

Celebrating 50 Years and Shaping the Future



Sean Delany

In 2019 Lawyers Alliance for New York marks 50 years as 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. Over that span, we have evolved from a collection of young law firm associates eager to make New York City a better place to live and work to a powerful force for positive change and the preeminent vehicle for pro bono opportunities for business and transactional lawyers.

Reflecting the times and needs in each of the five decades of our history, Lawyers Alliance grew to keep pace with the expansion of the nonprofit sector, the increased capacity of our volunteer network, and the evolution of New York City itself. Founded in 1969 as the Council of New York Law Associates, the organization mobilized attorneys, promoted volunteerism and activism, and strengthened communities by creating programs to serve the nonprofit sector. In 1991 the Council was renamed Lawyers Alliance for New York and, in the years since, launched program priority areas, experienced robust growth, and helped nonprofits cope with challenges such as September 11th, the Great Recession, and Hurricane Sandy.

During the last 20 years, the number of legal projects handled by Lawyers Alliance's staff and volunteers has increased from fewer than 560 a year to more than 1,300, and the number of volunteers has grown from fewer than 700 to more than 1,900. Lawyers Alliance launched a highly effective nonprofit advocacy initiative, cultivated a national

network of business law pro bono providers now known as Exponentum™ in 15 locations around the United States, and developed other special legal and educational services designed to meet the evolving legal needs of the nonprofit sector.

Lawyers Alliance will continue to expand the number of nonprofits served and volunteers engaged, and we will capture the impact of our legal services on nonprofit clients through an innovative outcomes measurement system. Technology presents opportunities for streamlining services and communications, and is also an increasingly important area of the law for the nonprofits that we serve. (Read about some of our other exciting plans for 2019 on page five.)

As I announced earlier this spring, I will retire from Lawyers Alliance later this year after 20 years as Executive Director. Our Board of Directors has named **Elizabeth M. Guggenheimer**, long-time Deputy Executive Director and former Legal Director, to succeed me as Executive Director. Lawyers Alliance will be in capable hands and is well-positioned for the next phase of its development.

Our achievements are the product of the hard work of so many who have contributed to our success, from our founders and past leaders, to our dedicated Board members, to our committed network of volunteers and their law firms and corporations, to our generous donors and funders, to our talented staff. I am grateful to have been able to share their vision, and I hope you'll continue to support this important work.

inside



Photo Credit: The American Dream School

*Connecting and Supporting
Lawyers
Nonprofits
Communities*

What's New in 2019

Connecting Lawyers

Lawyers Alliance for New York wouldn't exist without the talent and passion of dedicated lawyers. From the young lawyers who founded the Council of New York Law Associates in 1969 to our current network of more than 1,900 volunteers, their desire to improve New York City's communities has been the driving force of our work.

The 500 law firm associates who volunteered with the Council in the first year discovered an effective outlet for their activism. The Council created the Demonstration Observation Panel in conjunction with the Young Lawyers Committee of The Association of the Bar of the City of New York and trained attorneys to monitor public demonstrations to ensure that the police behaved properly during protests.

In the early 1980s, the Council grew from a strictly volunteer operation with an unrelated collection of programs to an organization focusing exclusively

on the legal needs of nonprofits in New York City, adding a staff of full-time in-house attorneys to expand its services and become a resource for volunteer lawyers. This cultivation of staff legal expertise and co-counseling support remains an important part of the Lawyers Alliance model.

Today, our volunteer network of committed lawyers from law firms and corporations and our staff of experienced attorneys collaborate to deliver expert corporate, tax, real estate, employment, intellectual property, and other legal services to hundreds of community organizations a year. Our volunteers report that these pro bono opportunities provide personal satisfaction, client contact, and the chance to develop legal practice skills and fulfill pro bono goals.

Lawyers Alliance continues to reflect its founders' vision: that lawyers could and should be a vital force for positive change.

Lawyers Alliance volunteers are staunch supporters of pro bono legal services.

"I love working with Lawyers Alliance and its committed clients! Helping to advance the goals of these diverse organizations has been a highlight of my work as a lawyer; it has enriched my practice and been an endlessly gratifying way to give back to our New York community."

"As a transactional attorney, it is difficult to find meaningful opportunities to contribute to the community via pro bono. Lawyers Alliance has made the process incredibly easy and connected me with a variety of opportunities."

"Working with Lawyers Alliance opened my eyes to the diversity of nonprofits in New York and the incredible work these organizations do to serve the community. It has also made me realize the important role that Lawyers Alliance plays, and the need for lawyers to volunteer our time and expertise."

Lawyers Alliance Board of Directors

- Peter M. Labonski (Chair)
Latham & Watkins LLP
- Lawrence Young (Vice Chair)
- Warren J. Karp (Treasurer)
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- Doreen E. Lilienfeld (Secretary)
Shearman & Sterling LLP
- Ellen N. Ching
Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
- Catherine M. Clarkin
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
- J. Peter Coll, Jr.
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
- Jennifer S. Conway
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
- Jeanine DeFreese
Deloitte LLP
- Scott J. Gordon
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
- Sarah Harp
Viacom Inc.
- Christopher G. Kelly
Holland & Knight LLP
- Crystal Lalime
Credit Suisse
- C. Scott Lent
Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP
- Pamela L. Marcogliese
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
- William R. Massey
Sidley Austin LLP
- Larren M. Nashelsky
Morrison & Foerster LLP
- Christopher C. Paci
DLA Piper LLP (US)
- Vijaya R. Palaniswamy
Linklaters LLP
- Lesley Peng
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
- David L. Portilla
Debevoise & Plimpton LLP
- Faiza N. Rahman
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
- Andrew E. Tomback
White & Case LLP
- Eileen Torres
BronxWorks
- Veronica M. Wissel
Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
- Matthew B. Zisk
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Connecting Nonprofits

Nonprofits can be the backbone of their neighborhoods and a lifeline for low-income residents in many communities across New York City. Lawyers Alliance helps nonprofits and social enterprises that work to improve the quality of life in City neighborhoods.

In the past year, Lawyers Alliance provided legal assistance to more than 650 nonprofits, which in turn assisted hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. Over our 50 year history, our focus has shifted from activism and representing individuals to providing pro bono legal assistance to nonprofit groups and strengthening the nonprofit sector as a whole.

In 1980, the Council of New York Law Associates launched the Community Development Legal Assistance Center (CDLAC). CDLAC's staff and pro bono attorneys advised affordable housing groups and other community-based economic development organizations on corporate, real estate, and tax law. CDLAC's nonprofit clients created housing for the homeless and other low-income New Yorkers, provided scarce capital, and promoted business development in low-income neighborhoods throughout New York City.

The Council also created the Nonprofit Law Program, which assisted nonprofits that provided day care, drug treatment, youth recreation, health

services, and other vitally-needed social services. It evolved into a legal resource center for nonprofits and also provided education and training.

The Council became Lawyers Alliance for New York in late 1991, and in 1998 we reorganized our work to focus on specific Program Priority Areas. We serve a broad range of organizations improving the lives of low-income New Yorkers, but focus in particular on five Program Priority Areas: Community Arts, Economic Opportunity, Housing and Shelter, Quality Education, and Urban Health.

Today, Lawyers Alliance also operates an active advocacy initiative, helping to shape law and policy in ways that support the nonprofit sector. Over the past two decades we have also quickly responded to crises that have affected New York City – September 11th, the Great Recession, and Hurricane Sandy – providing stability to nonprofits and allowing them to help those impacted.

Our nonprofit clients report that Lawyers Alliance's legal services enable them to improve or expand their services and programs; strengthen their operations at the Board and staff levels; and enhance their financial performance. Whatever other outcomes our work promotes, our services help nonprofits save money on legal costs so funds can be used for programs.

Lawyers Alliance Staff

- Laura Abel
Senior Policy Counsel
- Wilma Alexander
Office Administrator
- Ciarra Chavarria
Staff Attorney
- Emily Crossan
Marketing and Communications Director
- Sean Delany
Executive Director
- Stacey Fahey
Pro Bono Counsel
- Katie Ferrall
Program and Education Associate
- Elizabeth M. Guggenheimer
*Deputy Executive Director/
Director of Institutional Advancement*
- Grace Heusner
Staff Attorney/Fellow
- Douglas Kato
Director of Finance and Administration
- Bee-Seon Keum
Staff Attorney
- Maria I. Maldonado
Cleary Extern, Staff Attorney
- Hannah M. Marek
Extern, Staff Attorney
- Judith Moldover
Senior Staff Attorney
- Hedwig O'Hara
Senior Staff Attorney
- Jessica Perelman
Program Associate for Client Relations
- Elizabeth Perez
Legal Director
- Aaron Perlson
Information Systems Manager
- Laura Russello
Development Director
- Neil Stevenson
Senior Staff Attorney
- James Valentin
Development Coordinator
- Benita von Lilienfeld-Berry
Pro Bono Associate

Lawyers Alliance clients are grateful for pro bono legal assistance.

"Pro bono help has been critical to us expanding our initiatives and capacity effectively. We wouldn't be doing some of our current events or programs without the advice and counsel of our pro bono attorneys."

"The invaluable and otherwise unaffordable legal advice allowed us to enter partnerships and agreements that we would not have before. Our programs are notched up and we're better able to deliver programs and serve our communities."

"Our pro bono attorneys provide vital guidance to our small nonprofit that keeps our organization compliant, minimizes our risk and exposure, and clarifies our management focus."

Connecting Communities



The New York Immigration Coalition

MANHATTAN

409 nonprofit clients including citywide organizations

An immigrants' rights organization more effectively serves its mission to empower immigrants and community organizations through improved governance policies.



The American Dream School

THE BRONX

73 nonprofit clients

A South Bronx charter school serving English learners and immigrant students increased its student population with a lease for additional classroom space.



Sunnyside Community Services

QUEENS

90 nonprofit clients

New communications technology, leveraged through a communications contract, helps a Sunnyside social service agency to better serve 14,000 residents of all ages, including programs that offer opportunities for cultural and generational exchange.



West Shore Industrial Business Improvement District

STATEN ISLAND

21 nonprofit clients

Northwest Staten Island has grown its industrial sector through a Business Improvement District (BID), public-private partnerships, and infrastructure efforts to enhance sustainability and resiliency.



Norte Maar for Collaborative Projects in the Arts

BROOKLYN

181 nonprofit clients

A community arts nonprofit serving East New York residents and artists offers unique exhibitions and workshops through agreements with artists, choreographers, and venues.

What's New...



Lawyers Alliance's 50th Anniversary year is an exciting one. We have been working hard to serve even more nonprofits and partner with even more pro bono attorneys. We have reached out to alumni, clients, volunteers, donors, and collaborators to share stories and memories and encourage them to join us at the 50th Anniversary Business Law & Leadership Gala on June 4 at the Ziegfeld Ballroom.

This year is shaping up to be noteworthy, with the following items recently accomplished or on the horizon.

National Activities

Our work now has a national impact that has expanded this year. Lawyers Alliance coordinates Exponentum™, a national network of business law pro bono providers dedicated to improving the quality of life in low-income and disadvantaged communities by expanding the availability and quality of pro bono business legal services for nonprofits that serve those communities. Exponentum partners with law firms and corporations to implement national responses to challenges faced by the nonprofit sector by delivering expert legal assistance and educational programs to nonprofits. Exponentum members serve geographic regions throughout the United States, including major metropolitan and surrounding areas in California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington D.C., and Washington State.



Website

Lawyers Alliance's website, www.lawyersalliance.org, is an important vehicle for reaching our multiple audiences. Last redesigned a dozen years ago, our site contained valuable legal information for nonprofits and their pro bono attorneys, but was not as user-friendly as it could have been.

We are pleased to report that Lawyers Alliance is launching our new website this spring. It will be more interactive, optimized for mobile devices, and easier for visitors to use. A reorganized Resources section makes finding information more straightforward, with topics searchable across our Resources categories (Legal Alerts, Publications, Workshops and Webinars). Visitors will have the option to create an account to track their workshop, webinar, and publications purchases.



Office Move

Lawyers Alliance is moving in summer 2019! We will remain in our current building, 171 Madison Avenue, moving from the 6th floor to the 9th floor. This modern new space will allow us to improve our operations and better serve our clients and volunteers.





171 Madison Avenue
Sixth Floor
New York, NY 10016

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Join Us as We Celebrate!

2019
BUSINESS LAW &
LEADERSHIP
GALA

For more information and tickets, visit
www.lawyersalliance.org/gala.php or
call Laura Russello at (212) 219-1800 ext. 230.

50th Anniversary Business Law & Leadership Gala

Tuesday, June 4, 2019, 6:00 pm
Ziegfeld Ballroom, New York, NY

Honoring

JOHN J. SUYDAM

*Senior Partner and Chief Legal Officer
Apollo Global Management, LLC*

for his civic-minded and distinguished leadership

SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER & FLOM LLP

for its longstanding pro bono commitment to Lawyers Alliance

SEAN DELANY

for 20 years of service to the nonprofit sector as
Lawyers Alliance's Executive Director

The evening's Master of Ceremonies will be **Dana Delany**,
Emmy Award-winning actor and star of the
CBS legal series *The Code*