

LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

INDIVIDUAL HONOREE

MARCI SETTLE, *Arnold & Porter LLP*

Experienced legal counsel assists growing nonprofits with board governance and external relationships

Marci Settle is counsel at Arnold & Porter LLP, with a practice focusing on Corporate and Finance. She received a B.S. from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business in 1987 and her J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1990.

Particularly important to a nonprofit organization's overall success is expertly drafted governance documents. Marci Settle generously assisted **Harlem Family Institute** for more than six years as it made sure that its governance documents were in order, including reviewing and updating its charter, bylaws, and conflict of interest policy. Just as the project was nearing completion, the passage of the Nonprofit Revitalization Act necessitated further updates. Ms. Settle did not hesitate to assist again. These changes allowed the Institute to conduct additional training programs and consider offering services to other underserved neighborhoods. Ms. Settle was further instrumental in reviewing contracts with the Department of Education, as well as with neighborhood partners.

When the Institute wanted to revise its bylaws again in 2018, Ms. Settle was its first choice, and she was willing and able to assist again. Her work has helped the Institute to train people from underserved New York City communities to become psychoanalysts and to continue to offer psychoanalytic treatment to people from these communities. The Institute's Executive Director Michael Connolly says, "I couldn't speak highly enough of Marci. She put in many, many hours of very dedicated service to helping us. She is so warm, so generous, so helpful, and so professional. It's for these reasons that I asked for her help two more times."

Ms. Settle assisted the **National Young Farmers Coalition** with the amicable resolution of a dispute with its fiscal sponsor. When the relationship was terminated upon Young Farmers getting its own tax exempt status, the fiscal sponsor kept revising the amount it believed Young Farmers owed for an overpayment in the final transfer of funds. In just one month, Ms. Settle negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding which fixed the final amount and the terms under which it would be paid, to the great relief of Young Farmers.

Ms. Settle says, "My involvement with the Harlem Family Institute has spanned over several years during which I was able to see many changes in the organization. Throughout the experience, I was impressed with the level of dedication and commitment those involved exhibited. Working with people who truly believe in what they are trying to accomplish is a reward on its own, but in this case I felt that my contribution was also very much needed and appreciated."

