A Message from MFY's Chair

Thomas E. Dunn
Board Chair

The past 12 months have been exciting and productive for MFY. Our dedicated staff served over 8,000 clients, saving tenants’ affordable apartments, preventing foreclosures, winning back wages, protecting consumers, and helping families adopt children.

I am proud to report that many of the firms represented on our Board of Directors joined MFY in winning important decisions. Debevoise & Plimpton successfully defended MFY’s right to meet with residents of adult homes without interference in a NY State Court of Appeals case, in which Greenberg Traurig submitted an amicus brief. Kelley Drye & Warren and Davis Polk & Wardwell submitted amicus briefs in another successful NYS Appeals Court case involving employment discrimination by the NYS Department of Education. Abbey Spanier Rodd & Abrams is co-counselling a class action lawsuit against a home health care agency that underpaid hundreds of workers, Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler is working with MFY to challenge the deceptive practices and housing law violations by the “three-quarter house” industry, and Harwood Feffer is helping MFY to challenge unfair debt collection practices.

Your generous support has enabled these successes. We thank you and urge you to continue your support in the coming year.

2011 HIGHLIGHTS

Defending Homeowners from Abusive Foreclosure Practices

Since launching its foreclosure prevention project in 2008, MFY attorneys have made thousands of appearances at court-mandated settlement conferences on behalf of distressed homeowners in Staten Island and Queens, two of the state’s hardest-hit areas. In addition to saving scores of homes, their work has saved taxpayers over $12 million in revenue that would have been lost if these homes had been foreclosed. MFY also filed a class action lawsuit against Bank of America for failing to adhere to federal regulations, and recently filed suit against a large foreclosure law firm for unfair debt collection practices.

Winning Unpaid Wages for Low-Wage Workers

Valerie Hall, pictured at right and at a City Hall rally on the cover, is one of hundreds of workers MFY helped to recover unpaid wages, winning a $26,000 settlement in other cases, two live-in nannies received $95,000 after working for several years for a family that paid below minimum wage and no overtime, and an immigrant construction worker won a $48,000 settlement. MFY also recouped tens of thousands of dollars in Unemployment Insurance benefits for workers whose applications had been improperly denied.

Protecting the Rights of People with Disabilities

For over 20 years, MFY has fought to improve conditions and to end the warehousing of people with mental illness in adult homes. In November, MFY filed a class action lawsuit on behalf of all adult home residents against the New York State Department of Health for failing to enforce corrective action orders or issue violations after investigators found that a home infringed on residents’ rights and safety. The suit charges that the Department’s procedures violate the Americans with Disabilities Act, the state constitution, and the Administrative Procedures Act in allowing operators of the homes multiple opportunities to appeal a violation in closed-door, off-the-record proceedings while giving no notice or opportunity for residents to be heard.

A Permanent Home for Two Teens

Pro bono attorneys at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP helped Daisy, 13, and Diana, 16, to have a permanent home. As young children, the girls were cared for by their grandmother, but when she died they were placed in foster care. Mrs. B, believing he was signing a lease. Under the agreement the landlord would pay Mr. B’s cousin $96,000 to have Mr. B move out. When Mr. B did not leave, the landlord went to court to try to evict him. MFY represented Mr. B, persuading the judge that the stipulation was a sham. After a long trial, the court ruled that Mr. B was entitled to succeed to his mother’s tenancy. He is among the 4,000 tenants MFY’s housing programs help each year.
Scales of Justice Donors

**PILLARS OF JUSTICE ($50,000 and above)**

- Ambrose Monell Foundation
- Morrow & Co. LLC
- New York Bar Foundation
- New York Foundation
- Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
- Pfizer Inc
- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
- Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP & Affiliates

**SKADDEN FOUNDATION FOUNDATION**

- Van Ameringen Foundation
- Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP
- Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz

**INVESTORS IN JUSTICE ($25,000 - $49,999)**

- Abbey Spierer Rodd & Abrams, LLP
- Chadbourne & Parke LLP
- Compass Lexecon Inc.
- Equal Justice Works
- Greenberg Traurig LLP
- News Corporation
- Eric and Laurie Roth
- The Scherman Foundation, Inc.

**PARTNERS IN JUSTICE ($10,000-$24,999)**

- A&E Television Networks
- American Express
- James D. Arden
- Foundation of the New York Bar
- New York Community Trust
- Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

**SPONSORS OF JUSTICE ($5,000 - $9,999)**

- Nathan Accad
- Pamela J. Braden
- Brookdale Foundation Group
- Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, LLP
- BTMU Foundation, Inc.
- Lisa E. Cleary
- Cullen & Dykman LLP
- D.L. Recovery Corp.
- DLA Piper LLP
- William A. Escober
- Bruce & Alice Geismar
- John Hardiman
- Housing Conservation Coordinators
- David W. Ichel
- James I. Kaplan
- Lantern Sift & Wolf LLP
- Tanf Mondiya
- National Employment Law Project
- Ronald Neumann & Jane A. Zimmy
- Maeve O’Connor
- Open Society Institute
- Heather Podesta & Partners, LLC
- Ropes & Gray LLP
- Jane Rose
- Jacqueline Rubin
- Mark E. Segall
- Sidney Austin LLP
- Amelia T.R. Starr
- Donald I. Strauber, Esq.
- Ariana J. Talder

**LEADERS OF JUSTICE ($1,000-$4,999)**

- Diana Jeanne Bahn
- Bentley & Farrell LLP
- Anthony Blanco
- Shirley Brandman & Howard M. Shapiro
- Michael H. Byowitz
- Nancy Chang
- John J. Clarke
- Mark and Trish Davies
- Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
- Marc DeLeux
- Richard DeSefano, Sr.
- Evidence Exchange
- Richard & Penny Ferlitch
- Robert S. Fischer
- Fitch Ratings
- Standarrrrae G.
- Garin Kenjen & Fisher LLP
- Robin Griffin
- Mitty K. Heines & Thomas Mohnley
- Michelle Hirshman & Russell Pearce
- Stephen D. Hoffman
- David K. Koike
- Labsthorz & Redolf LLP
- Liz Lambert
- Beth & Daryl Loby
- Michel Kahn & Ann Zenser Lowenthal
- John F. Lynch
- Margaret M. Madden
- Nanett & Phillips, LLP
- Robert R. Mazur
- McNiel & Friedman
- Nancy Morawetz
- Christopher Morvilo
- Moses & Singer LLP
- Ed & Marian Mule
- Nandkhi & Co.
- Outen & Golden LLP
- Mary Randolf
- Thomas C. Rice, Esq.
- R. Bruce Rich
- Bill & Mary Jo Ridde
- Stephen T. Rodd
- Jeffrey & Evelyn L. Sabin
- Nancy & Naham Sambul
- Michael P. Schumacher
- Jill J. Schwartz & Steven F. Richman
- Harold and Edith Segel
- Stanley S. Shuman Family Foundation
- Gavin Solitar
- Saga S. Sono
- Bruce Louis Stein
- Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP
- US Investment Bank
- Vinson & Elkins LLP
- Yishai M. Viter
- Paul & Allison Lynn Viscomondo
- Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
- Edwin J. Weyl, Esq.
- Bruce and Pam Wexler
- Storvgaard/Wolinsky

**GOVERNMENT**

- Westminster Borough President
- NYC Council
- NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene
- NYC Department of Housing Preservation & Development
- NYC Department of the Aging
- NYC Department of Youth & Community Development
- NYC Criminal Justice Coordinator
- NYC Commission on the Quality of Care
- NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services
- NYS Division of Housing & Community Renewal
- NYS Interest on Lawyers’ Accounts Fund (IOBA)
- NYS Unified Court System
- US Department of Housing & Urban Development/Lower Manhattan Development Corp.

MFY’s audited financial statements are available on request at www.guidestar.org.

---

**Board of Directors**

- Thomas E. Dunn, Chair
- Chuck Swain, Swain & Moore LLP
- Mark E. Segall, 1st Vice Chair
- Durward & Arbinato, JAMS
- Maev E. Connor, 2nd Vice Chair
- Deboise & Pimpton LLP
- Bruce E. Stein, Treasurer
- Nancy Morawetz, Secretary
- New York University School of Law
- Madeline Acosta-Digrazia
- James D. Arden, Sidney Austin LLP
- Rhoda Carter
- David Chatterjee

- John J. Clarke, DLA Piper LLP (US)
- Lisa E. Cleary, Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP
- Lawrence Coleman
- Albert W. Draper, Jr., Metropolitan Corporate Counsel
- William A. Escobar, Kelley Drey & Warren LLP
- Robert S. Fishekl, Ropes & Gray LLP
- Lindsee P. Granfield, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
- Shandarreese Gair, The Garden City Group, Inc.
- John H. Hardiman, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
- Robert J. Harwood, Harwood Feffer LLP
- David W. Ichel, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
- James Kaplan, DLA Piper LLP
- David G. Keyko, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
- Margaret Madden, Pillsbury LLP
- Alan Mansfield, Greenberg Traurig LLP
- David Moy
- Tariq Mundia, Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP
- Ronald M. Neumann, Zeichner Elman & Krause LLP
- William Phillips, Covington & Burling LLP
- Stephen T. Rodd, Abbey Spierer Rodd & Abrams, LLP
- Eric M. Roth, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
- Jacqueline Rubin, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
- Jeffrey S. Sabin, Bingham McCutchen LLP
- Jennifer H. Shurdt
- Amelia T.R. Starr, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
- Arnold Stephens
- Donald J. Strauber, Chadbourne & Parke LLP
- Ariana J. Tadler, Milberg LLP
- Nancy J. Walder

**Staff**

- Jeanette Zelhof, Executive Director
- Elise Brown, Deputy Director
- Carolyn E. Coffey, Supervizing Attorney
- Ramonita Cordero, Supervising Attorney
- Kevin Crenshaw, Director of Legislation for Disability & Aging
- Kenneth Lau, Supervising Attorney
- Christopher Schwartz, Supervising Attorney