

SUMMER
2010

COVER STORY:

BROWN RUDNICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2010-11 RELATIONSHIP GRANT RECIPIENTS

After reviewing 135 letters of interest and considering 23 full proposals, the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation awarded 13 Relationship Grants to non-profit organizations in Boston, Hartford, Providence, New York and Washington D.C. Grants Committee members (some of whom in photo at right hold binders with grant proposals) included Foundation Directors Jessica Collins (chair), Mary Bucci, Christopher Carolan, Douglas Cohen, Wayne Dennison, Buddy Menn, Cheryl Pinarchick, Nancy Wilsker and Executive Director Al Wallis. The grant awards were determined by a vote of the full Foundation Board.

The grants will be for the 2010-11 academic year, commencing this September. Thereafter, Brown Rudnick offices will have opportunities to meet and become involved with the local grant recipients.

The Foundation has been awarding annual Relationship Grants since 2000 to tax-exempt organizations for programs and activities designed to improve inner city education in a city where Brown Rudnick has domestic offices. These Grants are intended to establish a working relationship with the grant recipient during the course of the grant year. In addition to the award of funds for a specific inner-city related project, the Foundation – through the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest – seeks to provide pro bono legal representation and/or volunteer support in conjunction with the Grant's mission. A list of the 2009-10 recipients can be found on the Center's website, <http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com/foundation/recipient.asp>.



And the Grant Recipients Are...

BOSTON



THOMPSON ISLAND OUTWARD/BOUND

Grant for Connections Program, which was initiated last year with our support. Thousands of Boston middle school students are provided with academic achievement and character building programming using both the classroom and facilities on Thompson Island in Boston Harbor. Thompson Island will connect with the Foundation through volunteer activities, such as a student's visits to Brown Rudnick, and community service activities on the island.



CITIZEN SCHOOLS

Grant to continue support for Boston middle school after-school enrichment programs, specifically the Mock Trial Program done in conjunction with Discovering Justice. Brown Rudnick has participated as mock trial coaches for over a decade.



HULL LIFESAVING MUSEUM

New grantee. This organization takes some of the hardest cases from the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, enrolling them in a Maritime Apprentices Program where they received a stipend and are co-enrolled in a GED or degree granting program. Our grant will support the Apprentices Program.

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And the Grant Recipients Are...

BOSTON



ARTS & BUSINESS COUNCIL OF GREATER BOSTON (formerly the Volunteer Lawyers of MA or "VLA")
Our grant will continue support for the popular Foundation-VLA Holiday Art Contest in the Boston public schools, as well as for the Teen Art Law Program which visits classrooms to teach about intellectual property. Brown Rudnick provides pro bono representation to artists referred by the VLA.

HARTFORD



THE VILLAGE FOR FAMILIES & CHILDREN (now owner of subsidiary Gray Lodge, Shelter for Women)
Former relationship grant recipient is the new owner of a subsidiary organization we have supported for several years, Gray Lodge Shelter for Women. Our grant will continue support for Gray Lodge, with programs for about 100 young, pregnant and parenting women, including GED programs.



COMPASS YOUTH COLLABORATIVE
A new grantee which operates 3 COMPASS community schools in partnership with Hartford public schools. These schools provide academic enrichment programs before, during and after school and on weekends which create relationships between families, faculty and the community. Our grant will support two academic enrichment programs at these schools.

NEW YORK



BRONX SCHOOL FOR LAW, GOVERNMENT & JUSTICE
This new grant will support a successful but struggling program, The Bronx Great Debaters. The program, in a public school located in a judicial complex, was started by a teacher who (at a different school) previously received a Foundation Community Grant. Our grant will support these successful debaters by helping to level the playing field as they compete with better resourced schools, providing funds for laptops and transportation so that they can now participate in the highest level of competition (e.g. state, regional or national finals).



BUILDING EDUCATED LEADERS FOR LIFE
Our grant to this long-time educational enrichment program will continue support for a 34-week after-school programs at PS 36 in Harlem. Additionally, we will continue our volunteer work at the elementary school where Brown Rudnick summer associates have done a major volunteer project for the past four years.

And the Grant Recipients Are...

PROVIDENCE



PROVIDENCE PLAN/ READY TO LEARN PROGRAM

Our grant will continue support for this long-time grant recipient, specifically for its successful early learning program which works with libraries, head start programs and family day care centers throughout the city. Our funds provide essential matching dollars to secure federal AmeriCorps volunteers. Brown Rudnick provides general counsel services on a pro bono basis.

WASHINGTON D.C.



PERRY SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

Perry School is a former community grant recipient providing a center with multi-generational programs in a D.C. neighborhood. Our grant will support Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters ("Hippy") program, an early learning program which trains parents who then train other parents in the skills and practice of reading to children.



UNITED STATES CAPITOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our grant will provide a second year of support for historical and educational programming in Washington, D.C. middle schools, connecting in-class teaching about the Constitution with the We the People Constitution Tour of the nation's Capitol. Additionally, support will allow expansion of the We the People Constitutional Challenge, a contest created by the Society and our Foundation last year in which classes create activities that connect to their tour and learning about the Constitution.

FACING HISTORY & OURSELVES

Long-time grant recipient, based in Boston, for whom Brown Rudnick provides general counsel services on a pro bono basis. Grant will be used to support a travelling national educational interactive exhibit, "Choosing to Participate". In 2008, The Foundation supported the exhibit during its Boston stay. This year, support is for the exhibit during its time in D.C.

BOSTON, HARTFORD & D.C.



REACH OUT AND READ

Long-time grantee, but with a new geographic focus this year. ROR is focused on early childhood literacy and health, connecting the two through pediatric visits during which children receive a free book and parents are encouraged to read to their child. Brown Rudnick provides general counsel services to ROR on a pro bono basis. This year's grant funds will be used in Boston, Hartford and Washington, D.C.

The Center program for Brown Rudnick's Summer Associates kicked off in June in Boston and New York City. The "summers" were engaged in:



July, 2010 - BHCT Attorney for the Day

PRO BONO LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Handling unemployment benefit appeals; preparing legal memoranda on cutting edge constitutional issues for the Anti-Defamation League and, in Boston, participating in the Boston Housing Court's Attorney for the Day program.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES

A visit to **Rosie's Place** - a shelter for women - to prepare and serve lunch.



July, 2010 - Rosie's Place - Boston

"Hi AI,

The trip to Rosie's today was wonderful. It was my first time there, and the efficiency was incredible. I was very impressed with how they make a conscious effort to get the details right. The staff at Rosie's was so invested in making sure that they made each person feel welcome. ... The[homeless] ladies were so appreciative of things that are trivial to the average person. I came back to the office feeling thankful that I'm a summer associate at a firm that encourages me to step outside of the legal bubble and be a part of the realities of our community. It's an honor to be part of a program that really cares."

- Boston summer associate

"Hi AI -

I had a great experience at Rosie's Place today. The staff/other volunteers were extremely helpful and made sure that we were all involved in the whole process the entire time we were there. I was given the job of actually delivering the lunch plates to each of the women so I was able to have a lot of interaction with everyone - I found that the vast majority of the women were very kind and extremely appreciative. I left with a great feeling and had a wonderful morning/afternoon."

- Boston summer associate



July, 2010 - Rosie's Place - Boston

The Summers were here!



July, 2010 - Thompson Island/Outward Bound - Boston

COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Working with Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Relationship Grant recipients. In Boston, Summer Associates (with some help from Foundation President Cheryl Pinarchick, Al Wallis, Kym Patrico and summer clerk Kevin Opoku-Gyamfi) collaborated with **Thompson Island/Outward Bound** to clear incredibly tangled brush from the base of a Catalpa Tree (the second oldest tree of this species in the U.S.), allowing Boston students visiting the island for learning experiences to use the beautiful space under the tree for gatherings. For the 4th year, New York Summer Associates supported P.S. 36 in Harlem through Building Educated Leaders for Life (**BELL**). This year, Summer Associates planted a learning garden for students.



July, 2010 - Thompson Island/Outward Bound - Boston



July, 2010 - BELL - NY

CHARITABLE GIVING

Both Boston and NYC. Summer Associates participated in the 10th annual Summer "SAILS" (Summer Associates in Support of Legal Services) lunch in which they discuss the way our society provides attorneys for the indigent. They then collectively decide on a legal aid organization the Firm will make a contribution to on their behalf. This year, the New York summers directed their donation to Advocates of Children of New York (<http://www.advocatesforchildren.org>). Boston summers designated the Medical-Legal Partnership/Boston ("MLP") (<http://www.mlpboston.org/>). (Several of the summers participated earlier in the summer in a "Poverty Simulation" program organized by MLP)

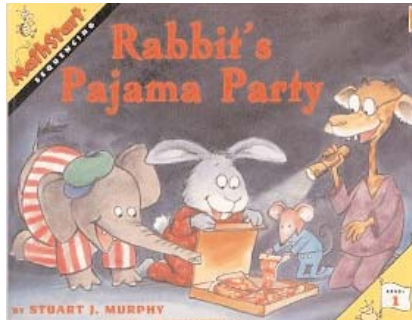


July, 2010 - Boston summers & Al Wallis at SAILS lunch

Charitable Giving is at Our Center

RECENT BROWN RUDNICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION COMMUNITY GRANTS SUPPORT:

Bedtime Stories for a Community Pajama Party - A Community Grant was awarded to **Charter Oak Cultural Center in Hartford** to support the "Read It and Sleep" program. This initiative provides monthly Friday night "community pajama parties" where low-income neighborhood children and families can enjoy snacks, have a bedtime story read to them, and receive a copy of the book purchase 125 books to be distributed



The Charter Oak Cultural Center of center that showcases for the communities. The Center offers school programming in the arts for nourish the mind, soul, body and

According to grant applicant Laura Arts Institute, Read It and Sleep is providing a free, nurturing activity that encourages reading in a fun and engaging way. With the support of organizations such as the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, our program will improve reading skills among Hartford's youth."

Connecticut is a multi-cultural arts region's ethnically and culturally diverse performances, exhibits, classes, free after-inner-city youth, lectures and events that spirit.

Rozza, "Under the auspices of our Youth designed to build family literacy by

SUMMER CAMP LITERACY WORKSHOPS

Phillips Brooks House/Franklin I-O Summer Program in Boston, to support the **Franklin Scholars Project**, an enrichment summer camp in Dorchester, by purchasing reading and writing improvement materials for students in an effort to improve reading abilities and raise MCAS scores.

Paola Walter, Franklin I-0 Program Director and grant applicant, said, "By providing our summer camp counselors with the proper reading resources and tools, we can be more effective in addressing the educational needs of our community. Our goal is to improve students' MCAS scores through a summer program aimed at boosting reading comprehension, vocabulary, spelling, and grammar, among other learning skills. We are grateful for Brown Rudnick's assistance in helping us achieve this goal."



Summer 2010 - Paola Walter with Center Director, Al Wallis

Growing Relationship with a DC Program: Earlier this year, the Foundation approved a Community Grant to Washington D.C.'s **New Community for Children**. The grant's purpose was to create **Our Garden, Our Community**, a educational program to connect children to the environment and to healthy eating as well as connecting them to the larger community.

Nadine Duplessy Kearns, New Community's new Executive Director , says, "We are having a great summer program with our theme of Our Garden, Our Community. Ninety-five kids are receiving daily academic enrichment in math, reading, and science related to horticulture, health, and wellness and will also tend our on-site gardens. Inspired by the national challenge to fight childhood obesity, New Community for Children's summer program teaches kids the science of plants as well as the key role that fruits and vegetables play in building healthy bodies and healthy habits for life."

Please see New Community's blog regarding this project at <http://nfcgarden2010.wordpress.com/>.





THROUGH ITS CENTER FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST, BROWN RUDNICK provides financial support to hire law students in the Family Law Unit at Greater Boston Legal Services (“GBLS”). In photo, Partner (and GBLS Board member) Edward Naughton (far left) and Center Executive Director Al Wallis (far right) met with some of the students at GBLS’ offices to thank them for their work assisting indigent clients.

Pro Bono is at Our Center

Spotlight on a Pro Bono Success:

Brown Rudnick successfully represented an artist who was seeking to recover the value of three outdoor sculptures, which were lost or damaged while on display at a private school in Connecticut. The school argued that it had never agreed to display or care for the sculptures and that the artwork had basically been abandoned by the client when she was moving from the area. The school also argued that the statute of limitations barred the plaintiff’s claim and that the sculptures were old, rusty and valueless.

Determining the artwork’s value posed one of the greatest challenges in this case. Although the client has a long exhibition history, she has never sold a piece of outdoor sculpture before, and had no intention of selling them up until the time they were lost. The court ruled in our client’s favor on every issue, and found that the loss of and damages to the sculptures were the result of the school’s negligence. Also, the court largely adopted our testimony on value, ultimately awarding \$26,100 in damages to the artist. (The court discounted the value to reflect expenses that the artist would have incurred had she sold the art through normal channels).

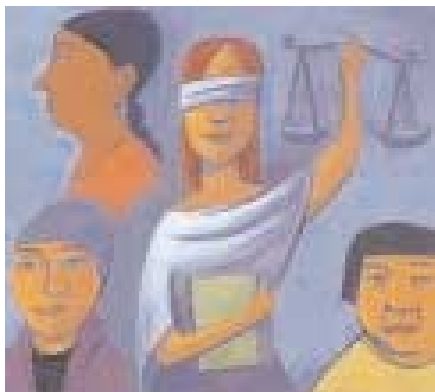
Other Recent Pro Bono Matters Include:

As part of the Firm’s new Nonprofit Initiative, we are representing an indigent individual in connection with formation of a nonprofit corporation in Massachusetts. This matter includes obtaining tax-exempt status and mitigating liability related to fundraising activities. John Wadsworth, Kristin Gerber, Rachel Keyo are leading this engagement.

We continue to represent a number of indigent individuals through our work as part of the **Unemployment Insurance Benefit Appeals Pro Bono Impact Project.** Diane Nardi and Benjamin Welch are leading this initiative with the support of our 2010 Summer Associates.

*“[Dear Brown Rudnick attorneys],
This [Unemployment Appeal result] is a great decision and I am 99.999% certain that the client would have not won this hearing without an attorney.
... I spoke with the client today ... he is elated!”*

- Julia Rosner, Manhattan Legal Services



Brown Rudnick helped to staff the **Boston Housing Court Attorney for the Day** program for two days this summer, assisting unrepresented litigants in understanding their rights and helping them to resolve their issues. Participants included John Wadsworth, Benjamin Gould, Allyson Roklan, Al Wallis and several summer associates.



*“Hi Al:
I wanted to thank you and the folks at Brown Rudnick for all your excellent work over at the Housing Court. I got a message from one of the tenant’s whose case your team resolved, asking me to ‘tell the boss’ that [Rhiannon] Campbell and [Shemane] Amin were excellent.”*
- Ed Rice, Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar

“[We are] so happy we were able to help!” – summer associates Rhiannon Cambell and Shemane Amin

We continue our work through the **Boston Bar Association’s Lawyers Clearinghouse**, some of which arises from our staffing of legal clinics for the homeless. As an example, we are assisting an indigent individual in recovering property held by law enforcement officials after dismissal of charges against him. Mary Bucci, Rachel Rosen, and Jennifer Recht led this engagement.

As part of the Firm’s 2010 participation in the **Boston Bar Association’s Volunteer Lawyers Project Chapter 7 Bankruptcy/Debtor Initiative**, we are representing a number of indigent individuals in Chapter 7-related bankruptcy matters. This effort is led by Steven Pohl and, to date, pro bono counsel has been provided by Jeffrey Jonas, Timothy Durken, Benjamin Chapman, Carol Ennis, Christian Rivera, Jeremy Coffey, Nicolas Dunn, Angelo Thalassinis, Andrew Sroka and Saul de la Guardia.

Community Service is at Our Center

Brown Rudnick Foundation Sponsors School Visit by One of the “Little Rock Nine.”

As part of a Foundation Relationship Grant awarded to **Facing History and Ourselves**, the organization brought Dr. Terrance Roberts, one of the original group integrating Arkansas public schools in 1957, to an assembly in the Mildred Middle School in Boston. Winners of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation student essay contest (“What Little Rock means to me”) were recognized and Dr. Roberts spoke with the teachers and students about his experiences as one of the “Little Rock Nine”.



Essay Winners, Facing History Program

“We the People” Constitution Challenge Award Ceremony -

As part of a Foundation Relationship Grant awarded to the **U.S. Capitol Historical Society** in Washington D.C., middle school students in the public schools were provided with educational tours of the Capitol, in conjunction with a classroom focus on the U.S. Constitution. Brown Rudnick also created a “We the People Essay Contest” for students who participated in the tours.” On Wednesday, June 16, Foundation Director Buddy Menn presented winners with the award at a ceremony held at the winning school, the Stuart Hobson Middle School.



Buddy Menn congratulates Principal Eatman



Brown Rudnick Answers the Call to End Domestic Violence - For several years, through the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest, the Firm has been supporting a national domestic violence awareness campaign, a **CALL to PROTECT**. Call to Protect distributes new and recycled pre-programmed emergency wireless phones free of charge to domestic violence victims. To these people, the phone serves as an emergency lifeline - one that they might not have access to otherwise.

Because of everyone's ongoing support, Brown Rudnick has consistently been able to send out approximately 25 phones and accessories (including chargers and extra batteries) every 2 - 3 months.

Attorney Dan Brown and his Executive Assistant, Fran Federico, lead this phone drive.

Please contact Al Wallis or Kym Patrico to discuss any matters regarding the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest. Thanks especially to Kym Patrico, Lisa Murray, Connie Kelly and Kristin Cicerone for their assistance with this newsletter. And finally, apologies for any errors or unintentional omissions, which may from time-to-time occur in the Center Quarterly – maybe even this one.

- Al Wallis

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