





# New Beginnings: A Note From Our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Three weeks into my time as Executive Director, and as Her Justice gears up for an exciting fall, I am eager to begin to get to know each other. If you're reading this, you're part of making Her Justice what we are. The work this community does to help women and families living in poverty in New York City—the majority of whom are escaping intimate partner violence—to build new beginnings through our civil justice system is remarkable.

I felt called to join Her Justice because I believe deeply in both its mission and its model, which was designed with BigLaw pro bono as its animating core. Most non-profit legal services organizations do the bulk of the work with staff attorneys and supplement with firm support—but Her Justice deploys firm attorneys on every case, leveraging their talents and resources to serve vastly more clients than would otherwise be possible. Last

year 13 Her Justice attorneys mentored 1,641 volunteer attorneys who represented 4,131 women and children. They donated approximately 52,000 hours of service. That represents more than \$43 MILLION invested into our civil justice system, for the New Yorkers who need it most.

I have been so privileged to witness time and again the transformative power of pro bono representation to fundamentally shift not just our clients' life trajectories, but also our own. For volunteer attorneys, this work is a pathway to greater commitment to our communities and to empathy and understanding for radically different life experiences. My former colleagues at Paul, Weiss and the countless attorneys at other firms I've appeared alongside and against are excellent lawyers, and I am eager to grow an organization that brings their tremendous talents to some of our most marginalized neighbors.

So I knew I would be inspired by the work and the clients. **But nothing could have prepared me for just how extraordinary the Her Justice staff are.** The 41 people who also felt called to this organization do difficult, complicated work every single day, and they do it with compassion, brilliance, tenacity, and a profound sense of humanity—our clients', their own, and ours collectively—while confronting unjust and dehumanizing systems. While there is an undeniable heaviness to what the team does, there is also deep joy. They are kind and they are *fun*.

Three weeks into the job, I am feeling so honored and grateful to be working alongside these lovely people and *you*—the broader Her Justice community of partners and supporters—to drive towards a civil justice system that better serves all New Yorkers.

With gratitude,

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Alexia Korberg
Executive Director

## A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Board Members and Junior Advisory Board Members

Her Justice is thrilled to grow our community of advocates by welcoming four new Board Members and four new Junior Advisory Board Members!

We are honored to be partners in this work.

# **Welcome to the Her Justice Board!**



"I am delighted to join the Her Justice Board of Directors. Helping women living in poverty navigate our complex legal system on matters most critical to their quality of life — like custody, divorce, and immigration — is a powerful part of empowering and lifting up women in New York City. I look forward to supporting the organization, the team, and the mission as Her Justice works to transform lives and systems in our city."



"I am absolutely thrilled to join the Her Justice Board. Her Justice has a clear and critical mission — to provide much-needed legal services to New York City women and their families — and delivers on that mission with its highly-effective model of partnering its in-house legal team with pro bono talent from the city's top law firms. I look forward to working with the tremendous group of professionals on the Board and the rest of Her Justice's brilliant, dedicated team."



"I am delighted to join the Board of Directors of Her Justice. The organization's mission of helping women and their children overcome legal barriers in cases of domestic abuse, immigration, and other areas is essential to creating a civil justice system that women can count on to deliver fair outcomes. I have always been drawn to Her Justice's work and look forward to the opportunity to do my part to support the organization and the communities it serves."



"I am honored to join the Her Justice Board of Directors and to continue my commitment to advancing the rights and access to justice for women living in poverty in New York City. Having worked with Her Justice since the start of my legal career, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of the organization and the critical legal services it provides in our community. I am very excited to support Her Justice and its important work in this new role on the Board."

## Welcome to the Her Justice Junior Advisory Board!



Laura Baer FTI Consulting, Inc.



Sarah Hague Pair Eyewear



American Museum of **Natural History** 



S. Yasir Latifi, Esq. Sara Providence SeatGeek

### Another Successful Season of Our Summer Associate Program

Her Justice is doing fantastic work. After graduation, when I return full-time, I hope to always have a Her Justice pro bono matter running concurrently with other work. It's clear how deeply Her Justice cares about clients. The organization's impact is profound and tangible.

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Summer Associate | Crayath, Swaine & Moore LLP

#### 70 Cases Placed Through Her Justice's Summer Associate Program

It's been a busy summer! We're thrilled to report that a total of 70 cases were placed with attorneys and summer associates from 21 law firms, bringing the power of the private bar to our clients' sides. Our program provides summers from our Corporate Partner firms with practical experience in litigated and non-litigated matters. It's a way for summers to experience their firm's commitment to public service firsthand, and it's an opportunity to advocate alongside women in our community. **LEARN MORE** >

Many thanks to our participating Corporate Partner firms! Akin; BakerHostetler; Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP; Covington & Burling LLP; Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP; Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP; Dentons; Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP; Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP; Jones Day; King & Spalding; Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP; Milbank LLP; Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP; Seward & Kissel LLP; Sidley Austin LLP; Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP; Sullivan & Cromwell LLP; White & Case LLP; Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP.

# **Her Justice in the Community**

#### Her Justice Gives Plenary at Premier Civil Legal Services Conference

Rachel Braunstein (Director, Policy) and Susanna Saul (Director, Immigration Practice) opened the New York State Bar Association's Partnership Conference with an impactful plenary address. Drawing from Her Justice's original policy report *Stories from Immigrant Survivors of Gender-Based Violence: The Impact of Work Authorization,* the address focused on how civil service providers can leverage their unique position of holding both legal expertise and lived experiences of clients to advocate for reforms. The program explored considerations for collecting and analyzing data and highlighted Her Justice's own advocacy strategy. **READ THE REPORT HERE** >

# Her Justice Urges State Agencies to Consider Court Data Collection and Consumer Debt Policy Solutions

Her Justice presented to the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV), the

Office of Victims Services (OVS), the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), and the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) as part of their Gender-Based Violence Policy Listening Sessions. Rachel Braunstein (Director, Policy) advocated for improved transparency of Family Court data to support effective policy solutions and urged agencies to support a bill (S.2278-A/A.1309-B) that would provide relief from coerced debt to survivors of domestic violence, elder abuse, human trafficking, and abuse by caretakers.



#### Celebrating Three Decades of Protection for Survivors and Women

Her Justice gathered with over a hundred leaders and advocates to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act in Washington, DC in September! VAWA is core to Her Justice's client work, especially our work with immigrant survivors of gender-based violence. The act's endurance since 1994 represents decades of protection for survivors of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, stalking, and more. When it passed, the bill was a watershed in the legal landscape, marking the first

comprehensive federal legislative package designed to end violence against women.

#### Introducing Undergraduates to Career Possibilities in Legal Services

In early September, Her Justice hosted 25 pre-law undergraduates from the University of Chicago in our office. As part of their Career Exploration Week, students learned about Her Justice's work and discussed careers in the legal nonprofit space.

# **Shifting The Power Through Partnerships**

#### Our generous funding partners make the work we do possible!

Thank you to **The Leonard & Robert Weintraub Family Foundation** for its continued support of Her Justice's **Trafficking Survivors Resiliency Project**, which provides survivors with a clear pathway to transformative legal services that ensure safety, financial stability, and freedom.

Thank you also to our government donors — including New York City Council; Speaker Adrienne E. Adams; Councilmembers Amanda Farías, Gale A. Brewer, Joseph C. Borelli, and Alexa Avilés; and New York State Senator Liz Krueger — for their generous support of our work! Your invaluable partnership drives Her Justice's work forward.

# We're Hiring!

#### Senior Development Manager

Are you a skilled relationship-builder, a compelling communicator, and an experienced fundraising strategist? In this role, you'll play a crucial role in raising funds for Her Justice from individuals, corporations, and foundations, with a focus on cultivating and stewarding relationships with individual donors. **APPLY HERE** >

#### Finance Manager

Reporting to the Head of Finance and Operations, the Finance Manager is responsible for the day-to-day oversight of finances to ensure financial sustainability, efficiency, and alignment with Her Justice's mission and strategic objectives. **APPLY HERE >** 

#### Senior Staff Attorney

The Eugene M. Lang Foundation Incarcerated Women's Project supports incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women by providing them with free civil legal services in the areas of family and matrimonial law. For incarcerated individuals, access to the civil court system is significantly limited, yet civil legal issues have a dramatic impact on their lives as they prepare for reentry. This role will provide legal information and direct services to clients, as well as enhance Her Justice's partnerships with community-based organizations to ensure we continue to provide holistic and culturally competent services. APPLY HERE >

You can always visit our website for more information on Her Justice's open positions.



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