

LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

INDIVIDUAL HONOREE

ROGER A. COHEN, *Goodwin Procter LLP*

Experienced legal counsel makes complex healthcare rules clearer for nonprofit providers

Roger A. Cohen is a partner in the Life Sciences practice at Goodwin Procter LLP. He received a B.G.S. from the University of Michigan in 2002 and a J.D. from Fordham University School of Law in 2005.

Since 2008, Mr. Cohen has volunteered his time and expertise to nonprofits improving urban health, both in his current role at Goodwin Procter and previously while at Proskauer Rose. Frequently supervising talented associates, he has worked on 14 matters for 12 different clients, including **Community Health Care Association of New York State, Haitian Americans United for Progress, Haitian Centers Council, Health People, LiveUp Programs, NYCrx, PTA of PS 303Q, and Roosevelt Island Residents Association**. Mr. Cohen also developed and presented a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) webinar through Lawyers Alliance to help nonprofit managers understand how HIPAA rules affect how they handle sensitive health care information.

BronxWorks, Inc. is a social services agency spanning a range of program areas, including youth services, housing assistance, workforce development, healthcare education, homelessness prevention, immigration services, and assistance in accessing public benefits. Mr. Cohen assisted BronxWorks with developing a model HIPAA policy and HIPAA consent forms in connection with varied BronxWorks programs, such as those supporting individuals with chronic illnesses. Erica Coleman, General Counsel of BronxWorks, says, "Roger's expertise with HIPAA was very impressive, and he was very committed to us. He and his team spent a great deal of time getting to know us and our program for a very substantial project."

In 2015, **Providence House**, which provides shelter and support to homeless and justice-involved women and their children, was designated as a Home and Community Based Service (HCBS) provider for psychosocial rehabilitation, habilitation/residential support services, and pre-vocational services. Mr. Cohen and a colleague helped clarify for the client certain aspects of the related managed care contracts.

Mr. Cohen and a colleague also assisted **Mosaic Mental Health**, formerly Riverdale Mental Health Association, with revising its policies, procedures, and forms to ensure compliance with HIPAA. Mosaic provides outpatient behavioral health services to families and individuals with mental health difficulties, substance dependency, and other isolating conditions. Executive Director Dr. Donna Demetri Friedman says, "Mr. Cohen was great, and his advice was instrumental in helping us navigate the many HIPAA policies."

Mr. Cohen says, "I have been privileged to work with a number of community service organizations that are providing services in partnership with traditional healthcare providers as part of an effort to improve healthcare outcomes and reduce the cost of healthcare. It has been tremendously rewarding to make a small contribution to these efforts and to help clients navigate the complexity of healthcare regulation."



2018 CORNERSTONE AWARDS