

CHANGES AT LAWYERS ALLIANCE



Dear Friends:

I want to share exciting news about a transition here at Lawyers Alliance for New York. After leading Lawyers Alliance for 20 years, I will be stepping down later this year to explore the next chapter in my journey. I am delighted to let you know that our Board has appointed Liz Guggenheimer, our Deputy Executive Director, to serve as Lawyers Alliance's next Executive Director.

This year, Lawyers Alliance 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 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.

I am especially proud of all that we have been able to accomplish over the past 20 years. During that period, the number of legal projects handled by Lawyers Alliance's staff and volunteers has increased from less than 560 annually to more than 1,300, and the number of volunteers has grown from less 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, developed an innovative outcomes measurement system that captures the impact of our services on our nonprofit clients, and developed other special legal and educational services designed to meet the evolving legal needs of the nonprofit sector.

These achievements, and so many others, are the product of the hard work of so many who have contributed to our success. I have many to thank for those successes, 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.

In my next chapter, I will continue in my role teaching a clinic at NYU Law School, and I will remain involved in the nonprofit sector that has been the focus of my professional life for 40 years. Moving on to the next professional adventure is never easy, but I am confident that the time has come because Lawyers Alliance will be in the best of hands. As all of you who know her will attest, Liz Guggenheimer is a talented leader with the vision and energy that will take Lawyers Alliance to an even greater role in the legal community, the nonprofit sector, and the future of New York City.

Lawyers Alliance will celebrate its 50th anniversary at our 2019 <u>Business Law & Leadership Gala</u> on June 4th at Ziegfeld Ballroom. In addition to recognizing the civic contributions of John Suydam of Apollo Global Management and the extraordinary pro bono service of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, our Board has also generously decided to recognize my 20 years of service to Lawyers Alliance that evening. I hope that you will join us to celebrate in the 50th year of the organization that I have been so privileged to serve.

Sean Delany

Executive Director

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