

P.03 Casey's Story It only takes one major illness... one job loss... one tragedy for many of us to find ourselves in a desperate situation and in need of a helping hand. Many of our clients come to us at the worst time in their lives, hoping to find a reprieve. P.07 Sold Out Again! Almost 500 businesses and individuals supported Legal Services of the Hudson Valley's 2018 Equal Access to Justice Dinner

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A Message from our CEO

You might be surprised to learn that across the Hudson Valley, 1 in 4 people live at/or below 200% of the poverty line – a scant \$50,200 for a family of four. Many of these children and families are one tragedy away from being homeless. Indeed, an estimated 2.3 million evictions were filed in the U.S. in 2016. Sociologist Matthew Desmond is quoted as saying, that "Eviction isn't just a condition of poverty; it's a cause of poverty... [it] is a direct cause of homelessness, but it also is a cause of residential instability, school instability [and] community instability."

According to two recent studies, 98% of tenants in eviction cases in New York State were unrepresented by an attorney, and more than 60% of them had valid legal reasons to fight their eviction. But because they couldn't afford an attorney, most lost their homes.

Without stable housing, families can't work to support themselves, children fall behind in school, and communities incur high costs in the form of providing shelter and increased social services. All of this combines to put demands on taxpayers and their local governments to undo the cycle of poverty.

Simply put, we are in the middle of a housing crisis, that unchecked will lead to a massive homelessness problem in this country, in this state, and in the communities where we live and work. That's one of the reasons why almost 45% of the 15,000 cases we handled last year focused on preventing evictions, foreclosures and homelessness.

But that's not all we do as the only provider of free, comprehensive civil legal services to those living in the Hudson Valley that cannot afford an attorney when their basic human needs are at stake. We work across a wide variety of urgent civil practice areas including domestic violence, elder law, disability and veteran's benefits, and healthcare, just to name a few. And our work across the seven counties we serve—Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Dutchess, Orange, Ulster, and Sullivan—impacted more than 34,000 household members in 2017.

70% of our clients were women and 40% of those impacted were children.

So, as you read this Annual Report to the Community, we encourage you to get more involved. Whether you make a contribution, volunteer as a Pro Bono attorney, help us raise money at a future event, share our content on social media, or simply tell a friend or two about the important work that we're doing, you will be helping us to make a difference right here in the communities where we live and work.

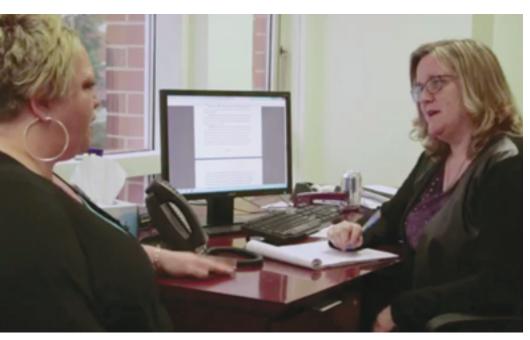
Because, it's only together that we can ensure *Equal Access to Justice for all* regardless of ability to pay.

Sincerely,

Barbara Finkelstein, Esq. Chief Executive Officer

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New Programs for Survivors of Domestic Violence



Staff Attorney Elizabeth Corwin meets with a former Domestic Violence Unit client named Amy. Watch Amy's inspiring story here: https://youtu.be/KiFUkDZP6u4

Peekskill Remote Temporary Order of Protection Pilot Project

LSHV was selected by the New York State Office of Court Administration to participate in a pilot project that enables victims of domestic violence to remotely obtain a temporary order of protection using Skype or some other similar technology. Through this project, victims of domestic violence will be able to come to LSHV's Peekskill Office, meet with an attorney who will draft and electronically file a petition, and then Skype with the Court to conduct the ex parte hearing. This Project will assist victims who cannot travel to Family Court in White Plains (which takes over two hours on public transportation from Peekskill), may be afraid to go to court, and/or do not have childcare or money to be able to leave their kids for several hours to file an order of protection in person in White Plains Family Court.

Rockland County Family Court

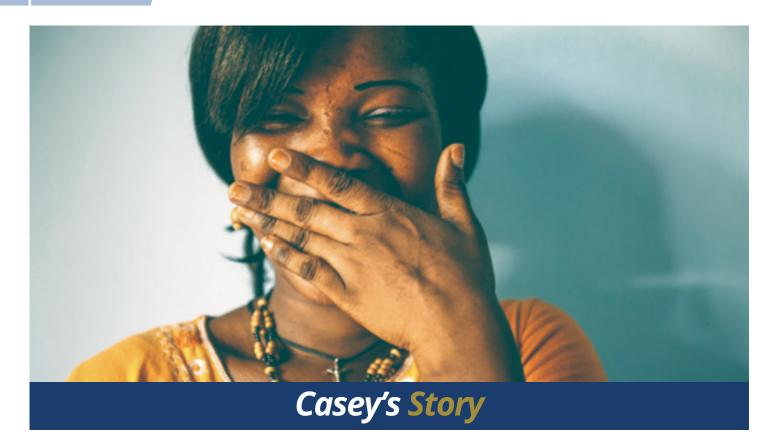
LSHV received \$75,000 from Senator David Carlucci to provide domestic violence legal services to victims in Rockland County. As such, LSHV has a dedicated attorney handling these cases. In 2017, LSHV attorneys handled 559 cases for residents of Rockland County, impacting approximately 1,218 household members. 28% of those cases were related to domestic violence and family law.

Domestic violence jeopardizes the physical, emotional, and economic wellbeing of individuals and families.

That is why LSHV is committed to providing a strong legal service support system, which offers relief and hope to survivors.

Research shows that 25 percent of women and 15 percent of men report at least one life episode of domestic violence and that among same-sex couples, domestic violence occurs at the same rate as among straight couples. Studies have also shown that one of the key components in reducing domestic violence is ensuring that victims have access to legal services.

Last year we helped protect 1,683 survivors of intimate partner violence and we hope to continue that important work as a result of several new initiatives.



It only takes one major illness... one job loss... one tragedy for many of us to find ourselves in a desperate situation and in need of a helping hand. Many of our clients come to us at the worst time in their lives, hoping to find a reprieve.

As a young woman, Casey* was trapped in an abusive marriage. Although her ex-husband, Anthony*, exhibited signs of controlling behavior in the beginning of their relationship, Casey ultimately agreed to marry him at the encouragement of her pastor, fellow ministry members, and family. The relationship became abusive almost immediately after the wedding. Anthony subjected her to rape, physical violence, financial control, extreme gaslighting, and verbal abuse. Throughout the early years of their marriage, the couple separated frequently. When Casey finally found the courage to leave Anthony, she did so without any money as he had control over their finances.

Casey moved around the country for nearly a year before she was able to secure a job in the Hudson Valley. Her plan was to save up enough money to pursue a divorce. But two years after she started her new life, Anthony found her and showed up at her place of work. He began stalking Casey everywhere – at her home, her work, and through text messages and emails – and he told her that he was staying in a hotel nearby. Shortly after, Casey found out that he had moved to New York.

Even though Casey was able to secure a divorce, Anthony continued to stalk her. Throughout the next few years, he moved five minutes away from her, drove down her block frequently, and finally left a large package for her, containing photographs and other items. Casey was not only shocked at the number of times that Anthony had tracked her down, but she was also terrified that he would not stop.

That's when Casey sought assistance from Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. First, LSHV helped Casey secure an order of protection against Anthony. An LSHV attorney worked with various police departments to ensure that he was served with notice of her family offense petition and the temporary order of protection. The attorney also appeared with Casey in family court, where, faced with the severity of the allegations against him, Anthony consented to a two-year full stay away order of protection.

Today, Casey is working and supporting herself, living in safety and free from fear.

* Name has been changed

2017 By the Numbers

approximately

547,892

Hudson Valley residents eligible for our assistance





135

staff members including

including

80 attorneys

and

27 paralegals

in **9** offices across the Hudson Valley

34,031

individuals impacted in all households served

including

\$\$13,899

seniors

13,280 children 11,871

clients served, including

8,101

women

1,848

domestic violence survivors

5,387

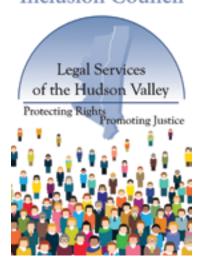
persons with disabilities

Diversity At LSHV

In 2014, LSHV joined with legal services providers throughout New York State in drafting and adopting the Leadership and Diversity Principles and Goals, which reflect our mission to serve our diverse client community and our aim of supporting our diverse staff.

Since that time, we have further focused our efforts to formulate a strategic plan for diversity and inclusion (D & I) at LSHV. We have developed initiatives focused on staff participation — including an Inclusion Council (comprised of 21 staff members from various positions and disciplines) — and we are providing ongoing education to our staff and Board of Directors throughout this process. This education has helped us increase our awareness of how our perspectives and personal lenses shape our interactions among ourselves and with our clients, and helped us better understand how our diversity of experiences and skills makes us more effective as an Agency. Inclusion Council Members organize events and projects for employees and communities, coordinate and evaluate D & I education, develop D & I resources, and review and develop D & I-related communications. The Inclusion Council consists of a Communications Committee, Mentoring Committee, Education Committee, and Membership Committee.

Inclusion Council



LSHV D & I Mission Statement

LSHV is actively inclusive in its recruitment, hiring, development and engagement of all staff and providing services to our clients and communities.





Mentor Pilot Program

One of the Inclusion Council's first projects was the development of a formal mentoring pilot program for staff. Mentors and Proteges were matched based on the Protege's career interests, and the pairs met over a period of several months to discuss professional development.

Since the program's inception in September of 2017, Mentoring pairs met weekly in person or by telephone. They established goals and desired outcomes for their mentoring cycle. Mentoring committee members provided checkins and offered support to the pairs.

The pilot program culminated in a Graduation Ceremony on May 15th. The graduate pairs of our inaugural program are:

Tom Gabriel & Ruth Taranto Joanne Sirotkin & Maya Sparks Rebecca Bergman & Zuri Regisford Shara Abraham & Sean O'Fallon Nikki Feit & Tim Pavelka Mary Grace Ferone & Jake Geffner

LSHV D & I Goals

- Leverage our diverse backgrounds to enhance innovation and problem solving
- Attract and retain diverse talent at all levels of organization
- Increase engagement, motivation and productivity
- Enhance LSHV's reputation by supporting its mission

Photos: Members of the Inclusion Council.

Mentor program participants: (L-R) Front: Sean O'Fallon, Tim Pavelka, Ruth Taranto, Jake Geffner, Zuri Regisford. Back: Joanne Sirotkin, Shara Abraham, Nikki Feit, Tom Gabriel, Mary Grace Ferone, Rebecca Bergman.

Awards, Grants, News & Notes!



The United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region recognized LSHV as a Nonprofit Community Partner at their 80th Anniversary Community Breakfast on September 14, 2017. Pictured (L-R): United Way's President Jeannie Montano and LSHV's Rachel Simons, Attorney in Charge, Newburgh Office.



LSHV Supervising Attorney Christopher Oldi was named LOFT Ally on September 24, 2017 by The LOFT LGBT Community Center for "dedicating time and effort to helping others rise above adversity and spread messages of diversity and equality while providing invaluable services to members of the LGBT community." Pictured (L-R): Melinda Bellus, Attorney in Charge, Yonkers Office; Christopher Oldi; Neelu Pathiyil, Staff Attorney.



Loretta Spence, Director of Development for the Mid-Hudson Valley, was selected as the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Mid-Hudson Valley Chapter's 2017 Outstanding Fundraising Professional during National Philanthropy Day on November 29th. Pictured (L-R): Loretta Spence and Tom Gabriel, Chief Development Officer



in Charge of the Poughkeepsie Office, was named a 2017 ATHENA International Honoree by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce on November 30th. Pictured (L-R) Justin Haines, Supervising Attorney; Nancy Koch, Staff Attorney; Rachel Saunders; Loretta Spence, Director of Development for the Mid-Hudson Valley.



Barbara Finkelstein, LSHV's CEO was recently recognized for her commitment to and investment in diversity by the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA), who honored her with its 2018 Trailblazer Award in January.



Rachel Simons, Attorney in Charge of our Newburgh Office, received the 2018 Human Rights Award from the Orange County Human Rights Commission on April 18th. Pictured (L-R) Nolly Climes, Human Rights Commissioner; Rachel Simons; Inaudy Esposito, Executive Director Orange County Human Rights; Fred Cook, Human Rights Commission Chair.

Sold Out Again! 2018 Equal Access to Justice Dinner Breaks Records, Raises Almost Half a Million Dollars to Prevent Homelessness for Children and Families

Almost 500 businesses and individuals supported Legal Services of the Hudson Valley's 2018 Equal Access to Justice Dinner on April 10th at the Ritz-Carlton, Westchester in White Plains.













Top left: (L-R) LSHV's Chief Executive Officer Barbara Finkelstein; Vincere Japal of FujiFilm; Event Co-Chair Vanessa Kaye Watson from Mastercard International Incorporated Top right: (L-R) Westchester County Executive George Latimer; Barbara Finkelstein; NYS Assemblywoman Amy Paulin
Bottom left: (L-R) Honoree William Harrington from Bleakley Platt & Schmidt, LLP with Philip Halpern from Collier Halpern & Newberg, LLP
Bottom 2nd from left: (L-R) Event Co-Chair Marc Greenwald from Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP with William Glew representing honoree Entergy Corporation
Bottom 2nd from right: (L-R) Event-Chair Jonathan Harris from MBIA Inc.; Mitchelle Cohen and Alejandro Cruz on behalf of honoree Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP
Bottom right: UPS representatives (Left) Jason Robinson and (Right) Timothy Banoff with (Center) LSHV's Chief Development Officer Tom Gabriel

Almost 500 businesses and individuals supported Legal Services of the Hudson Valley's 2018 Equal Access to Justice **Dinner** on April 10th at the Ritz-Carlton, Westchester in White Plains. The soldout event - which honored William P. Harrington, Partner and Chairman of the Executive Committee, at Bleakley Platt & Schmidt, LLP; the law firm Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP; and the Entergy Corporation - raised just under \$500,000 for the nonprofit organization that provides free, comprehensive, civil legal services to those who cannot afford to pay an attorney when their basic human needs are at stake.

The 2018 Equal Access to Justice Dinner was co-chaired by Marc L. Greenwald, Partner at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP; Jonathan C. Harris, General Counsel and Secretary, MBIA Inc.; and Vanessa Kaye Watson, Vice President,

Senior Managing Counsel, Mastercard International Incorporated. More than 65 prominent individuals supported the cochairs by joining the event committee.

LSHV's CEO Barbara Finkelstein welcomed guests to the event and explained the importance of LSHV's work to prevent homelessness, saying, "Without stable housing, families can't work to support themselves, children fall behind in school, and communities incur high costs in the form of providing shelter and increased social services. All of this combines to put demands on taxpayers and their local governments to undo the cycle of poverty. Whether you make a contribution, volunteer as a Pro Bono attorney, help us raise money at a future event, or simply tell a friend or two about the important work that we're doing, you will be helping us make a difference right here in the communities we live and work in."

While hundreds of individuals and businesses made generous contributions in support of the event, major sponsors included: **Diamond Sponsors** - Bleakley Platt & Schmidt, LLP; Boies Schiller Flexner LLP; Mastercard International Incorporated; Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP; Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP; Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; **Platinum Sponsors** - Entergy Corporation; PepsiCo; Yankwitt LLP; and **Gold Sponsors** - Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP; Collier Halpern & Newberg, LLP; The George Link Jr. Charitable Trust; MBIA Inc.; and RoeCo.

All of the proceeds from the **2018 Equal Access to Justice Dinner** benefited the organization's efforts to "Provide Legal Services to Children and Families throughout the Hudson Valley" so that vulnerable households have a roof over their head.

LSHV Adds Six to its Board of Directors to Increase its Impact!

Alfred E. Donnellan, Legal Services of the Hudson Valley's (LSHV) Board President and Managing Partner at DelBello Donnellan Weingarten Wise & Wiederker LLP, announced the addition of six new members to the organization's Board of Directors for 2018.



Christopher R. Cabanillas is the founder and principal of Cabanillas & Associates, P.C., a multi-service law firm with offices in White Plains, Queens, Brooklyn, Bronx, Long Island, Union City (NJ), North Brunswick (NJ), and Bridgeport (CT). Cabanillas currently concentrates his practice in real estate, foreclosure defense litigation and mortgage loan modifications.



Jeremiah Frei-Pearson is a founding partner of Finkelstein, Blankinship, Frei-Pearson & Garber in White Plains. He practices in federal and state courts throughout the country and his areas of expertise include class actions, privacy, consumer fraud, employment law, and civil rights.



Philip Halpern is a New York litigation attorney and a managing partner of Collier Halpern & Newberg LLP, located in White Plains, New York City and Stamford, CT. With extensive trial and appellate experience and a strong commitment to client advocacy, Halpern's practice focuses on commercial litigation, estates, employment litigation, real estate litigation, and securities litigation.



David Owens has held a variety of customer-facing positions in local businesses throughout his career and is now retired. He is a resident of New Windsor, NY.



Jane Rembert-Wigfall is a career educator, working for the past 16 years in the Mount Vernon City School District as a Lead Educator for multiple elementary schools in General Education and Special Needs classes.



Justin Sher is Founder and Managing Partner at Sher Tremonte LLP, located in New York City and Red Hook, NY, where he manages a group of 16 lawyers. Sher represents executives, entrepreneurs, professionals and businesses in complex commercial disputes and in white collar regulatory and criminal investigations.

Financials

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley & Affiliate Revenue & Expense

Year ending December 2017

Revenue		% of Total
Interest on Lawyer Account	1,297,734	7%
Legal Services Corporation	1,750,874	10%
City & County Funding	3,153,859	17%
NYS Grants	3,503,961	19%
NYS Office of Court Administration	5,072,871	28%
Other Federal Funding	480,723	3%
Private Funding	1,018,605	6%
Donated Services	1,772,313	10%
Interest & Other Revenue	234,346	1%
Total	18,285,286	100%
Expenses		
Program	15,255,651	85%
Core Mission Support *	2,566,769	15%
Total	17,822,420	

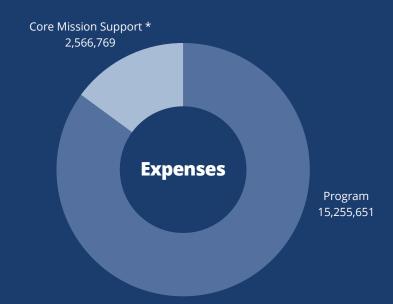
This includes a planned release of temporarily restricted net assets

Note: the revenue does include the unrealized stock gain

This statement covers both Legal Services of the Hudson Valley and its affiliate, Hudson Valley Justice Center.

For a copy of our audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017 please contact us at 914-949-1305 ext 175.

* Management, General Admin, and Fundraising



Thank You to

Our 2017 Supporters!

The list below includes supporters making private contributions in 2017. Names have been listed alphabetically in categories by cumulative giving for the year. Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy and integrity of this list, but there may be inadvertent errors. We apologize for any mistakes in recognition.

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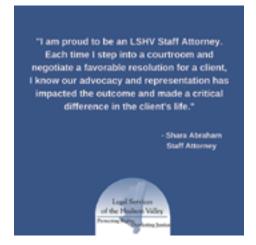
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Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County

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Binnewater Ice Co., Inc. Richard and Lori Bohm Robert Brantl and Debra Pelo

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Steven and Doreen Brockett

William Bronner and Nancy Bloomgarden

Joseph and Sue Browdy Frank and Vera Brown

Gitta Brunner Kevin Bryant

Craig Burgess and Laura Burgess

John Busch Wendy Bush Lyons Kevin Cahill

John and Walda Cameron Michael and Nancy Cardozo

Lynn Carnegie

"My attorney truly put my mind at ease with his understanding and kind approach to my case."

> - Gabriela Former Client



Ioan Carroll

Catskill Hudson Bank

The Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Craig Cepler

Law Office of William A. Cerbone, Esq.

Carole Chaimowitz Martin and Eleanor Charwat

The Chazen Companies Children's Home of Poughkeepsie

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Duncan Clark Evelyn Clarke **Nolly Climes** George Cooper Guy and Lela Cooper Loraine Cortese-Costa **Betty Cotton** Maureen Crush

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Dutchess County Department of Community

and Family Services (DCFS)

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Leonia Eadie

Josh Empson and Rachel Klauber-Speiden

Martin Engelhardt

Jill Faber

Family of Woodstock, Inc.

Family Services Sharon Faulkner Marilyn and Dave Faust Milly and Arnold Feinsilber

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Alfred Feliu and Susan Hobart

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Lisa Fisher

Jonathan and Linda Flaxer

Donald Fleishaker Lucille Fontana Reed Forbush Richard Forliano Peter Forman Lynn Formica James Frankel

Daniel D. Gagnon, CPAs PC

Claire Gallagher Susan Galvão **Drew Gamils** Barry Garfinkel

"I would like to thank Legal Services because without you, me and my children would still be homeless. "

> - Mary Former Client



John Garrity James Gilpatric Terry Gipson Peter Giuntini

William and Jean Goebelbecker

Janet Gold Sandra Goldberg Robert Goldstein

Richard and Nancy Goodman

Marsha Gordon **Grace Smith House** Shoshana Gray Ellen and Martin Greenberg

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House of Faith Ministry, Inc., D/B/A Hudson Valley

House of Hope Shari Hubner

Hudson Valley Justice Center Hudson Valley LGBTQ Center

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The Law Offices of Jonathan D. Katz

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Stephen Kennedy and Lexi Rodriguez Kennedy

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"I felt I wasn't alone fighting for an unfair cause. It feels great having someone on your side after everything I have been through mentally, emotionally and physically." - Ruth Cancer Survivor & Former Client

William and Susan Kinnally Patricia Klees and Carmine Cassella

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Frank Massaro Sheeba Mathai Laurie Matthews Jessica Mayes Joan McCarthy

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Sara and Anthony McGinty James Maria McKee

Mental Health Association of Orange County /

Rape Crisis Center

Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association Norman and Vivian Milefsky

Chizuko Mitsumoto Marcus Molinaro

Katherine Moloney and David Steinberg

Heiner Mommsen B. Ruth Montgomery F. Kennon and Mary Moody Luz Maria Moreno

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Safe Homes of Orange County

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Save the Dates!

2018 Dutchess Partners in Justice Reception

Thursday, September 20, 2018 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.

Locust Grove Estate – 2683 South Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Honoring:

Dr. Elizabeth Howe Bradley, President, and **Vassar College** as Champion of Justice

Jeffrey M. Feldman, Esq., Partner, and Feldman, Kleidman, Coffey, Sappe & Regenbaum LLP as Advocate for Justice

2018 Ulster Partners in Justice Reception

Thursday, November 15, 2018 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.

Stonehedge – 1694 US-9W, West Park, NY 12493

Honoring:

Rusk, Wadlin, Heppner & Martuscello, LLP as Champion of Justice

Dr. Alan Roberts, President, SUNY Ulster as Advocate for Justice

Proceeds from these events will benefit our efforts to prevent homelessness for children and families across the lower and mid-Hudson Valley.

Call Loretta Spence at (845) 471-0058, x. 423 or e-mail LSpence@lshv.org for more information on either of these events.

2018 National Pro Bono Week

October 21-27, 2018

Stay tuned for more information

New Client Video!



Charron and Brittany are two hard-working parents who were facing wrongful evictions when they came to LSHV for help. Watch how LSHV's attorneys kept them from being homeless: https://youtu.be/KL1Tm40L9v0.

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Rockland County

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