



## INSTITUTIONAL HONOREE

### KRAMER LEVIN NAFTALIS & FRANKEL LLP

*Premier, full-service law firm with longstanding commitment to pro bono service*

Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP has a rich history of pro bono excellence. In 2018, Kramer Levin attorneys provided an average of 106 hours per attorney and a total of 30,911 hours of free legal services to assist the disadvantaged and help build a better society. For more than 25 years, it has had a remarkable partnership with Lawyers Alliance, consistently stepping up to meet the business and transactional legal needs of nonprofits serving low-income New Yorkers. While Kramer Levin has always been a reliable partner, its support has been particularly noteworthy in recent years. Over the past five years, Kramer Levin attorneys have provided pro bono assistance through Lawyers Alliance to more than 25 clients on more than 30 different legal projects. The projects below represent a snapshot of the diverse and impactful pro bono work recently completed by Kramer Levin attorneys for our clients.

#### **Navigating Federal, State, and Local Laws to Improve Sustainability**

**Natural Areas Conservancy (NAC)** works with City Parks to help conserve New York City's vital natural areas. Kramer Levin attorneys assisted NAC with a construction contract for a tidal wetland restoration project in the mouth of Alley Creek in Alley Pond Park in Queens, which involved advising on applicable federal, state, and local contracting laws. NAC expressed its gratitude for the attorneys' "expertise, hard work, and responsiveness in drafting a construction contract for the project," emphasizing that "it will be a good model for us moving forward and we hope to use it as a template for future contracts."

#### **Negotiating for Nonprofits' Beautification of Our City**

**Jerome Gun Hill Business Improvement District (JGH BID)** promotes the general welfare of the people in the northwestern section of the Bronx. New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) chose JGH BID as a community-based partner to present public art on DOT property. Kramer Levin attorneys successfully negotiated the terms of an agreement for the installation of a public art sculpture and the maintenance of the surrounding grounds. JGH BID was delighted with the results, and shortly thereafter, Kramer Levin counsel successfully negotiated another agreement for JGH BID to install and maintain street planters in the neighborhood. The northwest Bronx families and businesses now enjoy the improved appearance and business climate of the District, and its use of local public space.

#### **Helping Nonprofits Cultivate New York's Entrepreneurs**

The Entrepreneur's Incubator Space, LLC (the Incubator) is a program of **Queens Economic Development Corporation (QEDC)**, whose programs help grow neighborhoods, assist small businesses, and promote tourism and business development.

The Incubator supports local food entrepreneurs (including manufacturers, caterers, and bakers) through the operation of a commercial kitchen with four stations and storage facilities that are open 24 hours a day. Kramer Levin attorneys helped to strengthen and clarify the relationship between the Incubator and the entrepreneurs by updating its license agreement to clearly explain the parties' respective responsibilities. The Incubator received many compliments from the entrepreneurs who believed the agreement spelled out what was required by them while fostering the nurturing ambiance of the Incubator. Because of Kramer Levin's efforts, the Incubator continues to serve hundreds of *foodpreneurs* as they establish and grow successful businesses in Queens.

#### **Building and Strengthening Arts Nonprofits**

Kramer Levin regularly undertakes corporate formation, structuring, and governance projects to help new nonprofits get started on the right foot and to help existing organizations strengthen their practices. Among the many mission-driven groups it has assisted are those promoting arts as part of community revitalization. Recently, Kramer Levin attorneys helped a music school that serves those coping with vision loss to incorporate as an independent entity, draft clear bylaws and a conflict of interest policy, and obtain federal tax exemption. Kramer Levin attorneys also successfully negotiated a fiscal sponsorship agreement for a nonprofit organization based in Red Hook, Brooklyn, to serve as home base for a group of teaching artists that bring art-making to children and families.

Kramer Levin attorneys have also represented the following Lawyers Alliance clients in the last three years: **Action for Retired Community XVI Fort Washington, Bold Charter School, Child Care Network of New York, Community Studies of New York, Kentler International Drawing Space, Marquis Studios, Pen Parentis, Sadie Nash Leadership Project, Staten Island Chamber of Commerce Foundation, The Bronx Health Link, The Filomen M. D'Agostino Greenberg Music School, The Fresh Air Fund, The Lower Eastside Girls Club, Unique People Services, Venture House, and Willie Mae Rock Camp for Girls.**

Current and former firm lawyers who worked with these clients include: Randall Allen, Christopher Auguste, Elisabeth Avallone, Daniel R. Berman, John Bessonette, Daksha Bhatia, Brittany Buhler, Gregory Cage, Pam Capps, Kevin Cipolli, Eric Daniel, Rita D'Souza, Terron East, Ronald Feiman, Jill Garfinkel, Max Goldman, Nathan Gusdorf, Sarah Hanson, Barry Herzog, Inge Hindriks, Nathan Hyman, June Jhe, Karen Steinberg Kennedy, Mariya Khvatskaya, Daniel King, Ilya Kontorovich, Jefferson Lai, Ted Lamm, Izabel McDonald, Jessica McGrath, Emilie Oberlis, Sheila Pozon, Julia Quigley, Shakti Rhys, Jordan Rosenbaum, Daniel Schumeister, Steve Senie, Zoe Sternberg, Jeffrey H. Taub, Mendel Trapedo, Eugene Travers, Emily Wajert, Charles Warren, Joshua Winefsky, and Eleni Zanias.