

INSTITUTIONAL HONOREE**MAYER BROWN LLP*****Global law firm's business law and transactional pro bono strengthens nonprofits***

Mayer Brown LLP's dedication to fostering an equitable society is closely aligned with Lawyers Alliance's aim to improve the quality of life in low-income New York City communities. In 2016, Mayer Brown lawyers provided over 58,000 hours of pro bono work to assist the disadvantaged and help build a more inclusive society. Mayer Brown's pro bono work on behalf of Lawyers Alliance's nonprofit clients includes 31 legal projects for more than 25 organizations since 2012, and 21 new matters since July 2015.

Economic Development Nonprofits Advance with Experienced Corporate Legal Advice

Mayer Brown's expertise related to borrowing and lending, contracts, financing, corporate formation, and corporate governance assists nonprofit organizations stimulating economic opportunity in underserved and low-income neighborhoods throughout New York City.

Lion Credit Union Initiative (LCUI) began in 2013 as a three-student project to open a nonprofit financial cooperative for students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Columbia University. Mayer Brown negotiated a credit union collaboration agreement and advised LCUI on financial regulations. LCUI has grown to a 40-person team, partnered with a credit union, and in September 2017 started opening accounts, with many Columbia students expected to enroll in the coming year. A LCUI representative notes, "The attorneys are a major reason why we've been able to get this far in the first place, and we're very grateful."

Other economic development clients are engaged in community revitalization, such as **The Columbus/Amsterdam BID**, one of the oldest business improvement districts in New York City. Mayer Brown reviewed and revised the bylaws, conflict of interest and whistleblower policies. This BID, which encompasses forty-four blocks, now has governance policies to help its Board and staff continue important neighborhood services.

Community Arts and Housing Nonprofits Improve with Information Technology Guidance

Nonprofit organizations need legal assistance to protect, use, and make the most of intellectual property and adjust to changes in information technology.

Mayer Brown helped **Kentler International Drawing Space** to bring contemporary artwork by emerging artists to the public and educational arts programs to disadvantaged children in Red Hook, Brooklyn. With the attorneys' assistance, Kentler secured the right to reproduce works of art for its new online database, a large-scale digitalization of the Kentler Flatfiles collection, including more than 2,000 drawings by 250 local, national, and international artists. Volunteers created

a terms of use section for the site and prepared a consignment agreement for all new Flatfiles additions. The website, which launched in February 2017, provides full online access to the Kentler Flatfiles digital archive as well as the organization's 27-year exhibition history.

Mayer Brown intellectual property attorneys advised **Supportive Housing Network of New York** (SHNNY) on copyright best practices for SHNNY's training materials on its website. This website is used by the general public, housing providers, and by SHNNY's 200 member organizations that collectively operate more than 50,000 supportive housing units statewide.

Urban Health and Other Nonprofits Benefit from Transactional Legal Services

Pro bono guidance with corporate, tax, real estate, and other transactions is helping nonprofit organizations that are improving health, housing, and human services.

In 2016, Mayer Brown's volunteers negotiated a lease that made it possible for **Diaspora Community Services** to secure additional office space in Brooklyn. The organization uses its offices for health promotion, family support services, and advocacy services that empower families and individuals. **The Corona Self Help Center, Inc. d/b/a Drogadictos Anónimos** (DA) helps people recover from substance use disorders, contributing to the individual's social reintegration. Mayer Brown attorneys reviewed and revised a contract enabling DA to become a Home and Community Based Services provider, resulting in improved health outcomes in low-income neighborhoods.

Mayer Brown attorneys have also represented the following Lawyers Alliance clients in the last three years: **Alliance for Coney Island, Artsmith, Brooklyn Emerging Leaders Academy Charter School, Center for Human Development and Family Services, Community Access, Inc., Groove with Me, Inc., Hispanic Federation of New York City, LPZ Cinetech, Ltd., Lower East Side People's Credit Union, National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions, National Young Farmers Coalition, Natural Areas Conservancy, Neighborhood Trust Financial Partners, New York Theatre Ballet, Nuevo El Barrio Rehabilitación de Vivienda y Economía, NYC Coalition of Community Charter Schools, Smiling Hogshead Ranch, The National Alliance on Mental Illness of New York City, Theater Breaking Through Barriers Corp., and Town Square Inc.**

Firm lawyers who worked with these clients include: Amanda Baker, Matthew Bisanz, Joseph Castelluccio, Paul Chandler, Thomas Delaney, David Duffee, Lisa Ferri, Matthew Gabin, Sean Garahan, Tyler Garvey, Adam Horne, Frederick Hyman, Timothy Keeler, Lana Khoury, Alicia Kinsey, Robert Koen, Jose Lamerique, David Laufer, Joy Lee, Mickey Leibner, Megan Levine, Diyang Liu, Phillip Marano, George Miller, Justin Montis, Michael Morelli, Brian Nolan, Julie Paret, Emily Pence, Brad Peterson, Zachary Polidoro, Linda Rhodes, Stephen G. Rooney, George Rudy, Jonathan Sambur, Derek Schaffner, Daniel Scher, Nathan Sevilla, Kevin Sheridan, David Stewart, Jeffrey Taft, Joy Tsai, Thomas Vitale, Christophe Wassaf, Reb Wheeler, Adam Wolk, Ying-Zi Yang, and Lori Zahalka.

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