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Lisa A. Levy of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP Leveraged Tax Acumen Helps Establish Organizations that Improve Educational Outcomes for Urban Youth

Accomplishment: Recipient of Lawyers Alliance for New York's **2013 Cornerstone Award** honoring outstanding pro bono legal services to nonprofits, to be presented on November 6.

Highlights: Lisa A. Levy is a tax partner at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP. Ms. Levy received her B.S. from McIntire School of Commerce at the University of Virginia in 1985, a J.D. from Columbia Law School in 1990, and her LL.M. from New York University School of Law in 1994.

Ms. Levy has leveraged tax expertise to guide new nonprofit organizations through the process of incorporation and tax exemption. She led a team of Fried Frank attorneys who incorporated and secured tax exemption for **Beyond the Bricks Project** ("BTBP"), also providing governance guidance and intellectual property advice. BTBP is a media and international community engagement initiative to encourage community-based solutions to increase educational and social outcomes for school-age Black males. As a result of Ms. Levy's work, BTBP now reaches more than 75 young people annually and is operating programs in five cities.

Ouida Washington, BTBP Co-Executive Director, says of Ms. Levy and the entire Fried Frank team, "These volunteers treated us like high paying clients while assisting us through every phase of getting our nonprofit status, and protected all of our intellectual property as well as negotiating contracts with our college partners. We could not have done it without their professionalism, commitment, and insight."

In 2010, Ms. Levy also offered her tax expertise to **FoodFight**, working with a team of Fried Frank attorneys to incorporate and secure tax exemption for the organization. FoodFight works to revolutionize the way food education is taught in urban schools by educating and inspiring stakeholders to claim their power as consumers, demand healthier options, and reclaim the integrity of the food system. Currently FoodFight is being used in 30 schools throughout New York City and in five additional cities.

Deborah Lewison-Grant, FoodFight's Executive Director, says, "All the support we received from Fried Frank was invaluable in getting us through the incorporation and tax exemption process. They recognized that the legal process of securing exemption was new to us and guided us through the process in a congenial and helpful way."

Says Ms. Levy, "In the words of Albert Schweitzer, 'The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.' Lawyers Alliance has given me the opportunity to apply my knowledge as a tax lawyer to further the education and well-being of children and teenagers, and to help expand their opportunities for successful, healthy lives. I have had the privilege to work with talented and committed organizations devoted to achieving critical

goals for our society. This has been a source of deep satisfaction and I encourage others to volunteer."

About Lawyers Alliance for New York: Lawyers Alliance for New York is the leading provider of business and transactional legal services for nonprofit organizations that are improving the quality of life in New York City neighborhoods. Our network of pro bono lawyers from law firms and corporations and staff of experienced attorneys collaborate to deliver expert corporate, tax, real estate, employment, intellectual property, and other legal services to community organizations. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, we help nonprofits to develop affordable housing, stimulate economic development, promote community arts, strengthen urban health, and operate and advocate for vital programs for children and young people, the elderly, and other low-income New Yorkers. During the past year, 13 staff attorneys and more than 1,300 volunteer attorneys served more than 625 nonprofit clients on more than 1,000 different legal matters.

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