Overview of Achievements

During the reporting period of April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022, Lawyers Alliance’s staff attorneys and its extensive network of pro bono attorneys provided services to strengthen nonprofit organizations serving low-income New Yorkers. Lawyers Alliance is the oldest and largest provider of pro bono business law services to nonprofit organizations in New York State and the United States. While our legal services are directed to nonprofit organizations working in low-income communities in New York City’s five boroughs, our Resource Call Hotline consultations and educational resources such as webinars are available more broadly to nonprofit organizations throughout New York State.

We serve a wide range of nonprofit organizations, channeling our staff and volunteer resources and expertise in program priority areas and special initiatives where we can have a substantial impact on low-income New York neighborhoods. To bring greater opportunity and justice to those in need, over the past twelve months we have focused on five program priorities: Community Arts; Economic Opportunity; Housing and Human Services; Quality Education; and Urban Health. Lawyers Alliance also develops and manages special initiatives that address relevant and evolving legal issues of concern to all categories of nonprofit organizations serving low-income New Yorkers. For example, during the reporting period, our Risk Management work helped organizations improve their management practices and reduce liability, our Nonprofit Advocacy Initiative assisted organizations seeking to undertake lobbying and advocacy activity within the law, and our COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Initiative has been helping organizations navigate legal issues stemming from the pandemic and its significant effects.
Direct Legal Services: Cases

2,611 Benefits Achieved
1,224 Non-Profit Groups

Types of Groups Represented

- Art Culture: 13%
- Economic Development: 12%
- Education: 9%
- Elder: 4%
- Employment: 8%
- Housing: 5%
- Health: 12%
- Family Children's: 11%
- Individual Rights: 10%
- Social Services: 7%
- Technical Assistance: 5%
- Other: 4%
Other Services: Overview

Community Legal Education
From April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022, Lawyers Alliance provided training for nonprofit managers and board members through our educational programs, including live and recorded webinars, newsletters, legal alerts, and publications (a total of 36,193 educational interactions/impressions).

Legal Education Brochure: Lawyers Alliance sent 29 Legal Alerts via email to a distribution list of nonprofit representatives, including IOLA grantee organizations (19,257 emails received).

Interactive Online Presentations: These included 18 live public webinars with 587 attendees, and 24 special presentations and trainings for 773 participants, in collaboration with nonprofit organizations, law firms and other key actors in the nonprofit sector. These sessions focused on sector-wide issues, such as advocacy, corporate governance, and employment law, subjects of general interest to nonprofit organizations, and topics specific to nonprofit organizations working in our program priority areas.

Pre-Recorded and Other Static Online Content: Select recorded webinars are available for viewing on the Lawyers Alliance website, along with other resources.

Other: Newsletters were produced and sent in Fall and Spring, reaching approximately 7,800 nonprofit leaders and attorneys each time (15,511 total).

Online Outreach
Legal alerts were also posted on www.lawyersalliance.org and provided timely information about changes in the law and emerging legal issues. During the grant period our online outreach and assistance reached 28,747 impressions (according to revised analytics approach).

Number of People who Benefitted from Services Other Than Direct Legal Representation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number of People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Legal Education</td>
<td>36,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Assistance</td>
<td>28,747</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

64,940 People Benefitted by Services Other Than Direct Legal Representation
Other Services: Technology and Other Innovations

Managing pro bono program case flow and staying in touch with clients and volunteers: We developed an upgraded Case Monitoring System, that will partially automate our spring and fall email check ins, reduce manual data entry, and generate alerts to help staff triage questions and requests for staff assistance. The system was piloted in early 2022 a full roll-out is expected in the fall.

Using technology effectively: We improved capabilities in Remote Desktop Connection, Splashtop, Zoom, Go To Meeting, Microsoft Teams, and other online videoconferencing systems as needed. This allowed us to conduct client meetings, process requests for assistance, operate a pro bono program, teach webinars, collaborate with other nonprofit technical assistance providers, and host remote events.

Financial management and data security: We developed new systems for electronic payments and record-keeping, moved to a new payment processor and implemented a stronger password policy.

Other Services: Trainings

During each Board meeting, a program presentation provides the Directors with information and a program presentation that illustrates the legal work carried out by our legal staff and volunteers, as well as the compelling programs provided by our clients. Additionally, regular reports to the Board provide a comprehensive listing of each new client and new matter so that the Board is engaged and kept apprised of the legal needs and challenges in the sector, educating them about the sector’s challenges and enabling them to help recruit talented volunteers from within their firms. The program presentations combined with information on our organization’s finances and operational developments are supplemented with senior staff led orientations when needed for newly-elected Board members.

Staff members are encouraged to pursue professional development opportunities to enhance their program and related legal work. During the summer, a series of four one-hour CLE trainings on negotiating Basic Contracts for Nonprofits were held for the staff attorneys led by our Volunteer Senior Counsel and Legal Director. During the grant period, staff also participated in anti-sexual harassment training, as well as regular computer security trainings.
Pro Bono Volunteer Involvement

To provide direct services, Lawyers Alliance leveraged our knowledge and resources through our staff-supported pro bono program. 2,104 pro bono attorneys from a network of more than 135 law firms and corporations were engaged in approximately 90% of our full scope representation legal matters, allowing us to assist a larger number of nonprofit organizations. We utilized four strategies to maximize volunteer involvement and impact:

- **Recruitment:** We engaged in volunteer outreach to maximize the number and diversity of law firms, corporate legal departments, and attorneys, and to replenish the volunteer pool. Outreach included case opportunity emails, consultations with pro bono managers and prospective volunteers, and participation in volunteer-oriented events. Of note, corporations were an increasingly important source of volunteers as we enhanced opportunities and corporate outreach, enabling us to bring a greater variety of expertise and services to our clients.

- **Expertise and Support:** Our staff attorneys carefully vetted new legal clients and new legal matters and served as co-counsel for all matters placed with volunteers, answering questions and contributing expertise on business law and nonprofit issues.

- **Model Documents, Educational Programs, and CLE Offerings:** Pro bono attorneys obtained research outlines, model documents, and other training materials from co-counseling staff attorneys and through LawHelpNY as well as ProBonoNet. During the reporting period, we provided CLE trainings for a total of 57 attorneys and we presented 2 CLE trainings for law firms for a total of 117 attendees.

- **Recognition:** We encouraged clients, volunteers’ employers, and bar associations to thank our volunteers for their work. To this end, we recognized 12 individuals and 2 institutions for extraordinary service at our virtual 2021 Cornerstone Awards in December, and publicized 4 special Volunteer Accomplishments about law firms and volunteers and 2021 alerts about the Cornerstone honorees via our website, Probono.net, and email announcements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attorneys volunteered</th>
<th>Total Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,092</td>
<td>51,162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Law Students volunteered</td>
<td>2,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Other Volunteers volunteered</td>
<td>1,170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Significant Collaborations

Lawyers Alliance partners with umbrella organizations, coalitions, and other technical assistance providers on educational programs and client outreach. During the reporting period, we partnered with such organizations as The Human Services Council (HSC), the New York City Charter School Center, the Staten Island Not-for-Profit Association, and The New York Immigration Coalition, with whom we partnered to provide a Bylaws Clinic to immigrant-serving groups (October 2021). Among New York City technical assistance providers, we collaborated with and received/provided referrals from/to Cause Effective, Community Resource Exchange, Fiscal Management Associates, Nonprofit New York, Nonprofit Finance Fund, and Support Center for Nonprofit Management.

Significant collaborations have also been a critical part of our direct advocacy work, with important results in the report period. We achieved a victory in November 2021, when Governor Hochul signed a bill repealing an unnecessary law that had required charitable nonprofits throughout the state to file with the Department of State the same annual financial report already filed with the Charities Bureau. Lawyers Alliance staff drafted the bill, testified before the Senate Budget Committee, and worked with Nonprofit New York, the New York City Bar, Planned Parenthood and other allies to persuade both houses of the legislature to pass the bill and the Governor to sign it. More than 460 nonprofit organizations joined us in asking the Governor to sign the bill.

Sources of Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IOLA Grant</td>
<td>$212,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City and County Funding</td>
<td>$9,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Funding</td>
<td>$566,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>$551,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$891,798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$1,345,903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,576,926</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Pie chart showing sources of funding]

- Fundraising: 25%
- Federal: 16%
- Foundations: 15%
- Other: 37%
- IOLA: 6%
- City: 1%