

AIDS Legal Referral Panel (ALRP)

2019 YEAR-IN-REVIEW



To all our 2019
donors, volunteers,
Panel attorneys, & community
partners

THANK YOU

For information
about ALRP programs
and services, visit

www.ALRP.org



To make an appointment
for services, call
(415) 701-1100 x330

To volunteer, contact
Faron Stalker
at
(415) 701-1200 x303

Dear Hannah,

WELCOME TO THE ALRP 2019 YEAR-IN-REVIEW.

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. Your leadership, volunteerism and contributions are what enable ALRP to continue to provide essential services to people living with HIV/AIDS.

- ALRP has now handled more than 80,000 legal matters for people with HIV/AIDS in the San Francisco Bay Area since our founding in 1983
- ALRP helped 1,522 clients with a **record 2,538 legal matters** in 2019 - a 70% increase over the last 15 years
- 57% of our 2019 clients were people of color; 82% were LGBTQ
- Over 80% of our 2019 clients were very low-income

With your help, ALRP's staff and Panel attorneys focused on issues that have impact the health and well-being of our clients, especially housing, immigration, disability income, employment, and aging with HIV.

2019 ALRP HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Getting To Zero:** ALRP and a broad-based collaborative of San Francisco service providers is working toward the goal of zero new HIV infections, zero HIV-related deaths, and zero HIV stigma. While 2019 figures are not yet available, we are proud to report that 2018 was the first year since the beginning of the epidemic that the City had fewer than 200 new HIV infections. To maintain and further this progress, we must do more to address the housing needs of people living with HIV - without stable housing, treatment adherence declines, and the risk of transmission becomes far greater.

To make an online donation,

[CLICK HERE](#)

Donate Now

LIST OF 2020 EVENTS

ALRP Volunteer
Appreciation Party
APRIL 16



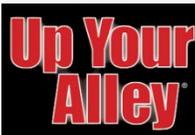
ALRP Major Donor
Party
MAY 14



AIDS Walk
JULY 19



Up Your Alley Fair
JULY 26



Folsom Street Fair
SEPTEMBER 27



- **Civil Right to Counsel:** ALRP played a leading role in securing an additional \$300,000 in new “Civil Right to Counsel” City funding for eviction defense legal services. This funding enabled ALRP (and its partner, *Legal Assistance for the Elderly*) to hire a social worker to support our eviction defense attorneys.
- **Immigrant Outreach:** ALRP expanded education and outreach efforts for immigrants living with HIV with the addition of our second staff Immigration Attorney. Collaborating with law firms like *Hanson Bridgett LLP*, *Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP*, *Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP*, *Reed Smith LLP*, and *Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati*, along with the work of 27 Immigration Panel Attorneys, ALRP secured political asylum for immigrants from Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico, and Thailand. After fleeing persecution in their countries of origin, these immigrants have a chance to build a new life in the sanctuary city of San Francisco.
- **Training, Education & Advocacy:** ALRP presented **8 MCLE trainings** to 65 attorneys and **added 23 new attorneys** to our Panel; we also conducted **88 outreach presentations** for clients and service providers with our community partners, including *Catholic Charities*, *Face To Face*, *Kaiser Permanente*, *Larkin Street*, *PRC*, *Project Open Hand*, the *San Francisco AIDS Foundation*, *Shanti Project*, *UCSF Women's HIV Program* and *Ward 86*.
- **Planning for the Future:** ALRP initiated a new Strategic Planning process with the assistance of a consultant; the *ALRP 2020 Strategic Plan* is being finalized now with implementation scheduled for this spring.

Helping People with HIV/AIDS - the HEART of the Matter:

ALRP defines success as improving the health of our clients by helping them stay in their housing, gain access to healthcare, become legal citizens, improve their finances, and connect to other community services. We measure outcomes through client satisfaction surveys and case outcome reports from attorneys. In 2019, **94% of ALRP clients reported that they were satisfied with their case's outcome.** Here is a story of a client we helped last year:

Long-Term Tenant's Housing Saved:

An ALRP client contacted our office after his landlord initiated eviction proceedings against him, alleging that our client had disturbed the quiet enjoyment of other residents in his building. Our client was accused of committing minor disturbances involving a mail carrier. These disturbances led the US Postal Service to temporarily discontinue mail service at the client's building. Our client had lived in his home since 1995, and feared that he might be forced to leave San Francisco if he were evicted. During our representation, it was discovered that he was living with dementia, which may have affected his interactions with his mail carrier. After asserting a number of legal defenses pertaining to our client's disabilities, ALRP secured a settlement agreement allowing our client to stay in his home. Additionally, ALRP referred this client to *The Q Foundation* for an ongoing housing subsidy and money management services and to *The Institute on Aging* for intensive

ALRP
From the Heart
37th Annual Reception
& Auction
OCTOBER 21



Check out ALRP's
2019
[PHOTO GALLERIES](#)

case management to ensure he receives the care he needs to manage his disabilities.

37 YEARS of PRUDENT STEWARDSHIP, and counting...

ALRP is a model of stability and sound management. We have a 30-member Board of Directors that includes representatives from some of the region's leading law firms, 16 staff members including 12 Staff Attorneys, and 700 dedicated volunteers managed by a full-time Volunteer Coordinator.

ALRP's annual budget, which was more than \$1.8 million in 2019, has grown significantly in the last few years. Handling cases in-house is more costly than referring them out. However, it is also the best way to ensure that clients get a timely response during crises, such as an eviction or the termination of disability benefits.

Despite a challenging fundraising environment, ALRP continues to be an efficient and well-managed steward of your contributions:

- For 37 years ALRP has remained an excellent example of a fiscally well-managed agency
- ALRP has met or exceeded its revenue goals for the last 16 consecutive years
- ALRP has built up a 6-month operating reserve to help cover unexpected expenses and ensure the continuation of services to our clients
- Last year we surpassed our *Heart & Soul* individual major donor campaign goal by raising over \$130,000, and ALRP's Annual Reception & Auction raised \$185,843 to support ALRP programs

YOU - THE HEART OF THE MATTER

ALRP's legal services help safeguard the rights of vulnerable individuals and groups, many of whom are rightly concerned about potential threats to their civil liberties and disruptions to their access to housing and health care. The stakes for clients with HIV are great.

Unlike most legal services providers, ALRP will take on any civil legal matter for clients of any income level. The only eligibility requirements are Bay Area residency and HIV status. Most cases center on housing, public and private insurance benefits, or immigration. ALRP handles hundreds of cases each year in the areas of wills and estate planning, employment, family law, and credit and bankruptcy – all issues that can seriously affect the health of people with HIV.

Our clients also need a legal services provider who is connected to a wide range of supports for vulnerable clients: emergency funds to keep the lights on; mental health care for the many clients who are dual diagnosed with mental health issues (or substance abuse issues, or all three); meal delivery services when clients are ill and homebound; and more.

ALRP is a caring advocate for a vulnerable population with few resources. We have been proud to stand up for them these last 37 years. If ALRP is to continue to be there for our clients when they need us, we will need the entire ALRP family - staff, volunteers and supporters - to sustain ALRP's work and ensure that we can continue to serve clients effectively in all civil legal matters.

This spring, we'll be will be launching the **ALRP *Heart of the Matter* Campaign**, an initiative aimed at keeping ALRP's free legal services available to anyone who needs them. As a valued member of the ALRP family, we invite you to join us.

From the heart,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Hirsh".

Bill Hirsh, Esq.
Executive Director

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