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In-House Legal Department Strengthens Nonprofits and Expands Capacity

For more than a decade, **Verizon** has demonstrated an extensive commitment to building up nonprofit organizations through pro bono service and volunteer engagement. Through its longstanding partnership with Lawyers Alliance for New York, Verizon has mobilized its legal professionals to provide practical and consequential legal assistance to nonprofits addressing critical community needs.

Over the years, Verizon attorneys have provided vital legal assistance to nonprofits on governance, contracts, employment, website terms of use, and compliance matters, helping organizations build stronger foundations for their work. Verizon attorneys provided brief employment advice via Lawyers Alliance's COVID Helpline Panel, helping nonprofits navigate rapidly changing issues during the pandemic. Verizon's exemplary pro bono service is also reflected in their work with **Invictus Enterprises Foundation**, an organization creating pathways to meaningful employment for people of all abilities, particularly individuals with autism spectrum disorder. Their skilled counsel on an intellectual property matter helped the organization safeguard its work and position Invictus Enterprises to continue advancing its mission.

Most recently, Verizon co-sponsored an Equal Justice Fellow at Lawyers Alliance focused on the transactional legal needs of nonprofits serving survivors of domestic and gender-based violence, partnered on multiple nonprofit legal clinics, and actively expanded opportunities for community-based organizations to access critical legal assistance. This fellowship ultimately allowed Lawyers Alliance to serve over 140 nonprofit clients on over 300 matters. In addition, Verizon invited the fellow to the Basking Ridge office during Domestic Violence Awareness month in October 2024, to present on Lawyers Alliance and its domestic violence clients using technology. By fostering a culture of service throughout its legal department and continually adapting its pro bono program to address emerging needs of nonprofits, Verizon has helped Lawyers Alliance clients strengthen organizational capacity and expand community impact.

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

All members of Verizon's Public Policy, Law and Security Department are actively encouraged and supported to engage in pro bono and volunteerism. A dedicated leadership team designs and champions diverse opportunities — ranging from nonprofit support and youth mentoring to cybersecurity initiatives — to foster a vibrant culture of service. Through structured programs and strong partnerships with organizations like Lawyers Alliance for New York, we make pro bono accessible and meaningful for lawyers and legal professionals alike.

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

As we look to the future, Verizon's Pro Bono and Volunteerism program is evolving to address the increasingly complex technological and regulatory challenges faced by nonprofits. Building on initiatives like Small Business Digital Ready, we are integrating digital tools, cybersecurity resources, and specialized training to help community organizations thrive. By deepening our collaboration with partners like Lawyers Alliance for New York, we continue to deliver high-impact assistance that adapts to shifting community needs.

"Verizon expeditiously completed our initial copyrights and is now working with us on safeguarding our IP for our new license model. We feel as though we are in the most capable of hands..."

—Alison Myers, Co-Founder,
Invictus Enterprises Foundation

Verizon has worked with the following Lawyers Alliance clients in the last three years: **Caribbean Women's Health Association, Carter Burden Network, Housing Court Answers, Invictus Enterprises Foundation, Korean Community Services of Metropolitan, New York, Inc., Literacy Partners, Muscle Inspires New Empowerment, New Destiny Housing, New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence,** and **NYC Anti-Violence Project.**

Verizon volunteers who have worked with these clients include: **Lourdes Blanco, Rishard Cooper, Steven D. Cohen, Jonathan I. Ezor, Rebecca Hennings, Lori Hostetler, Pamela Klinger, Anne Lebold, Irene Lee, Sopi Mitil, Harley Raff, Diana Robinson, Peter Saharko,** and **Peter Vanderloo.**