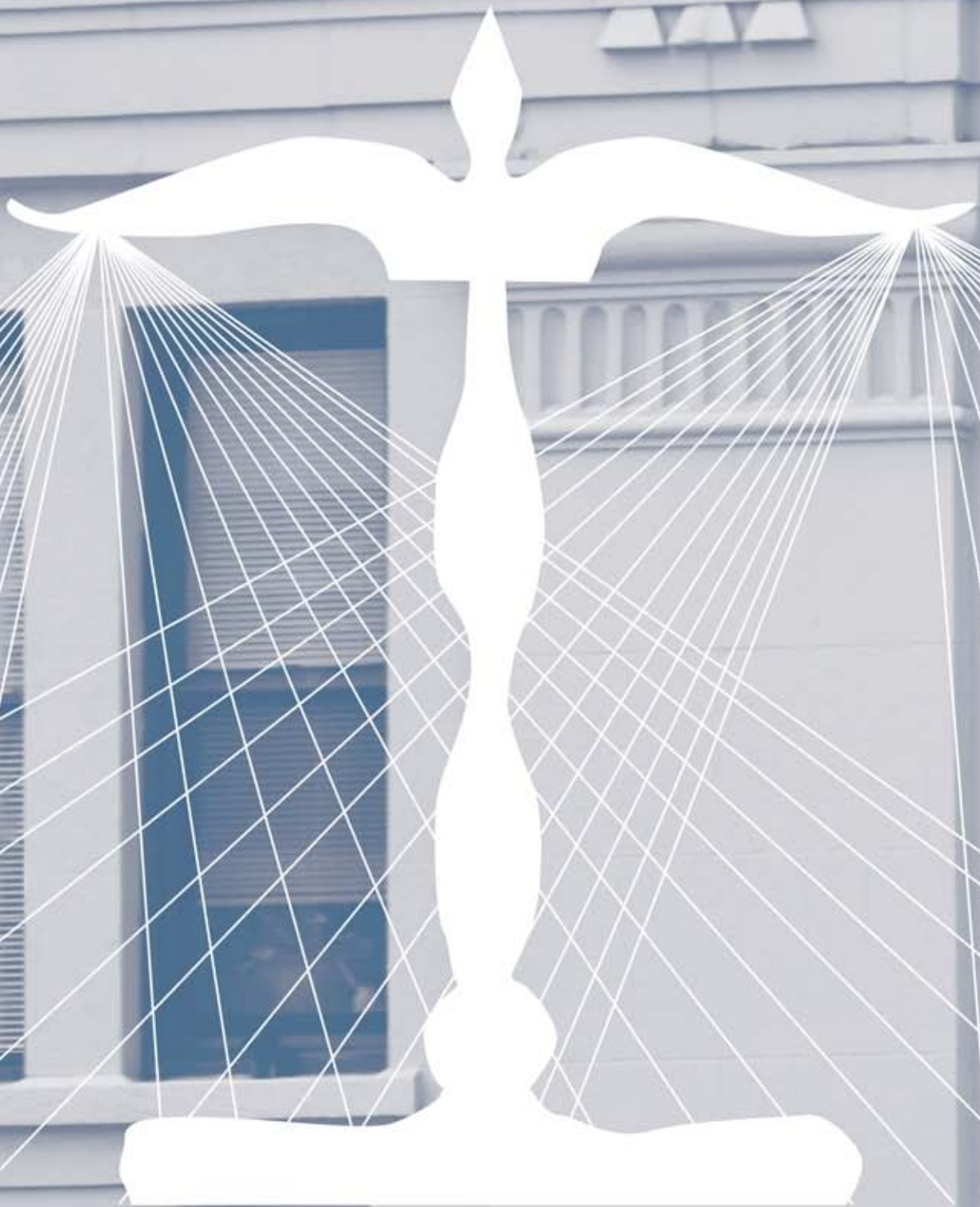


ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2014

# Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A



## MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

Dear Friends:

"I cannot express what it means to me to be able to go back home." These are the words of our client Tranqualina Alvillar, who after three years of enduring landlord harassment, a long legal battle and emotional distress, was able to return home as a result of Brooklyn A's legal representation and advocacy. Her story is a testament to our effectiveness and commitment to our clients.

Brooklyn A was established in 1968 with the mission to provide legal services to low-income individuals and community groups, and work to advance social and economic justice as a way to combat poverty. Forty-seven years later, we have assisted thousands of individuals and families. This past year alone, we served nearly 2,000 and impacted the lives of more than 400,000. In addition to providing direct legal services, we also participated in many community activities to help raise awareness and educate communities about their rights and our ability to help make those rights a reality. We represented 59 not-for-profits and New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) tenant associations on corporate and transactional projects; strengthening community-controlled and community-led organizations and initiatives so that their voices are heard and their efforts are successful.

The successes from the past year are encouraging. However, there is much more still to be done. The need for affordable housing increases. Tenants living in the epicenter of rezoning areas, like East New York and the Broadway Triangle, face harassment, eviction, unsafe housing conditions, and other displacement pressures. In addition, the foreclosure crisis continues unabated, destroying wealth for many families, stripping equity from neighborhoods, and undermining the stability and vibrancy in our communities. For people facing these issues, legal services are critical for them to keep their homes. Furthermore community-based organizations need legal support in building their capacity to meet the needs of those in our neighborhoods.

Our clients are members of the Brooklyn A family. We work tirelessly to ensure that our clients get the support they need and achieve their desired outcome. The diligence of our attorneys and staff has helped Brooklyn A earn the respect, trust, and support of our clients and community partners in the neighborhoods we serve, as well as all of our supporters.

We are thankful to our clients, partners, and supporters for their support. Without you we would not be here today. We are looking forward to serving even more clients in the year to come and continuing to defend and protect those in need.

Sincerely,

Martin S. Needelman, Esq.  
Co-Executive Director & Chief Counsel

Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.  
Co-Executive Director & General Counsel

*Building Community. Ensuring Opportunity. Achieving Justice*



# ABOUT BROOKLYN A

## Who We Are

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) provides high-quality legal assistance to low-income individuals and community groups in Brooklyn. We address the systemic problems facing our communities by providing a combination of full legal representation, brief advice, and legal education services to vulnerable populations including low-income working poor, unemployed, disabled, elderly, immigrants, families in crisis and the community-based organizations (CBOs) that serve them.

Established in 1968 as part of the “War on Poverty”, Brooklyn A embraces the value that lawyers have in combating poverty. We endorse the idea that legal services providers are accountable to low-income communities, and are thus charged with the responsibility of understanding their needs and participating in addressing the problems confronting those communities.

## What We Do

- \* Prevent and stop evictions and improve the living conditions of hundreds of low-income tenants and their families each year.
- \* Preserve and expand affordable housing.
- \* Litigate against predatory mortgage schemes, discriminatory lending practices and forms of consumer fraud perpetuated against low-income people.
- \* Support community and economic development efforts undertaken by nonprofit, neighborhood-based organizations.

## Our Core Programs

**Community and Economic Development (CED).** We represent groups that organize tenants, build affordable housing, expand access to health and dental care, establish community-run senior centers, schools and daycare facilities, and undertake other activities that help alleviate the negative repercussions of poverty. CED attorneys work both as in-house and special project counsel, offering our nonprofit clients ongoing, long-term representation.

**Consumer and Economic Advocacy (CEA).** We empower underrepresented consumers to assert their rights in the marketplace and courts, in order to be financially stable. CEA attorneys provide legal assistance, including advice, advocacy and litigation services, to homeowners facing foreclosure and/or victimized by predatory lending practices.

**Preserving Affordable Housing.** We prevent homelessness and displacement and support the creation and preservation of affordable housing by representing tenants individually and collectively, through tenant associations, low-income tenant owned HDFO co-ops defending them in eviction proceedings, and, if necessary, bringing affirmative cases to stop landlord neglect and harassment.



## 2014 YEAR IN REVIEW



Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

# A Year of Impact

### CONSUMER & ECONOMIC ADVOCACY PROGRAM (CEA)

- Represented 143 homeowners facing foreclosure.

**Protecting Our Clients' Equity:** Our advocates helped a client, who owed more than \$918,000 in her foreclosure case, receive a unique loan modification which reduced the principal to \$663,000. For each year every mortgage payment is paid on time, \$85,000 will be deducted from the total. After 3 years, she will owe less than 50% of her original principal.

### COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CED)

- Represented 59 not-for-profits and NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA) tenant associations on corporate and transactional projects which impacted the lives of over 104,000 individuals and families.

### Providing Support to Community-Based Organizations:

**Empowering U2 SucSeed, Inc.** provides technology training, financial skills workshops, and career counseling to unemployed and low-income women. The Corporation's goal is to empower, motivate, and raise the earnings potential of women with low or no income by providing services and programming that will include: computer and technology skill-building; collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information on technology trends and changes; financial planning workshops; public speaking practice; professional attire and conduct guidance; entrepreneurship and leadership training; career counseling; and job/internship placement assistance. In 2014, Brooklyn A assisted them in applying for and obtaining federal tax exempt status, registering with the Charities



*Approximately 130 entrepreneurs attended the event, which included free legal consultations and three workshops on legal and financing issues for entrepreneurs.  
Photo: SF Gallery Portrait Photography*

Bureau of the NYS Office of the Attorney General, applying for and obtaining NYS sales and use tax exemption and other local and state tax exemptions, submitting its annual filing with the IRS (form 990EZ), and negotiating its first services contract with a local church group that hosted a workshop series provided by our client. We continue to provide them ongoing guidance about best practices for non-profit governance, legal matters associated with fundraising and organizational planning.

### Supporting Non-Profits and Small

**Businesses:** Brooklyn A partnered with Brooklyn Law School Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship, law firms and non-profit legal service providers across the city to organize and conduct the second Small Business Legal Academy, a one-day expo that provides free legal advice to new and existing non-profits, startups, and small businesses. The success of this event over the past two years confirms our hope that offering no-cost, high-quality legal services to a large volume of startups and micro-entrepreneurs in a day-long clinic format would have a positive effect on their ability to create jobs and improve their communities.

# 2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

## A Year of Impact *continued*

### PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM

- Represented 412 individual cases in housing court; serving 859 people.
- Represented 77 tenant associations, community groups and coalitions, impacting the lives of over 328,000 residents.
- Provided legal services to 15 tenant controlled low-income housing development fund corporation (HDFC) co-ops; serving 521 people and maintaining the affordability of 209 units of housing.

**Preventing Homelessness:** Our advocates were successful in preventing the displacement of our client, a senior citizen, who had lived in her rent stabilized apartment for nearly 30 years. The landlord brought a holdover proceeding seeking possession of the apartment for chronic nonpayment of rent because the landlord had brought four nonpayment proceedings and served two additional rent demands over a three year time period. Our client, with limited income, satisfied and paid in full the arrears due and each case was discontinued. Our office drafted and submitted a pre-answer motion arguing that the holdover proceeding was defective as a matter of law because the prior court cases did not rise to the standard of being chronic nonpayment of rent. We argued that the rent demands should not be considered and that two of the four nonpayment proceedings were not justified based on the repairs demanded in the settlement of those previous cases. Our motion was aggressively opposed by the landlord because our client paid the lowest rent in the building and gaining possession of the apartment would allow for a substantial increase in rent that would have removed the apartment from rent stabilization. The court, after oral arguments, granted our motion and dismissed the court case against our client. This was a victory that preserved a rent regulated apartment as part of the housing stock and a thirty year tenancy.



*Tranquilina Alvillar lost her rent-stabilized Brooklyn apartment after the landlord began renovations, and an inspector found her home uninhabitable. Photo: Edwin J. Torres.*

**Preserving Affordable Housing:** In a highly-publicized victory, Brooklyn A successfully won the case that reversed the eviction of Tranquilina Alvillar, more than two years after her displacement. Ms. Alvillar, 50, a street vendor who sells used clothing and plastic trinkets, lived in the rent-stabilized one-bedroom on the second floor at 193 Bedford, between North Sixth and North Seventh Streets, for a quarter-century, since coming to this country from Mexico. In 2011, the landlord began renovating the building, removing walls and tearing up floors. There were also problems with the heat. Ms. Alvillar stuck it out, continuing to pay her \$700 monthly rent, until August, when a city building inspector ordered her to leave, declaring the home uninhabitable and an “imminent danger to life.” Ms. Alvillar was forced to abandon the apartment and relocate to Coney Island with a relative. Her apartment was then gutted, refurbished, and leased to a new tenant at more than four times the rent. Since then, Tranquilina and Brooklyn A worked hard to fight the wrongful eviction in Brooklyn Housing Court. This year, our efforts paid off. In June 2014, Judge Jean T. Schneider, ordered that the market-rate tenant who was living in Ms. Alvillar’s apartment be evicted and that Ms. Alvillar could move back in. The landlord appealed the decision, keeping the case tied up in court for months, but an appellate court upheld the original decision. Tranquilina returned home just a few days before Christmas.

## A Year of Recognition

**Leander (Lee) McRae**, Program Director of Brooklyn A's Preserving Affordable Housing Program - Individual Representation Unit, received the New York City Bar Association's Annual Legal Services Award. The award gives recognition to attorneys and non-attorneys who provide outstanding civil legal assistance to New York's neediest populations. The award was presented by the Honorable Jenny Rivera, Associate Judge of the New York Court of Appeals.



**Shekar Krishnan**, Program Director of Brooklyn A's Preserving Affordable Housing Program - Group Representation Unit was honored by New York City Council at the India Independence Day Celebration. Shekar was among other notable members and friends of the Indian-American/South Asian community who were honored for their leadership and contributions to the moral and economic well-being of New York City. The event was sponsored by Speaker Melisa Mark-Viverito, Public Advocate Letitia James, Council Member Daniel Dromm, Council Member Paul Vallone, and other council members.



## Young Professionals for Justice

This year, Brooklyn A kicked off Young Professionals for Justice (YPJ), our group of Brooklyn A alumni and friends representing the next generation of social justice leadership in New York City. YPJ members are dedicated to supporting our work by raising awareness of the need for accessible legal services for low-income individuals and communities in Brooklyn and NYC wide.

YPJ kicked off with an exciting happy hour at Battery Harris in July and enjoyed a garden cleanup at The People's Garden in East New York in October. We are excited to see the growth of YPJ in the years to come. Special thanks to the YPJ Advisory Board Tiffany Femiano, Lynn Horowitz, Mina Wood, Julia Kohen, Daeyna Grant, and David Shapiro, for their leadership this year.





## 2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

# A Year of Celebration and Honor

## 2014 ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP AWARDS BENEFIT

JUDGE HAROLD TYLER AWARD

**Judah Gribetz**

Of Counsel

Bingham McCutchen LLP

SARGENT SHRIVER AWARD

**Paloma Hernandez**

President & CEO

Urban Health Plan, Inc.

DENIS BERGER AWARD

**Sonya D. Johnson**

Senior Counsel

nationalgrid

GUEST SPEAKER

**James R. Silkenat**

Partner

Sullivan & Worchester LLP



## Pro Bono Recognition



**Hildere Alexis**  
Kelley Drye  
& Warren LLP

**Andrea L. Calvaruso**  
Kelley Drye  
& Warren LLP

**Sarah Elliott**  
Simpson Thacher  
& Bartlett LLP

**Sean R. Flanagan**  
Kelley Drye &  
Warren LLP

**Harlene Katzman**  
Simpson Thacher  
& Bartlett LLP

**Robin Krause**  
Patterson Belknap  
Webb  
& Tyler LLP

**Paul Rodriguez**  
Simpson Thacher  
& Bartlett LLP

**Tricia B. Sherno**  
Debevoise &  
Plimpton LLP

**Tiffanye Threadcraft**  
Simpson Thatcher  
& Bartlett LLP

**JoAnna C. Tsoumpas**  
Debevoise &  
Plimpton LLP

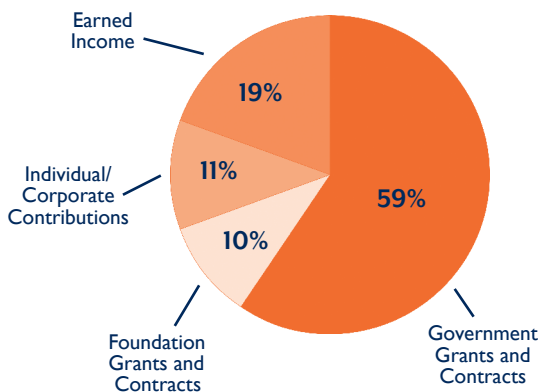
# 2014 FINANCIALS



Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

## Revenue by Source

*All figures based on the 2014 Audited Financial Data:*



Government Grants and Contracts	\$ 1,447,157	59%
Foundation Grants and Contracts*	245,525	10%
Individual/Corporate Contributions	278,638	11%
Earned Income**	472,950	19%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 2,444,270*** 100%</b>

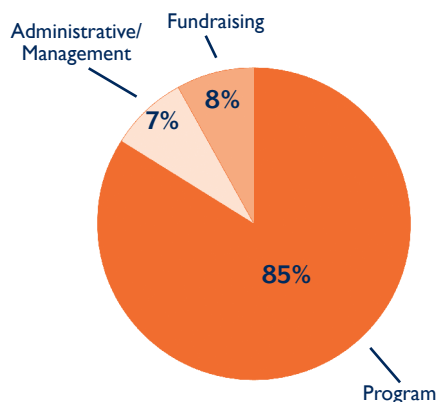
*\*Includes New York State Interest on Lawyer Account Fund and law school fellowships.*

*\*\* Includes Rental Income and Community & Economic Development Fees.*

*\*\*\* Excludes donated pro-bono services valued at \$540,000.*

## Expense by Functional Allocation

*All figures based on the 2014 Audited Financial Data:*



Program	\$ 1,976,580	85%
Administrative/Management	168,231	7%
Fundraising	196,824	8%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,341,635*** 100%</b>

*\*\*\* Excludes donated pro-bono services valued at \$540,000.*



# 2014 GRATITUDE



Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

*Brooklyn A is deeply grateful to those individuals, foundations, law firms and government funders that have sustained us over this past year. You provide the critical financial support we need to accomplish our work and achieve impact and lasting change in our communities.*

## \$100,000 +

New York City Department of Housing Preservation & Development  
New York City Human Resources Administration  
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services  
New York State Office of the Attorney General  
New York State Office of Court Administration  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

## \$50,000 - \$99,999

New York State Interest on Lawyer Account Fund

## \$25,000 - \$49,999

Bingham McCutchen LLP  
New York City Department of Homeless Services  
The Scherman Foundation  
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates  
Skadden Foundation Fellowship

## \$15,000 - \$24,999

Davis Polk and Wardwell LLP  
Debevoise & Plimpton LLP  
DIME Savings Bank of Williamsburg  
New York City Department for the Aging  
New York University School of Law Fellowship

## \$10,000 - \$14,999

Capital One Bank  
Kelley Drye & Warren LLP  
M&T Bank  
M&T Charitable Foundation  
Santander Bank Foundation  
Benjamin P. Wellington  
James H.R Windels

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

Astoria Bank  
Con Edison  
Equal Justice America  
Jyotin Hamid  
Hyde and Watson Foundation  
Kramer, Dillof, Livingston & Moore  
Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP  
Robert and Elizabeth Sheehan  
Tiger Baron Foundation

## \$2,500 - \$4,999

Bank Leumi  
Brownsville Community Development Corporation, Inc.  
Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP  
National Grid  
Pitta & Giblin LLP  
Pitta Bishop Del Giorno & Giblin LLC  
Plato Malozemoff Foundation  
Saul Shapiro  
Thomas McC and Catherine Curran Souther  
Urban Health Plan, Inc.

## \$1,000 - \$2,499

16 Maujer Street HDFC  
Anonymous  
Ruth Plofsky Barish and Irving Barish Fund  
Robert Begleiter  
Anthony and Barbara Carbone  
Robert Crotty  
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation, Inc.  
EisnerAmper LLP  
Esquire Bank  
ExxonMobil Foundation  
Judah and Jessica Gribetz  
Valarie Hing  
Sonya Johnson  
Joseph Lipofsky  
Alexis P. and Wiera Malozemoff  
Morris Kirschner Perpetual Charitable Trust  
Kenneth A. and Bettina B. Plevan

Ridgewood Savings Bank  
Cye Ross  
Jeffrey Smith  
St. Nicks Alliance  
The WJL Film, Inc.  
Michael Young and Debra Raskin  
Stephen P. and Prudence M. Younger

## \$100 - \$999

244 Troutman Street Tenants Association  
Gary and Robin Adler  
African American Planning Commission, Inc.  
Henry and Hester Ahearn  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
Bamontes Restaurant Corp.  
Adrienne Baughns-Wallace  
Michael Benzi  
Alice Berger  
Lisa Bing  
Arleen and Marc Sandy Block  
Center for NYC Neighborhoods  
Steve Cohn  
Combined Federal Campaign  
Gary Connor  
Maria Contreras-Collier  
Linda Cooper  
Michael and Nan Cooper  
Alison Cordero  
Etienne Correa  
Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation  
David and Patricia Ann Dobosz  
Robert Dombroff  
Joyce Doyle  
Essie M. Duggan  
David Etkind  
Hilary Exter  
Edward Ezrick, M.D.  
John D. and Emalie P. Feerick  
Steven Flax  
Arlen Sue Fox  
Mary Gail Gearn  
Arthur Gang  
Brian Glick  
Harold Green  
Jonathan Greenspun  
Allan Gropper  
Michael Haber  
Louis Hancock  
Lynn P. Harrison III and Tonya P. Harrison  
Mary Jemison Head

William H. Josephson  
Harold and Renee Kelvin  
Kenjam Consultants LLC  
Ingrid Bromberg Kennedy  
Julia Kohen  
Luis Lainer and Lee Lainer  
Henry Day Lanier and Catherine Bragg Lanier  
David Lopez  
Frances Lucerna  
Betsy MacLean  
Father Peter A. Mahoney  
Laurie Margolies  
Phyllis Mascia  
Maureen McCarthy  
Rhonda J. McLean  
Anita Miller and David Bryan  
Martin Needelman  
Peter C. Neger and Melinda Beck Neger  
Michelle Neugebauer  
NYS Employees Federated Appeal  
Sara C. Norris  
Melissa Peshkin  
Randolf Petsche  
Anne Pilsbury  
Roy H. Pingel  
Primary Care Development Corporation  
Deborah Rand  
Leonides Reyes  
Paul Rodriguez  
Dara N. Rose  
H. Richard Schumacher  
Douglas Schwarz and Beth Marcus  
Frederick A. O. Schwarz, Jr.  
Narcisa Secchiano  
Franklin Siegel  
Porfirio Sotomayor  
Wayne S. Stanton  
Stephanie R. Steinberg and Daniel Schachter  
Timothy J. Stephens  
Brian Sullivan  
Rose Vanderpool-Fletcher  
Gregory Wallance  
Peter Woll  
Mina Wood

# 2014 COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND CLIENTS



Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

## CONSUMER AND ECONOMIC ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Bridge Street Development Corporation  
Coalition for Debtor Education  
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation, Inc.

Kings County Foreclosure Defense Bar  
Pratt Area Community Council  
Neighborhood Housing Services  
New Yorkers for Responsible Lending (NYRL)

Right to Counsel NYC Coalition

## PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM

Allied Communities Against Buy Outs (ACABO) Coalition

Broadway Triangle Community Coalition

Bushwick Housing Independence Project (BHIP)

Churches United for Fair Housing  
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation, Inc.

El Puente

Mobilization Against Displacement (MAD)

Neighbors Allied for Good Growth (NAG)

North Brooklyn Development Corporation

Nuestros Niños Day Care Center  
Organization United for Trash Reduction and Garbage Equity (OUTRAGE)

Save Our Southside (SOS)

Shareholders for the Betterment of Lindsay Park

Sisters Friends Galleria Supporting Low Income Women and their Children

Small World Day Care Center

Southside Community Schools Coalition (SCSC)

Southside United Housing Development Fund Corporation (Los Sures)

St. Nicks Alliance

Swinging Sixties Senior Center

United Neighbors Organization (UNO)

## COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM - CLIENTS

African American Planning Commission, Inc.

Alliance for Healthy Communities NCB LLC

Arts East New York, Inc.

Atlas DIY, Inc.

Bedford Stuyvesant Family Health Center

Berry Street Tenants Association

Brevoort Resident Association

Borough Development Group

Boulevard Houses Tenant Association

Brooklyn Clergy Action Network 2 Save Our Communities

Brooklyn-West District Council of Presidents, Inc

Brownsville Community Development Corporation (Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center)

Bushwick Houses Resident Association

Churches United For Fair Housing  
Community Driven Solutions  
Community Services Housing Development Corporation

Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation, Inc.

Cypress Hills Tenant Association

Empowering U2 SucSeed, Inc.

Gates to Success

The Gifted and Purposed Alliance, Inc.

Gowanus Resident Council, Inc.

Harvest Revival Christian Fellowship

Howard Houses Tenant Council, Inc.  
Interactive Drama for Education and Awareness in the Schools, Inc. (I.D.E.A.S.)

In the Spirit of Love Foundation

Jamaica Drum Jam, Inc.

John F. Hylan Houses Tenants Association

Lafayette Gardens Residents Association, Inc.

Living Through Movement, Inc.

Make STEAM, Inc.

National Congress of Neighborhood Women

Northeast Brooklyn Housing

Development Corporation

Northside Town Hall Community Cultural Center

NYC Yoga Project, Inc.

Penn-Wortman Tenant Association

Peoples First Baptist Church

Project New Ground

Progressive People Movement, Inc.

Sister Friends Galleria, Supporting Low Income Women and Their Children, Inc.

Southside United Housing Development Fund Corporation (Los Sures)

St. Stephen Outreach Community Development Corporation

St. Stephen Outreach, Inc.

Sumner Houses Senior Citizen Council

The Tenants Association of Marcy Houses

Trey Whitfield School

United Soccer League of Brooklyn, Inc.

Urban Health Plan, Inc.

Urban Health Foundation, Inc.

Walt Whitman Houses Tenants' Association, Inc.

Wayside Out-Reach Development Inc. (WORD)

Wider Horizons Internship Network

Williamsburg Neighborhood Based Alliance, Inc.

# 2014 VOLUNTEERS, INTERNS, EXTERNS & PRO-BONO PARTNERS



Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

## LAW SCHOOL INTERNS

**Isabel Abreu**

University of Pennsylvania Law School

**Chris Adams**

CUNY School of Law

**Alyssa Baldassini**

Brooklyn Law School

**Johnathan Baldauf**

UC Davis School of Law

**Sarah Baldwin**

Fordham University School of Law

**Jennifer A. Beamish**

Northwestern University School of Law

**Dean Bubar**

UC Davis School of Law

**Sarah Chi**

UC Davis School of Law

**Erin Choi**

UC Davis School of Law

**Adam DeBow**

UC Davis School of Law

**Chelsea Evans**

UC Davis School of Law

**Juliana Fehrenbacher**

UC Davis School of Law

**Camellia Imani**

UC Davis School of Law

**Carmel Imani**

UC Davis School of Law

**Moshe Indig**

NYU School of Law

**Steven Koch**

Cornell Law School

**Erica Leavy**

St. John's University School of Law

**Daisy Liu**

UC Davis School of Law

**Jason Luu**

UC Davis School of Law

**Nicole Mormilo**

Brooklyn Law School

**Abigail Mulvihill**

UC Davis School of Law

**Oscar Orozco-Botello**

UC Davis School of Law

**Michael Perez**

UC Davis School of Law

**Jonathan A. Samper**

NYU School of Law

**Jack Underwood**

Boston University School of Law

**Adrienne Warrell**

NYU School of Law

**John Willumsen-Friedman**

Brooklyn Law School

**Lauren Woods**

UC Davis School of Law

**Antonia Wong**

UC Davis School of Law

## INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS

**Marcos Antonio Gonzales**

El Puente Academy for Peace and Justice

**Michael Dohmann**

Cornell University

**Sean Jenkins**

Kingsborough Community College

**Daniel Maples**

New York City College of Technology (CUNY)

**Brandon G Mui**

Cornell University

**Alexander M. Schoifet**

Cornell University

**Dmitry Slavnikov**

Cornell University

**George Sole**

**Kailah Torres**

Brooklyn Preparatory High School

**Lillybeth Ventura**

The High School for Enterprise, Business, and Technology

**Gary Wan**

Cornell University

**Catherine Wang**

Cornell University

## EXTERNS

**Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP**

Sarah Elliott

Paul Rodriguez

Tiffanye Threadcraft

## PRO BONO PARTNERS

**Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP**

**Debevoise & Plimpton LLP**

Tricia B. Sherno

JoAnna C. Tsoumpas

**Kelley Drye & Warren LLP**

Hildere Alexis

Andrea L. Calvaruso

Sean R. Flanagan

**Ogletree Deakins**

**Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP**

Robin Krause

**Pepper Hamilton LLP**

**Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP**

Harlene Katzman

**Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan**

**Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP**

**Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati**



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

## OFFICERS

**James H.R. Windels**, *Chair*

Partner

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP

**Robert E. Crotty**, *Vice-Chair*

Partner

Kelley Drye & Warren LLP

**Thomas McC. Souther**, *Treasurer*

Partner

Pepper Hamilton, LLP

**Anne Pilsbury**, *Secretary*

Executive Director

Central American Legal Assistance

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Partner

Constantine Cannon LLP

**Sam Beck**

Senior Lecturer

Director of the New York City Urban Semester Program

Cornell University

**Harold Green**

President

Cypress Hills Local Development Corp.

**Jyotin Hamid**

Partner

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

**Valarie A. Hing**

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**Harvey Lawrence**

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Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center

**Joseph Lipofsky**

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**David Lopez**

Board Chair

Los Sures

**Frances Lucerna**

Executive Director

El Puente

**Kenneth J. Mahon**

Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Dime Community Bancshares Inc.

**Saul B. Shapiro**

Partner

Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP

# STAFF



Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

**Martin S. Needelman, Esq.**  
Co-Executive Director, Chief Counsel

**Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.**  
Co-Executive Director, General Counsel

## CONSUMER AND ECONOMIC ADVOCACY

**David J. Bryan, Esq.**  
Program Director

**Ndukwe Agwu, Esq.**  
Senior Staff Attorney

**Andrew Malozemoff, Esq.**  
Staff Attorney

**Joyce Vargas**  
Paralegal

**Tamara del Carmen, Esq.**  
Senior Staff Attorney  
Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic

## COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Jessica Rose, Esq.**  
Program Director

**Gustavo A. Silva Cano, Esq.**  
Staff Attorney  
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett Extern

## PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

### GROUP REPRESENTATION UNIT

**Shekar Krishan, Esq.**  
Program Director

**Gregory E. Louis, Esq.**  
Staff Attorney

**Adam Meyers, Esq.**  
Staff Attorney  
Skadden Fellow

**Caroline Iosso**  
Fair Housing Advocate

**Samuel Hamilton Chiera, J.D.**  
Brooklyn Law School Fellow

### INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTATION UNIT

**Leander (Lee) McRae, Esq.**  
Program Director

**Janna Levin, Esq.**  
Staff Attorney

**Austen D. Refuerzo, Esq.**  
Berkeley Law Bridge Fellow

**Christopher Sina, J.D.**  
New York University School of Law Fellow

**Vincent Duran**  
Legal Services Coordinator, AmeriCorps\* VISTA

## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

**Joshua D. Hoffman, Esq.**  
Director of Finance & Administration

**Rosemarie Peralta**  
Intake and Receptionist

**Maria Posner**  
Office Manager

**Shimon Sieskel**  
Receptionist

## DEVELOPMENT

**Gloria Ramón, M.P.P.**  
Director of Development & Communications

**Devin Corrigan**  
Development & Communications Coordinator  
AmeriCorps\* VISTA

**Yin Sok**  
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