ALRP’s From the Heart 34th Annual Reception & Auction raised more than $180,000 to support ALRP’s free and low cost legal services and programs for people living with HIV/AIDS. The Annual Reception, ALRP’s biggest fundraising event of the year, was held on Wednesday, October 18th in the Julia Morgan Ballroom at the Merchants Exchange Building in San Francisco. The event was attended by over 400 guests.

During the evening, ALRP recognized its 34 years of achievement and honored those who have made a lasting difference in the lives of people with HIV/AIDS. San Francisco Supervisor Jeff Sheehy presented the ALRP 2017 Clint Hockenberry Leadership Award to John W. Rosenzweig, Esq., the ALRP 2017 Attorney of the Year Award to Sharon M. Dulberg, Esq., and the ALRP 2017 Firm of the Year Award to Jones Day.
The Annual Reception’s title, “From the Heart,” is a tribute to the dedication of ALRP Board members, staff, and volunteer Panel Attorneys who contribute their time and energy on behalf of people living with HIV/AIDS. The reception featured gourmet catered hors d’oeuvres, excellent wines donated by Viszlay Vineyards, and a silent & live auction conducted by Bizzarros Gala and Event Auctions.

Special thanks go out to our event partners: Bizzarros Gala & Event Auctions, Rink Foto, Skona Advertising, Springer Ayeni, and Viszlay Vineyards – and to our reception ticket purchasers, donors, auction item donors and winners, and volunteers.

As we approach Thanksgiving and welcome the rains that will finally extinguish the fires in the North Bay, everyone in the Bay Area is reminded of what is important and cherished. We remain eternally grateful to the heroic first responders who ran toward the fires rather than away. I may surprise you by sharing my thanks to our current President, for reminding us all of the critical role that attorneys play in protecting the rights of the most vulnerable among us. I am sure that many of you were cheering on the attorneys who showed up at airports around the country to challenge the travel ban. And we were heartened by our colleagues in the San Francisco City Attorney’s office who challenged, so far successfully, the administration’s policies around sanctuary cities.

Like many of you, I wrote a check to the ACLU immediately after the election. And while I did not curl up into a ball and sob uncontrollably (though I wanted to) I did eat as much ice cream as I could. But then I got back to work, more determined than ever to sustain and bolster an organization, 34 years strong, that addresses the legal needs of people with HIV. Every day we ensure that our clients have access to health care and safe affordable housing; and that immigrants with HIV have a fighting chance to remain in a country that can protect them from persecution based on their HIV status, sexual orientation or gender identity. We know that funding for legal services will be decimated by federal funding cuts. If we find doors closed at the federal level, then we will look to our state and local leaders and the generosity of our private donors to support the work we do.
This past year has been filled with distress, disbelief, and despair. But it has also been inspiring to see what a handful of attorneys have been able to do in challenging presidential orders on everything from immigration and the environment to voting and transgender rights. I could not be prouder of the collective impact of ALRP’s over 700 Panel attorneys, who donate over $1 million in legal services each year for our clients. And I know that the work of ALRP’s attorneys makes a difference in the lives of people living with HIV, whether it is by saving someone’s home of 20 years or securing political asylum.

If you want inspiration to continue this fight, I encourage you to think about the work of the wonderful attorneys on our Panel and on our staff. Attorneys are finally beginning to get a better reputation, and as our Panel and staff attorneys demonstrate, it is well deserved. I’m sure that many of you have heard me say over the years, that sometimes what you need most is a good attorney. This has never been truer than it is today. I am proud to say that at ALRP, our clients are going to find that good attorney, and more; they will find a champion. And ALRP will continue to be the legal community’s forum for a compassionate response to the AIDS epidemic here in San Francisco, as well as a beacon against the darkness facing the rest of the country.

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2017 annual reception award honorees

2017 Clint Hockenberry Leadership Award

John Rosenzweig, Esq.

The Clint Hockenberry Award distinguishes an individual for their long-term dedication to serving those living with HIV, and is given in memory of ALRP’s first Executive Director, Clint Hockenberry, who died of AIDS in 1992.

John Rosenzweig has been serving ALRP’s clients since practically the start of the organization, and knew the namesake of this eponymous award. John recalls meeting Clint when attending an AIDS/Law conference at Golden Gate University School of Law nearly 30 years ago! Since then, John has assisted several dozen ALRP clients with wills, powers of attorney, advance healthcare directives, and related documents. He also works with clients to resolve their insurance and benefits issues; he gained a passion for this work after having to fight for his own benefits. Knowing how powerful legal skills could be in these fights, John wanted to share those skills with others. ALRP was honored to award John the 2017 Client Hockenberry Leadership Award for his generous spirit and integrity.
2017 Attorney of the Year
Sharon Dulberg, Esq.

ALRP honored Sharon Dulberg with its 2017 Attorney of the Year Award. Sharon has 22 years of experience as an immigration attorney, and her involvement with ALRP spans over a decade. Reading any headline written since January 20th makes it painfully obvious that immigrants need our support and defense now more than ever, especially those who, like many of us, do not have the acumen to represent themselves in immigration court. Just this past year, Sharon has accepted 20 ALRP referrals. And in the last decade, she has taken over 150 cases! Because immigration law is such a specialized field, and the law itself is so volatile, it is invaluable to ALRP to be able to send our clients to someone as reliable as Sharon.

2017 Firm of the Year
Jones Day

ALRP presented Jones Day with its 2017 Firm of the Year Award. Jones Day’s pro bono practice has brought impactful change to many lives, including ALRP housing clients facing eviction. With the help of Jones Day attorneys Brian McDonald and Peter Julian, ALRP clients have access to litigation support in the form of extensive discovery, legal research, drafting and arguing motions, and appellate advocacy. Leveraging the resources of a big firm like Jones Day can help to tip the scales of justice for ALRP clients, who rely on stable affordable housing to preserve their health.
recent events

Folsom Street Events
Sunshine, leather, volunteers, and fair-goers from all around the world came out in waves to the Folsom Street Fair on Sunday, September 24, 2017 and the Up Your Alley Street Fair on Sunday, July 30, 2017. As a beneficiary of Folsom Street Events, ALRP supported these amazing community events by organizing 60+ volunteers to help out! Proceeds from these events go towards a number of San Francisco charities and non-profits, including ALRP. THANK YOU to everyone who donated their time and muscles to support ALRP so that we can continue to provide much needed legal support to the HIV/AIDS community.

AIDS Walk
The ALRP Legal Eagles team raised over $27,000 at the 2017 San Francisco AIDS Walk on Sunday, July 16, 2017. A BIG thank you to our team supporters for helping the AIDS Walk raise more than $1.5 million to support ALRP and dozens of other HIV/AIDS service agencies. The ALRP Legal Eagles team finished in the Top 10 again this year (#7). Special thanks go out to team co-captain Joe Gorman, to our 39 Legal Eagles team members, and to our 12 Star Walkers!
Recent Events (cont’d.)

Major Donor Party
This year, ALRP honored David J. Tsai, Esq. and Folsom Street Events at the 2017 Major Donor Party on Wednesday, May 3rd, 2017 at the Plant Café on the Embarcadero. The extraordinary David J. Tsai, Esq. received the 2017 James C. Hormel Philanthropist Award for his tireless dedication to ALRP and the community of people living with HIV/AIDS. Folsom Street Events, represented by Edwin Morales, Jennifer Schuster, Patrick Finger, Vicente Montoya, and Paul Hendry, received the 2017 Community Partner Award for working hand in hand with ALRP to support community services. During the party, ALRP also launched its Heartbeat Campaign aimed at raising $100k from individual donors to support ALRP programs.

Volunteer Appreciation Party
ALRP celebrated its dedicated volunteers at the 17th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Party. The event was held on April 19, 2017 at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP. Guests enjoyed wine, food (including delicious mini cupcakes), live music, and an unbeatable view. We formally recognized our volunteers who in 2016 joined the ALRP Panel, accepted 5+ referrals, presented an MCLE training, volunteered in our office or at two or more events, supported ALRP’s Pro Bono Connections Initiative, and served on ALRP’s Panel for 10+ years. Incredibly dedicated ALRP volunteer Ray Dolan was honored with the 2017 Volunteer of the Year Award.

Right: ALRP Volunteer Coordinator Hannah Center and Ray Dolan
Academy of Friends
ALRP guests and volunteers attended the 37th Annual Academy of Friends SHANGHAI NIGHTS Oscar Gala held on Sunday, February 28, 2017 at the Midway Creative Complex in San Francisco. The AOF Gala benefited ALRP and five other HIV/AIDS services agencies.

upcoming events
HELP IS ON THE WAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS XVI
REAF HOLIDAY GALA & CONCERT
Monday, December 4, 2017
6:00pm - 10:00pm
Marines’ Memorial Theatre

Join us at this elegant evening of fun, featuring a silent auction, gala reception, musical performances, and an after party with the show’s cast.

Special guests include cast members from the Broadway touring cast of Disney’s ALADDIN, American Idol recording star Kimberley Locke, America’s Got Talent finalist and cabaret star Shawn Ryan, Jazz star Kim Nalley, and many more.

100% of ticket proceeds go directly to supporting ALRP’s free legal services. PLEASE MENTION ALRP when ordering tickets by phone or online (reaf-sf.org).

For more information, please e-mail Jim McBride at jim@alrp.org.
upcoming events (cont’d.)

ACADEMY OF FRIENDS OSCAR GALA
Sunday, March 4, 2018
5:00pm - 11:00pm
The Midway

Save the date to join ALRP on Sunday, March 4, 2018 at The Midway (900 Marin Street) for the Academy of Friends 38th Annual Academy Awards Night Gala. Ticket sales benefit HIV/AIDS services in the San Francisco Bay Area - including ALRP!

Want to volunteer at this event? Please contact Hannah Center at hannah@alrp.org or 415-701-1200 x303

the heartbeat campaign

Please support the ALRP Heartbeat Campaign!

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is well into its fourth decade, and more people are living with HIV than ever before. With no cure for HIV/AIDS in sight, and a new administration in Washington, D.C., people living with HIV/AIDS are facing great challenges and uncertainty. For them, everything can change in a heartbeat.

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 as well as disruptions to their access to housing and health care. ALRP programs such as our AIDS Housing Advocacy Project (AHAP), HIV/AIDS Insurance Protection Project (HIPP), and Immigrant HIV Assistance Project (IHAP) provide advocacy for those who need it most.

The 2017 ALRP Heartbeat Campaign has a goal of raising $100,000 this year. Your Campaign gift can ensure that ALRP continues to be there for all who come to our doors seeking legal support.

Everything CAN change in a heartbeat.

PLEASE DONATE NOW
ALRP was lucky to once again have the assistance of a talented team of law students this past summer. Our clerks worked conducting intakes, meeting with clients, drafting documents, and making referrals to Panel attorneys. We miss them dearly, but we hope that their experience working at ALRP inspired them to explore a future career in public interest law.

In Summer 2017 we were joined by:
- Hayden Rodarte - Yale Law School ’19
- Taylor Horn - UC Berkeley School of Law ’19
- Alana Murphy - UC Davis School of Law ’19
- Sammy Rosario - USF School of Law ’19
- Maureen Stutzman - UC Berkeley School of Law ’19
- Sean Downey - Arizona State School of Law ’19

ALRP has been proud to add 3L law student Emily Heinzen (GGU ’18) to our team for the past few semesters. ALRP was honored to receive a grant from the Bob A. Ross Foundation to support our Law Clerk Fellowship Program. Our talented law clerks provide essential support to the ALRP Client Services staff by serving as a point of contact for ALRP clients. Thank you for all your hard work, Emily!