



## Volunteer Attorney Accomplishment for Internal and External News



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<b>Date:</b>	May 29, 2024
<b>Names of Attorneys:</b>	Claudia Ricciardi and Luke Martin
<b>Name of Firm:</b>	Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
<b>Client Served:</b>	Riverdale Neighborhood House
<b>Accomplishment:</b>	Reviewed and revised a template space use agreement for short-term rentals for portions of Riverdale's space on its campus in the Bronx.

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Founded in 1872, Riverdale Neighborhood House (RNH), a settlement house in the Northwest Bronx, responds to the evolving, unique needs of the community. RNH is of, by, and for its local community. Its mission is to strengthen community by delivering programs and ensuring access to resources that build bonds and promote equity across generational, cultural, racial, and economic lines. RNH's services and programs include Universal Pre-K, afterschool enrichment, college prep, teen internships, community art and fitness classes, senior telephone reassurance, and a community pool. Most recently, RNH developed a Food and Farm Hub, which consists of an urban garden and mutual-aid fridge. Today, RNH serves over 5,000 neighbors as the only non-sectarian multi-service agency in Riverdale.

Riverdale Neighborhood House rents out space in its community room, kitchen, and gymnasium to generate revenue to support its programming and to further welcome the community into its campus. Recently RNH requested a review of its template space use agreement to ensure compliance with relevant law and best practices.

**Claudia Ricciardi and Luke Martin of Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP** revised the agreement, with a focus on the waivers, releases, and other liability-limiting clauses. The Cravath team's revisions to the template space use agreement provide Riverdale Neighborhood House with greater liability protections while providing users of the space with clear policies for use of the space. These outcomes help to protect the RNH local community's continued enjoyment of the Riverdale Neighborhood House space.

Andrew Belton, the Executive Director of Riverdale Neighborhood House, said, "Our existing waivers and releases were outdated and demand for use of our space was growing. We wanted to make sure we limited any liability exposure that we might have and create a space use agreement fit for today's needs. We're grateful to Luke and Claudia for the help."

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**About Lawyers Alliance:** [Lawyers Alliance for New York](https://www.lawyersalliance.org/) is the leading provider of business and transactional legal services for nonprofit organizations and social enterprises that are improving the quality of life in New York City neighborhoods. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, Lawyers Alliance for New York helps organizations to provide housing, stimulate economic opportunity, improve urban health and education, promote community arts, and operate and advocate for vital programs that benefit low-income New Yorkers of all ages. During the past year, staff attorneys at Lawyers Alliance worked with more than 2,200 volunteer attorneys to represent 700 nonprofit clients.

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