

# eNews Alert

To Our ALRP Family & Friends,

## Welcome to the ALRP 2009 Year-In-Review

I want to thank you for your support of ALRP and our efforts to help people with HIV/AIDS maintain or improve their health by resolving their legal issues. Without you, we simply could not have continued to provide our free legal services to clients throughout 2009.

- ♦ Last year, ALRP handled 2,024 legal matters representing a 35% caseload increase in five years
- ♦ This included 524 housing cases, 298 insurance-related cases, and 172 immigration cases
- ♦ 45% of our 2009 clients were people of color
- ♦ A great majority of our 2009 clients were low income, with 78% having incomes under \$26,000

ALRP's staff and Panel attorneys prevented unlawful evictions, preserved employment, secured health and disability insurance, protected people's assets (and their children's future), reduced people's stress and improved their health while assuring their personal dignity.

## ALRP: Invest with Confidence

Last year was challenging for many of us, but none more so than our clients, many of whom experienced reductions in income support, medical and dental services, mental health services, in-home supportive services, and other services. ALRP also experienced challenges, with corporate funding for ALRP's legal services down by 18% and foundation support down an astonishing 74%.

While difficult economic conditions and fundraising challenges persist, ALRP believes that - with your continued support - we are well positioned to prudently and effectively manage your continued investment in our legal programs and services for people with HIV/AIDS.

- ♦ For 27 years, ALRP has been a fine example of a fiscally **well-managed organization**
- ♦ ALRP has **operated in the black for the last eight (8) years** (including 2009)
- ♦ We've built up more than a **six (6) month operating reserve**
- ♦ Our Board has **established a Board Designated Fund** to help cover any budget deficits ALRP may experience over the next 5 years
- ♦ **80% of every dollar donated to ALRP goes directly to support client programs;** 92% when Panel attorney donated legal services are included

## 2009 Highlights:

- ♦ Leveraged over \$3.5 million in donated legal services
- ♦ Added more than 30 new attorneys to the ALRP Panel
- ♦ Trained over 175 attorneys on a variety of legal issues affecting people with HIV/AIDS (more than three times the number trained in 2008)

- ◆ Conducted 19 MCLE trainings to volunteer attorneys, more than twice last year's number
- ◆ Held over 40 presentations to client groups, AIDS service agencies, and other community organizations, and 25 Fair Housing trainings for tenants and service providers

During 2009, ALRP worked in collaboration with an array of organizations, including *AIDS Project of the East Bay*, *Ark of Refuge*, *Black Coalition on AIDS*, *Catholic Charities*, *Conard House*, *Fremont Hospital*, *Kaiser Hospital Hayward*, *Mercy Charities*, *Native American Health Center*, *Positive Resource Center*, the *San Francisco AIDS Foundation*, *Southeast Partnership for Health*, the *Tenderloin Housing Clinic*, *Ward 86*, and *Westside Community Services*.

## **2010: Meeting the Challenge**

ALRP continues to meet the changing needs of our clients with new program initiatives:

**MEDIATION SERVICES** - ALRP recently partnered with *Community Boards* (San Francisco) and *Recourse* (North Bay) to provide free or sliding scale mediation services for ALRP clients, and mediation trainings for ALRP Panel attorneys.

**HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION** – ALRP is now a partner in the *Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program* (HRRP), a collaboration with the *Eviction Defense Collaborative*, the *Bar Association of San Francisco*'s Volunteer Legal Services Program and the *AIDS Housing Alliance* aimed at preventing homelessness in San Francisco.

**CLIENT ADVOCACY** - ALRP is launching the *HIV Consumer Advocacy Project* (HCAP) in March to help HIV+ consumers navigate the often complex processes that are required to access public services and to mediate disputes with HIV/AIDS service providers.

## **You Are The Difference**

Your support continues to have a significant impact on ALRP's ability to maintain, and expand, the essential services that we provide to people living with HIV/AIDS throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Because of you, ALRP is able to be a beacon of hope for all those who come to us for legal assistance. Thank you.

From the heart,



Bill Hirsh, Esq.  
Executive Director