

# Friends Profile: Jill Rosenberg

**Jill Rosenberg** is a partner in Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP's employment law practice. Since Ms. Rosenberg spoke at a Lawyers Alliance for New York child care conference in 1994, she has been an integral part of the Lawyers Alliance community. She volunteered on a case in 1997 and subsequently worked on 14 matters for 12 nonprofit clients, including three active today. She served on Lawyers Alliance's Board of Directors in 2003-2010 and is currently a member of the Board of Advisors. She also regularly mentors law firm associates on pro bono projects.

Ms. Rosenberg's recent nonprofit clients include **On Site Opera** (OSO), an opera company that performs in community and public spaces and collaborates with community groups and schools to ensure that it reaches historically underserved populations. She assisted OSO with drafting volunteer descriptions and offer letters and determining the correct employment status of its newly hired musical director and its existing creative producer. OSO Founder Eric Einhorn says, "Jill took the time to understand the idiosyncrasies of a small opera company and figure out exactly what we needed. The templates she prepared were incredibly well customized and easy for us to handle and use in the future."

Ms. Rosenberg also assisted **New Alternatives for Children** (NAC) with issues regarding employees' performance and supervision. NAC provides innovative high quality services in support of birth, foster, and adoptive families caring primarily for medically fragile children, serving 1,400 children and families annually. The organization has more than 300 employees, about three-quarters of which are full time. Says Gail Auchterlonie, NAC's Director of Human Resources, "Jill really stood out for the quality of legal thinking, responsiveness, and sensitivity to our needs. She really helped us improve our human resources practices overall."

We asked Ms. Rosenberg, a 2016 Cornerstone Award winner, to share some thoughts on pro bono legal work, and her responses are below:

## *Please elaborate on the importance of employment law to nonprofit organizations.*

Employees are the heart and soul of a nonprofit organization's mission and work. Employment laws and regulations are often complex and confusing and can easily trip up nonprofits, especially smaller organizations. From the creation of a nonprofit organization throughout its growth process, access to experienced employment counsel is essential to ensure compliance with the law and avoid employment claims.

## *How has your pro bono experience through Lawyers Alliance affected your professional choices and growth?*

Volunteering through Lawyers Alliance has allowed me to further my skills and experience in giving employment advice. I work with nonprofit organizations in my regular practice as well, so the more groups I talk to and work with, the better idea I have of the issues they are currently facing. In addition, what has always stood out is how appreciative the Lawyers Alliance clients are of the work that I and others do for them.



**Jill Rosenberg**

## About Jill

### **Employment includes:**

- › More than 25 years at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, Partner since 1994

### **Current activities include:**

- › Member, Board of Advisors, Lawyers Alliance for New York
- › Former Member, Board of Directors, UJA Federation of New York
- › Current Member, Lawyers Executive Committee and Women's Executive Circle, UJA Federation of New York

### **Graduate of:**

- › University of Chicago Law School, J.D.
- › Princeton University, A.B.

*This article is one of a series of profiles of the people who have helped to build Lawyers Alliance for New York since 1969.*



*Connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities*