financial Partners, New Dramatists, New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, Peace Is Loud, PIBLY Residential Programs, Power of We (POW!) Enrichment, Project Alpaca, Queensboro Dance Festival, Rally Cat, Recreation Rooms and Settlement, Red Hook Art Project, Refoundry, Repurpose Wardrobe, Rising Ground, River Project, Riverdale Neighborhood House, Sadie Nash Leadership Project, Shorefront YM-YWHA of Brighton-Manhattan Beach, Supportive Housing Network of New York, Three Jewels Education, Transportation Alternatives, Urban Homesteading Assistance Board, Urban Pathways, Wellness in the Schools, Working and Learning Together Electronics Recycling, Youth Education Through Sports, Youth Power Coalition, and 31st Avenue Open Street Collective.

Firm attorneys and business professionals who have worked with these clients include: Jerry Ahn, Abel Araya, Bedram Bararpour, Matthew Barsamian, Edwin Batista, Michael Binko, Markus Bolsinger, Catherine Boring, Allan Brilliant, Craig L. Brown, Lee Caney, Kevin Chan, Lixun Chen, May Chiang, Nicholas Chionchio, Joseph Cipriani, Hayden Coleman, Samantha Conroy, Tabitha Crosier, Brian Deaver, Greg Dolinsky, Stephen Durgee, Erin Elliott, Aimal Faayez, Matthew Fischer, Justin Gdula, Alon Goldberger, Nitya Goyal, Eric Green, Michael Griffith, Janet Groome, Blaine Hackman, Kalina Hannsz, Margaret Hanson, Keith Harden, Ian Hartman, Leila Hatem, J. Eric Holland, Kristin Humphreys, Frank Hwang, Jennifer Insley-Pruitt, John Ix, Jijun Jiang, Spencer Joffrion, Daryll Jones, Jeffrey Kang, Kevin Kay, Insung Kim, Jonathan Kim, Casey Klein, Howard Klein, Ishani Kundu-Sahni, Sarah Kupferman, Devyn Kurpis, Parker Lacoste, Paul LaFata, James Lebovitz, Bill Lee, Michael A. Lehmann, Noah Leibowitz, Stephen Litzell, Andrew J. Levander, Kimberly Lloyd, Nicholas Marchica, Kathleen N. Massey, Christian Matarese, Michelle McCann, Michael McGrail, Brie Michaelson, Mihai Morar, Soo-ah Nah, Edward Newlands, Vince Nguyen, Martin Nussbaum, Omoz Osayimwese, Yi An Pan, Harry Pangas, Avni Patel, Janet Patullo, Francois Quintard-Morenas, Steven Rabitz, Ranjini Ramesh, Ani Ravi, Thomas Rayski, Eliot Relles, Greg Renick, Joseph Riley, Devon Roberson, Kaitlyn Romania, David S. Rosenthal, Jeffrey Rubin, Elisabeth Sachse, Yisroel Schachner, Emily Selden, Remington Shepard, Steven Singer, Turner Smith, Edward J. Stack, Timothy A. Stafford, Andrew Stahl, Neil Steiner, Ryan Strong, Patrick Sun, Devin Swaney, Laura Swihart, Diana Tao, Miles Taylor, Mark E. Thierfelder, Stephen Tily, Anna Tomczyk, Sozi Tulante, Suzanne Turner, Nathan VanRensselaer, Shmuel Vasser, Sarah Wesley Wheaton, Andrew Wilkins, Bryan Wilson, Aaron Withrow, Seth Worthen, Zhujing Wu, Kenneth E. Young, Kevin Zaragoza, Sammy Zeino, Joy Zhu, Lei Zhu, Stephen D. Zide, Nazim Zilkha, and Scott M. Zimmerman.