



Lawyers Alliance  
*for* New York

*Connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities*

CORNERSTONE  
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November 9, 2011

## VOLUNTEER ACCOMPLISHMENT

**Craig A. Katerberg of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP**

*Strategic Corporate Counsel Helps Youth and Other Nonprofit Organizations Thrive*

**Accomplishment:** Recipient of Lawyers Alliance for New York's **2011 Cornerstone Award** honoring outstanding pro bono legal services to nonprofits, to be presented on Tuesday, November 15, 2011.

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**Highlights:** Since 2010, Mr. Katerberg has assisted six Lawyers Alliance clients on a variety of legal issues ranging from incorporation and tax exemption to lease negotiations and employment policies.

Although **4 Kids in Need** had been in operation for years, its Board sought to become a tax-exempt organization, and improve its corporate policies, to secure funds for program expansion. Mr. Katerberg is assisting the organization, which provides donated clothing, toys, books, and school supplies to homeless and economically disadvantaged children in Queens, with drafting corporate bylaws and preparing applications for federal, state, and local tax-exempt status. 4 Kids in Need President Rhonda Williams describes Mr. Katerberg as "warm, friendly, concerned, and very professional."

Founded to help hundreds of young women and girls exit the commercial sex industry, **Girls Educational & Mentoring Services (GEMS)** provides young women with empathetic, consistent support and viable opportunities for positive change. Mr. Katerberg signed on to assist GEMS with reviewing and negotiating two leases for residential units it intended to use to house its program participants. Realizing the urgency of this matter, Mr. Katerberg worked diligently to review the residential leases and guide the GEMS staff in the negotiations in order to execute the lease within one week. As a result, GEMS was able to secure and provide apartments for the young women and girls. GEMS Support Services Coordinator Jamie Powlovich appreciates that Mr. Katerberg was "organized, very professional and personable." She says that he not only cared about the case, but "showed a genuine interest in the organization, the population we serve, and the work that we do."

Of his volunteer experience, Mr. Katerberg said, "Lawyers Alliance provides an incredible range of projects and really excels at selecting organizations that have compelling missions with truly dedicated individuals. It's been a terrific experience working on so many different types of projects and seeing the impact of the work for incredibly appreciative clients."

**About Lawyers Alliance for New York:** Lawyers Alliance for New York is the leading provider of business and transactional legal services for nonprofit organizations that are improving the quality of life in New York City neighborhoods. Our network of pro bono lawyers from law firms and corporations and staff of experienced attorneys collaborate to deliver expert corporate, tax, real estate, employment, intellectual property, and other legal services to community organizations. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, we help nonprofits to develop affordable housing, stimulate economic development, promote community arts, and operate and advocate for vital programs for children and young people, the elderly, and other low-income New Yorkers. During the past year, 14 staff attorneys and 1,484 volunteer attorneys represented 625 clients on 1,014 matters.

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