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HER JUSTICE RAISES OVER \$3.3 MILLION TO BUILD SAFER, STRONGER FUTURES FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES IN NEW YORK CITY

Her Justice Honors Ira S. Dizengoff, Esq. of Akin & Jennifer O'Neil of BlackRock at its 2024 Annual Photography Auction + Benefit

May 13, 2024, New York City – Her Justice, a nonprofit providing free legal services to women living in poverty in New York City and advocating for system changes that make the civil justice system more fair and functional, convened industry leaders from across the city to honor Ira S. Dizengoff, Esq. of Akin and Jennifer O'Neil of BlackRock at its Annual Photography Auction + Benefit on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at Pier Sixty at Chelsea Piers.

For the fourth year in a row, the event broke organization records. Our historic \$3.35 million raised included contributions from Diamond Sponsors: Akin; BlackRock; Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP; Paul, Weiss, Rifkin, Wharton & Garrison LLP; and PJT Partners Inc., along with donations from Platinum Sponsors: AlixPartners; Alvarez & Marsal; Evercore; Houlihan Lokey; Kirkland & Ellis LLP; Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; and White & Case, as well as over 120 additional sponsors and over 250 individual donors.

"To everyone here and all supporters – your contributions have a face. A first and last name. Often a family. And always a meaningful impact," said **Jennifer O'Neil, Managing Director, Global Head of Corporate Strategy at BlackRock**. "Your contributions are changing the course of lives, families, and communities for the better."

"The restructuring community is incredibly generous, and we have recognized the critical role that Her Justice plays for at-risk women. It's a life-changing organization," said **Ira S. Dizengoff, Esq., Partner at Akin**. "With the privileges we have as accomplished lawyers, advisers, and practitioners, we have an obligation to work to lessen the suffering of others. And we have unequivocally done that through our support of Her Justice."

Our community of supporters also celebrated Executive Director Amy Barasch, who, after a decade of service, will transition out of her role this summer. The Board of Directors and Senior Leadership Council made a surprise \$75,000 gift to the event in Amy's honor.

"Ten years ago, Amy stepped in as Executive Director, bringing years of experience as an advocate for survivors of domestic violence, a deep understanding of how our legal systems and government agencies are failing those who need them most, and an optimism about the power of pro bono," said **Kelley Cornish, Chair of the Her Justice Board of Directors**. "What Amy has brought into focus for me and so many others is the need to fix the systems in our city. Under Amy's leadership, Her Justice has formalized its commitment to systems change by developing a robust policy agenda that aims to create a justice system that works for everyone, regardless of race, gender, or economic status. This combination of legal representation and policy work makes Her Justice a powerful force for good in our community."

"It's been my honor to serve as Executive Director of Her Justice for almost ten years. I have spent a big chapter of my life in your company. Looking back, I realize that many of our clients have been working with Her Justice for much longer than I have," said **Amy Barasch, Executive Director of Her Justice**. "Her Justice is ready to stand with them as long as it takes, under any leadership, working to change our systems to make women, families, and communities stronger."

The Her Justice Photography Auction collection can be [viewed here](#).

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About Her Justice

[Her Justice](#) is a nonprofit organization that takes a 'pro bono first' approach to providing legal services to women living in poverty in all five boroughs of New York City. In FY2023, 13 Her Justice lawyers mentored 1,641 volunteer attorneys serving 4,131 women and children for a total of 51,920 hours donated, representing more than \$43.5 million in value. The organization also took 43 policy actions to change our civil justice system for the better.