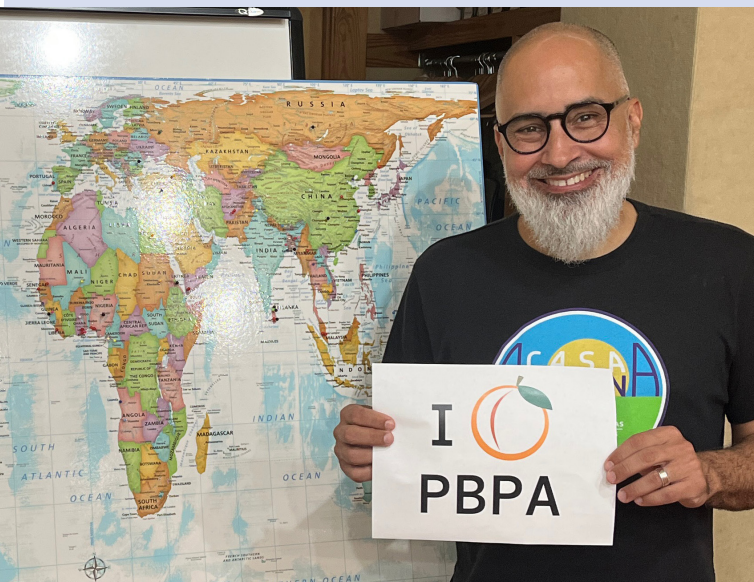


2022 YEAR IN REVIEW



Mission

Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta strengthens our community
by engaging volunteer attorneys to provide nonprofits
with business legal services

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Rachel Epps Spears
Executive Director

Justine Cowan
Corporate Counsel

Robyn Miller
Senior Tax/Corporate Counsel

Marie Wandera
Project Coordinator

Mary Flatt
Development and
Communications Coordinator

Lori Shapiro
Employment Counsel

Randi Zelcer
Client Manager

"Working at PBPA has brought my dream of being a lawyer closer than I ever thought possible. I get to work with legal matters, attorneys, and clients, without having to do the legal work! I could not ask for a better job. "

- Marie Wandera, Project Coordinator



Printing services kindly donated by Federal Home Loan Bank.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

In 2022, Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta (PBPA) continued to strengthen community nonprofits with free legal assistance. With the help of 811 legal volunteers, PBPA served almost 300 nonprofit clients, who in turn impacted the lives of millions of individuals in the Greater Atlanta area. Those individuals include refugees, veterans, survivors of domestic violence, and families experiencing homelessness and food insecurity.

A particular highlight from this past year was the launch of our newest program, the Black-led Nonprofit Legal Bootcamp, in May 2022 with six emerging nonprofit organizations participating in the first cohort.



(A second cohort of 13 organizations began in January 2023). Participants receive tailored legal education, opportunities to connect and share experiences with other nonprofit leaders, and assistance in developing a capacity-building action plan for their organization. Guest speakers included Georgia Power's Bentina Terry who shared her perspective as a serial nonprofit board member and provided invaluable advice to the 13 nonprofit leaders.

"PBPA's Bootcamp will help our organization fulfill its mission because we have now created a structure for how to handle the next 2-3 years. We were on the fence about how to prioritize the next steps for our nonprofit, but the Bootcamp helped us tremendously. Anybody interested in this program should save themselves the time and just sign up!" - 2023 Bootcamp participant

This program and all of PBPA's free legal services and educational opportunities are made possible because of the incredible generosity of our individual donors and volunteers and support from Atlanta's legal, business, and philanthropic communities. Together, we are creating access for nonprofits to the same high-quality and specialized legal services as private companies without having to divert funding away from their missions. By meeting the legal needs of Atlanta's nonprofit organizations, we help them to meet the needs of the millions of people they serve.



RACHEL EPPS SPEARS
Executive Director



FAITH KNIGHT MYERS
Chair, PBPA Board of Directors

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT:

Project Community Connections, Inc. (PCCI)

Project Community Connections, Inc. (PCCI) reached out to Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta (PBPA) in 2018 for assistance with the possible acquisition of property. PCCI, a nonprofit dedicated to permanently rehousing individuals and families experiencing homelessness, had a vision of developing their downtown property into a mixed-income, mixed-use community. The first step in fulfilling that vision was to secure a parcel of land (underneath and around the iconic Coca-Cola sign) next to PCCI's property. PBPA matched PCCI with volunteer attorney Alison Boyer of Miller & Martin, who also volunteered to help review partnership agreements for PCCI. Following the closing on the property a couple of years later, PCCI Co-CEO Margaret Schuelke thanked Alison for the "critical role that Alison play[ed] in this work. She is a consummate professional and a thoughtful and generous human being."

As PCCI moved forward with their vision, they reached out to PBPA for more assistance with drafting a condominium declaration for the new development. PCCI would maintain its office space on the new property and add additional space for mission-aligned nonprofits, while the rest of the property would include affordable and permanent supportive housing in partnership with Mercy Housing Southeast. David Stewart of Adams and Reese volunteered and as he worked with PCCI, he offered to assist with more aspects of the deal,



including helping to close on a construction loan. At the time of loan closing, Margaret shared, "Over the past year, David has dedicated countless hours on this project, regularly expanded the scope of his work without question or hesitation and with patience and expertise provided expert legal advice to PCCI. It is hard to convey in words how much comfort he's brought to [PCCI Co-CEO] Jimiyu Evans and myself – not to mention our Board of Directors – during these very stressful and exhausting months." PCCI again asked PBPA for help when they needed tax advice regarding the legal structure for the services and business centers on the ground floor of the facility. Mary Benton of Alston & Bird raised her hand and continues to provide critical legal advice to PCCI.

"PBPA and volunteers like David, Alison and Mary helped us turn our vision into reality. They believed in the idea and believed in us."

- Margaret Schuelke, PCCI

PCCI's "wishful concept in our zeal to help end the cycle of poverty and to provide quality affordable housing to individuals and families in need" recently came to reality when they celebrated the grand opening of Thrive Sweet Auburn. The multi-use community center will provide an array of resources and services to area residents including 117 affordable apartment homes for individuals and families (including veterans), a medical clinic, services for job seekers, a coffee shop and more. Located in Atlanta's Old Fourth Ward neighborhood, Thrive Sweet Auburn was recognized by the Atlanta Business Chronicle as Best in Atlanta Real Estate in the residential real estate deals category. According to Margaret, "PBPA and volunteers like David, Alison and Mary helped us turn our vision into reality. They believed in the idea and believed in us."

2022 BY THE NUMBERS

\$4.5 million

VALUE OF SERVICES

811
Volunteers

9 million
individuals impacted



297 clients served



1067 matters placed



46 new clients



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"PBPA provides well-vetted, discrete, and meaningful transactional pro bono opportunities. They make volunteering for pro bono projects as seamless as possible, and they offer a tremendous variety of clients and projects that promote equity throughout our community."

- Erica Svoboda, Baker Hostetler

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*Three or more volunteers

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PBPA has helped our small but dedicated animal rescue with our bylaws, articles of incorporation and several nonprofit policies and procedures. Now we can focus on rescue and are on our way to having our best adoption year ever.

- Stacy Glover, Death Row Dogs

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