A high-speed photograph of a water droplet falling into a pool of water, creating a series of concentric ripples. The background is a soft, light blue gradient. The text 'the power of pro bono' is overlaid in a white, serif font.

the power of pro bono

FENWICK & WEST PRO BONO REPORT 2015

**FENWICK
& WEST**

professional
opportunity.

personal reward.



At Fenwick, our commitment to pro bono is an established part of our culture. Last year alone, we donated over 14,000 pro bono hours valued at more than \$7 million in legal fees.

The reasons for our ongoing commitment to provide pro bono services are as varied as the pro bono cases we handle and as individual as the attorneys who contribute their time and talents. For some, it is a general desire to give back. For others, it is a cause that strikes a particular chord. For young attorneys just starting out, it may be an

opportunity to further hone their skills. For the seasoned professional, it can be an opportunity to mentor, motivate and interact on a more personal level.

For all of us at the firm, our pro bono program enables us to further champion our belief in human dignity and access to justice for all. Meeting our responsibility to serve and benefit our communities, including by helping those community members less fortunate than ourselves, often leads to some of our most rewarding professional accomplishments. We reap immeasurable rewards that come from seeing the difference we can make in people's lives.

Pro bono is a powerful resource for good that requires an equally powerful commitment. As a firm, it is a commitment we renew every year—to our pro bono clients and to ourselves.

—Richard Dickson, Firm Chair



Faisal Rashid, Corporate Associate

THE POWER TO give shelter

Helping the chronically homeless transition into stable housing is the goal of a groundbreaking project that brings together the County of Santa Clara, Abode Services (a Bay Area housing and supportive services organization), and Fenwick. As part of *Pay for Success*, a national program launched in 2010, the project creates a new financing model that partners governments and public service providers with philanthropic and private sector investors to deliver better outcomes at a lower cost. The key idea is to link compensation for government services to demonstrated success.

Fenwick attorneys Spencer Glende, Alexandra Pressman, Faisal Rashid, Matt Rossiter, Morgan Sawchuk, and Eric Shedlosky worked for several months to structure and formalize agreements between the County, Abode, and investors to provide funding for a six-year project. Abode will handle the services and the County will repay the funders if certain housing stability and wellness goals are achieved. With plans drawn up and the foundation built, hopefully there will be fewer and fewer Santa Clara County residents without a roof over their heads.

“I DO PRO BONO because it gives us the opportunity to support creative solutions in the social sphere and to assist some of the highest-need members of our community.”

—*Matt Rossiter, Corporate Partner*



Morgan Sawchuk,
Corporate Associate;
Matt Rossiter,
Corporate Partner

THE POWER TO GIVE SHELTER



Alexandra Pressman, Eric Shedlosky,
Corporate Associates

Representing people who face eviction is a particular focus of Senior Litigation Associate Sebastian Kaplan. This past year, Sebastian successfully helped negotiate settlements in two separate eviction cases. In one, a couple was facing eviction from their home of over 20 years for late payment of rent. The case involved an obscure provision of the San Francisco Rent Ordinance concerning “habitual late payments.” During the pre-trial discovery period, Sebastian and his team were able to successfully negotiate a favorable move-out agreement, and the clients have now found a new apartment they love in the city.

In another equally gratifying case, Sebastian teamed up with Litigation Associate Niko Plassaras and Litigation Paralegal Jamie Phan to represent through trial an indigent tenant facing eviction from his home of six years. The client had stopped paying rent after complaining about multiple breaches of the warranty of habitability in his apartment, including infestations of vermin, lack of heat, defective electrical systems, and rotting floors and walls caused by defective plumbing. The landlord had received numerous notices of violation of the San Francisco Housing Code. Over the course of a four-day jury trial, the team selected a jury; examined nine witnesses, including the owner, tenant, city inspectors, and co-tenants; and argued motions. On the last day of trial, immediately before closing arguments, the parties agreed to settle the action much to the client’s satisfaction.

Sebastian Kaplan, Litigation Associate

FENWICK & WEST LLP

2015 PRO BONO ANNUAL REPORT

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THE POWER TO

create opportunity at home and abroad

The continued expansion of alternative dispute resolution centers in emerging democracies and developing countries is a testament to the tireless efforts of Litigation Partner Vic Schachter. Vic began his work in India in 2005, establishing mediation centers to expand access to justice in countries with overburdened and backlogged court systems. The successful centers have proven to be an effective means to peacefully and fairly resolve disputes in a timely manner, and to reduce the enormous backlog of court cases in host countries. Since Vic initiated the program, more than 200,000 cases have been mediated in India alone, affecting over one million lives.

To continue this work, in 2012 Vic formed the Foundation for Sustainable Rule of Law Initiatives (FSRI), an NGO and 501(c)(3) organization. FSRI's focus is on establishing and strengthening sustainable mediation centers in developing countries, and providing training, education and counseling to courts, judges, lawyers, and mediators. This past year, the Foundation has extended its reach from India and Southeast Asia to Bulgaria, Croatia, and The Republic of Georgia. Requests for FSRI's services have also come in from around the world, including South and Central America and Euro-Asia republics.

Fenwick is proud to provide financial, marketing, and administrative support to FSRI, in addition to the pro bono assistance of our associates and paralegals.



Vic Schachter, Litigation Partner

THE POWER TO CREATE OPPORTUNITY AT HOME AND ABROAD



Allison Cooper,
Corporate Associate

Working with Open a Door Foundation (OAD), an organization dedicated to building female leadership in post-conflict countries, IP Of Counsel Christine Redfield has had the opportunity to develop and implement a global brand strategy for OAD's SHE-CAN scholarship initiative. This important initiative secures commitments from colleges and universities, corporations, and private donors to fund scholarships and mentoring programs for women from countries such as Rwanda and Afghanistan. Armed with degrees from U.S. colleges and universities, these young women are poised to become leaders in countries that need it the most and potentially change the course of nations.

While much of Corporate Associate Allison Cooper's pro bono work centers on nonprofit incorporation, her favorite project has been working with a public benefit corporation that focuses on coverage and dissemination of world news. The work is incredibly interesting, plus she gets to interact directly with the client and see firsthand the impact pro bono has on the company.

“I DO PRO BONO
because I have a
special interest in
global social action
and elevating the
status of women in
third-world countries.”

—Christine Redfield,
IP Of Counsel





Providing copyright and intellectual property counseling to David Weissman and his team on his award winning documentary film “We Were Here” about the AIDS crisis in San Francisco in the 1980s is a highlight of IP Partner Jennifer Stanley’s pro bono career. As she describes it, this was some of the most rewarding and satisfying work she has done, and provides clients with a service without which they often would not be able to achieve their goals. It was also an opportunity to bring real value to an important project while at the same time enhancing her skillset as a lawyer. Jennifer is also proud to have a personal credit in the film!

“I DO PRO BONO because it gives us the opportunity to provide a benefit to the community that might otherwise not be available.

—Jennifer Stanley, IP Partner

THE POWER TO CREATE OPPORTUNITY AT HOME AND ABROAD



Litigation Partner Andrew Bridges' pro bono work supports the ongoing efforts of Public Resource to assure public safety standard rules and regulations are free and easily accessible to all. Two cases are in progress: Expert discovery in *ASTM et al. v. Public.Resource.Org* is nearing completion, and *AERA et al. v. Public.Resource.Org* is in the midst of expert discovery.

Helping individuals exercise their right to vote has been a focus for Fenwick attorneys since 2004. Working with the nonpartisan Election Protection coalition, the Fenwick team pays special attention to electronic voting machines, assuring that they are being used correctly according to local law, and that when they break, voters can still vote. Our attorneys volunteer at call centers and at polling locations throughout the country. "It is a rewarding experience," says IP Partner Daniel Brownstone, "because we are in contact not only with local election boards to make sure that elections run as smoothly as possible, but also with the voters themselves."



Daniel Brownstone, IP Partner

THE POWER TO

protect the environment

Connecting people to parks and open spaces through a program called Transit and Trails (T&T) was initially a small part of the overall services provided by the Bay Area Open Space Council. But the successful T&T program, including online and mobile tools, grew to the point where it needed to become an independent resource in order to expand services across the country. Corporate Associate Jordan Roberts—an outdoor enthusiast who enjoys exploring out of the way places in the Bay Area—stepped in to help review the business options and the best method of turning this nonprofit into a separate for-profit entity.

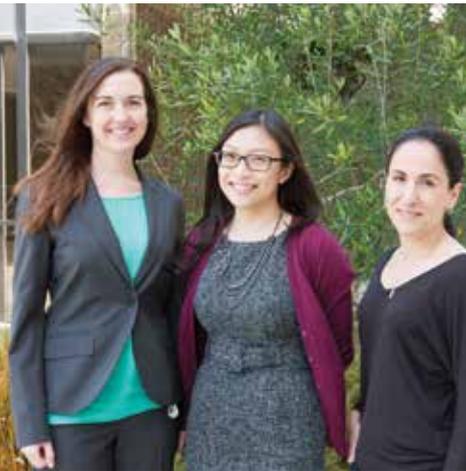
What initially seemed straightforward turned out to have many complications. Assisted by Corporate Partner Doug Cogen, Jordan and the team had to first review T&T grants from multiple foundations and state agencies. Then they had to get approval on transaction documents from a San Francisco nonprofit that technically was sponsoring T&T, which proved difficult and time consuming. Ultimately, their tenacity paid off and the team was finally able to put together and execute a successful restricted sale so that T&T can grow to its full potential.



“I DO PRO BONO
because it gives me the
opportunity to take the
lead on a project that is
important to me and at the
same time gain experience.”

—Jordan Roberts, *Corporate Associate*

THE POWER TO ensure proper health care



Tammi Hill and Kunyu Ching,
Litigation Associates;
Saina Shamilov, Litigation Partner

In a remarkable win for one of our less fortunate clients, a dedicated team of Fenwick attorneys, led by Litigation Partner Saina Shamilov, secured a preliminary injunction for an inmate who had been denied the diet he needed after suffering ulcerative colitis while in prison. His condition was further aggravated by lack of medical care that dragged on for years and resulted in emergency colectomy surgery to save his life.

After undergoing surgery, doctors instructed the inmate to follow a strict low fiber diet—a diet that prison officials claimed they had no obligation to provide. The Fenwick team saw this as a clear denial of their client’s constitutional rights, which resulted in a serious disability. The team, including Litigation Associates Todd Gregorian, Ravi Ranganath, Kunyu Ching and Tammi Hill, prepared the motion, and Todd successfully argued it in court. Irma Campos, Jamie Phan and Shannon Ellenburg also provided invaluable assistance.

“Our Constitution applies to all, including those who may have made a mistake in their life and are serving time,” reflects Saina. “When I read that our client walked into a prison as a healthy individual and now he is missing an organ because those who were entrusted with looking after him neglected him, I could not say no.”

With the injunction won—and the client now getting the nutrition he needs—the case will focus on obtaining further relief for the client, including compensation for violation of his constitutional rights.

Todd Gregorian, Litigation Associate;
Shannon Ellenburg, Legal Assistant;
James Phan, Litigation Paralegal;
Ravi Ranganath, Litigation Associate



THE POWER TO ENSURE PROPER HEALTH CARE



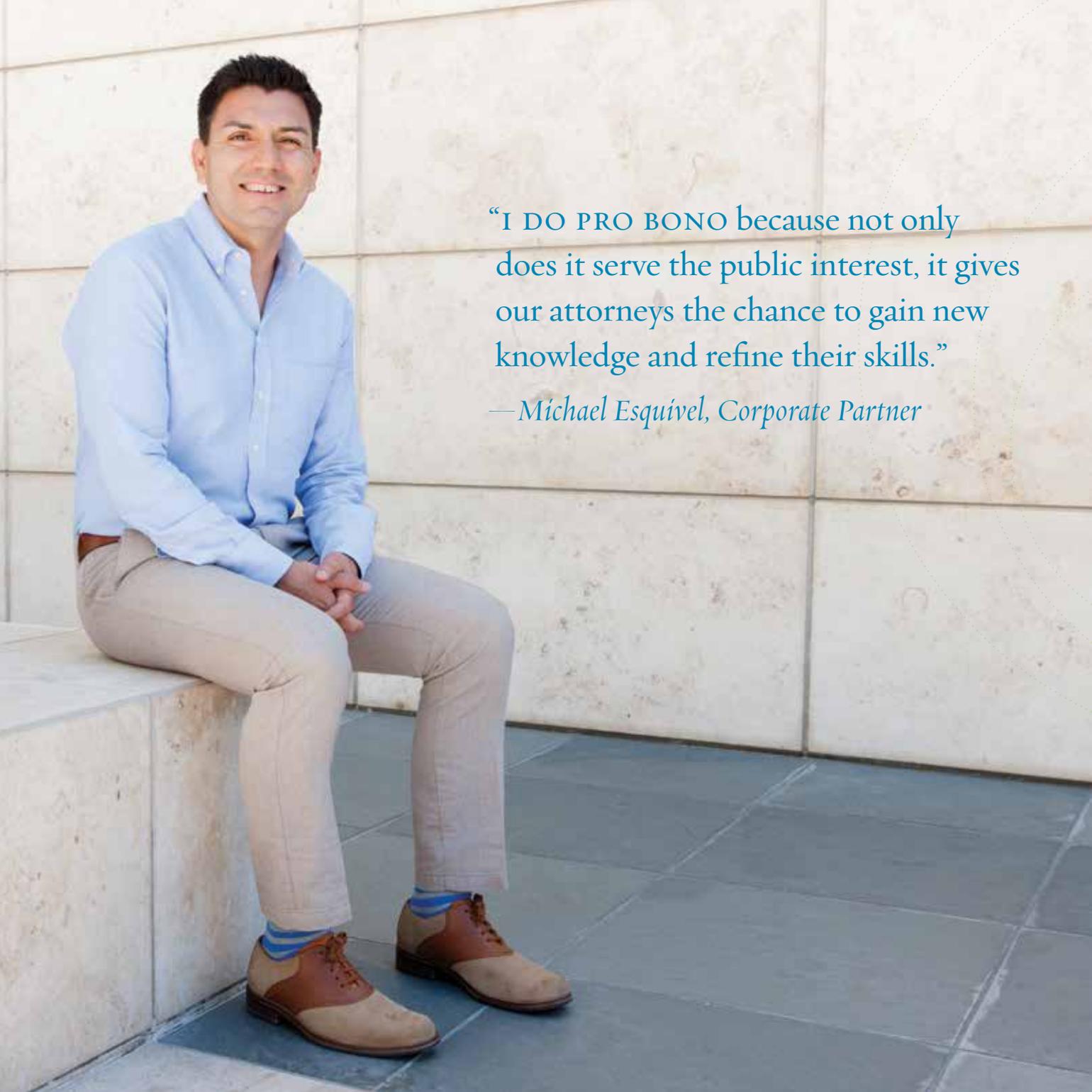
Lynn Pasahow,
Litigation Partner

A substantial settlement for a state prisoner who was denied proper medical care for severe appendicitis was a victory for both the firm and the client. As part of the Northern District of California's Federal Pro Bono Project, Fenwick was appointed to represent the client in a case that had previously involved negligence, coercion, and false claims by prison doctors.

At the time that Fenwick was appointed as counsel, the District Court had already granted summary judgment in favor of two of the defendant doctors. The team of Litigation Partner Lynn Pasahow and Litigation Associates Ewa Davison, Melanie Mayer and Jeff Ware went into action, thoroughly demonstrating the defendants' perjury, and successfully convincing the Court to vacate in part its prior grants of summary judgment. A successful settlement was reached a month before the scheduled trial, awarding the client a sum that far exceeded his expectations.



Ewa Davison, Jeff Ware, Melanie Mayer,
Litigation Associates

A man with dark hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt, light-colored trousers, and brown suede shoes with blue and white striped socks, is sitting on a stone ledge. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a wall of large, light-colored stone tiles. The floor is made of dark grey square tiles. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

“I DO PRO BONO because not only does it serve the public interest, it gives our attorneys the chance to gain new knowledge and refine their skills.”

—*Michael Esquivel, Corporate Partner*

THE POWER TO ENSURE PROPER HEALTH CARE

Promoting the development of interactive health-related products is the focus of Rock Health, a nonprofit that is essentially a start-up incubator to support developers and entrepreneurs focused on creating mobile health-related applications. Fenwick attorneys, including Corporate Partner Michael Esquivel and Corporate Associates Kristine Di Bacco and Ran Ben-Tzur, have helped this exciting new entity get off the ground by assisting with obtaining a 501(c)(3) exemption, and providing ongoing advice to participants in the program on the basic legal needs of a start-up. It is a great opportunity to encourage wellness while providing Fenwick attorneys with a chance to learn more about entity formation, employment, intellectual property, and contract drafting.

THE POWER TO **change lives**



Litigation Associate Elizabeth Hagan has volunteered several times for the Domestic Violence IMPACT Project in Seattle and will have an ongoing role as mentoring attorney at clinics that help victims draft statements to obtain protection orders.

In a particularly rewarding case, Fenwick attorneys were once again pleased to work with the Stanford chapter of the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project to help a Syrian man find safety in a new country. While every refugee case presents a challenge, this case was especially difficult because the client's persecution in his home country centered on his sexual orientation. He feared he would be killed because his family had discovered that he was gay.

Because of personal safety concerns, the client had not revealed his sexual orientation when originally applying to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) for resettlement, and was therefore being treated as a general refugee. Involvement by Fenwick attorneys, including Corporate Associate Adam Derry, as well as Corporate Partner Horace Nash, reassured the client that he could trust the staff at the UNHCR with this important information. His case was then reconsidered based on his well-founded fear of persecution due to sexual orientation. After nearly a year of work, Finland accepted our client and he can now live openly. It was a special reward for the team when the client told them, "You gave me hope."

Hearing firsthand about the struggle

of an Iraqi father of five to protect his family after the kidnapping and death of one of his children was a jarring and, at the same time, motivating experience according to IP Associate Claire O'Callaghan. The educated, middle-class Sunni family has been fleeing persecution by Shia militants since 2005. After leaving Iraq, they spent six years in Syria, then fled to Turkey where they have been for almost three years. Now living hand-to-mouth with nowhere to turn, they are applying for resettlement in the U.S.

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THE POWER TO CHANGE LIVES



Adam Derry,
Corporate Associate

“I DO PRO BONO because it feels right to use my skills to help people dramatically improve their lives.”

—Adam Derry, *Corporate Associate*

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Claire, Corporate Associate Adam Derry and a team of Stanford law students are devoting their time and skill to help make that happen. They are advocating for the client with various organizations and assisting him in making his case for resettlement, including helping him prepare for his interview with the aid of acclaimed Iraqi journalist, Alaa Majeed, as interpreter. In the meantime, the team is working to connect the client and his family with other organizations to hopefully improve their lives prior to resettlement.

“Our client and his family have been in a really difficult position for a long time; they have fallen through so many cracks,” says Claire. “It has been humbling and inspiring to be part of a dedicated team of Stanford students and Fenwick attorneys who were able to reach out to this family, to acknowledge what they have been through, and to support them at (hopefully) this last mile in their journey to the U.S.”

A close-up portrait of Lauren Whittemore, a woman with short, wavy grey hair, wearing black-rimmed glasses, a dark blue scarf, and a grey blazer. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred, textured wall.

Having been raised to value citizenship

by her mother who emigrated to the U.S. from the Netherlands as a young woman, Litigation Associate Lauren Whittemore finds participating in naturalization clinics particularly rewarding. The clinics are a joint effort of legal services nonprofits, local governments, translators, and immigration attorneys to assist low-income green card holders who are otherwise qualified for citizenship but can't afford the \$680 application fee. Through the clinics, these worthy individuals can apply for a fee waiver and complete their citizenship applications in a single day. According to Lauren, it is tremendously gratifying to help people who work so hard to gain U.S. citizenship get even one step closer.

Lauren Whittemore,
Litigation Associate

THE POWER TO help people help themselves



Litigation Associate Guinevere Jobson enjoys volunteering through the Virtual Pro Bono Program.

A little legal advice can go a long way in helping people understand how to protect themselves. Whether it is giving low-income individuals one-on-one assistance with their tax returns, helping seniors with complicated Medi-Cal rules and regulations, opening doors for young undocumented immigrants by helping them file Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) applications, or riding the Justice Bus® to bring free legal services to low-income communities in rural California, each year Fenwick attorneys are on hand to help those most in need. Here is how our clinics keep expanding:

- **Virtual Pro Bono Clinics**—Since the inception of the Virtual Pro Bono Project in 2013, 112 virtual clinics have served 330 clients, and 128 attorneys have volunteered their services.
- **Tax Aid Clinics at East Palo Alto YMCA**—In the 2015 clinics alone, 35 Fenwick volunteers contributed more than 355 hours to assist 99 community members in getting \$120,154 in tax refunds.
- **Share of Cost Healthcare Clinics**, sponsored by Legal Aid Society of San Mateo—To date, Fenwick attorneys have donated 674 hours and served 400 clients in monthly clinics.
- **DACA clinics**—To date, 98 clients have been assisted by 37 Fenwick volunteers in 7 clinics.
- **OneJustice® Justice Bus**—Twelve trips have been taken to date, with over 100 Fenwick volunteers representing over 1,850 pro bono hours to help more than 250 clients.

“I work as a co-site manager for the Tax Aid Clinics because I get to work with amazing people, have fun doing what I like, and help a lot of people with a very important task. Many working low-income individuals are entitled to tax refunds that go unclaimed because of the complexity involved in filing a tax return. We help ensure that they file a correct return and receive the refund due to them.” — *Ora Grinberg, Tax Associate*



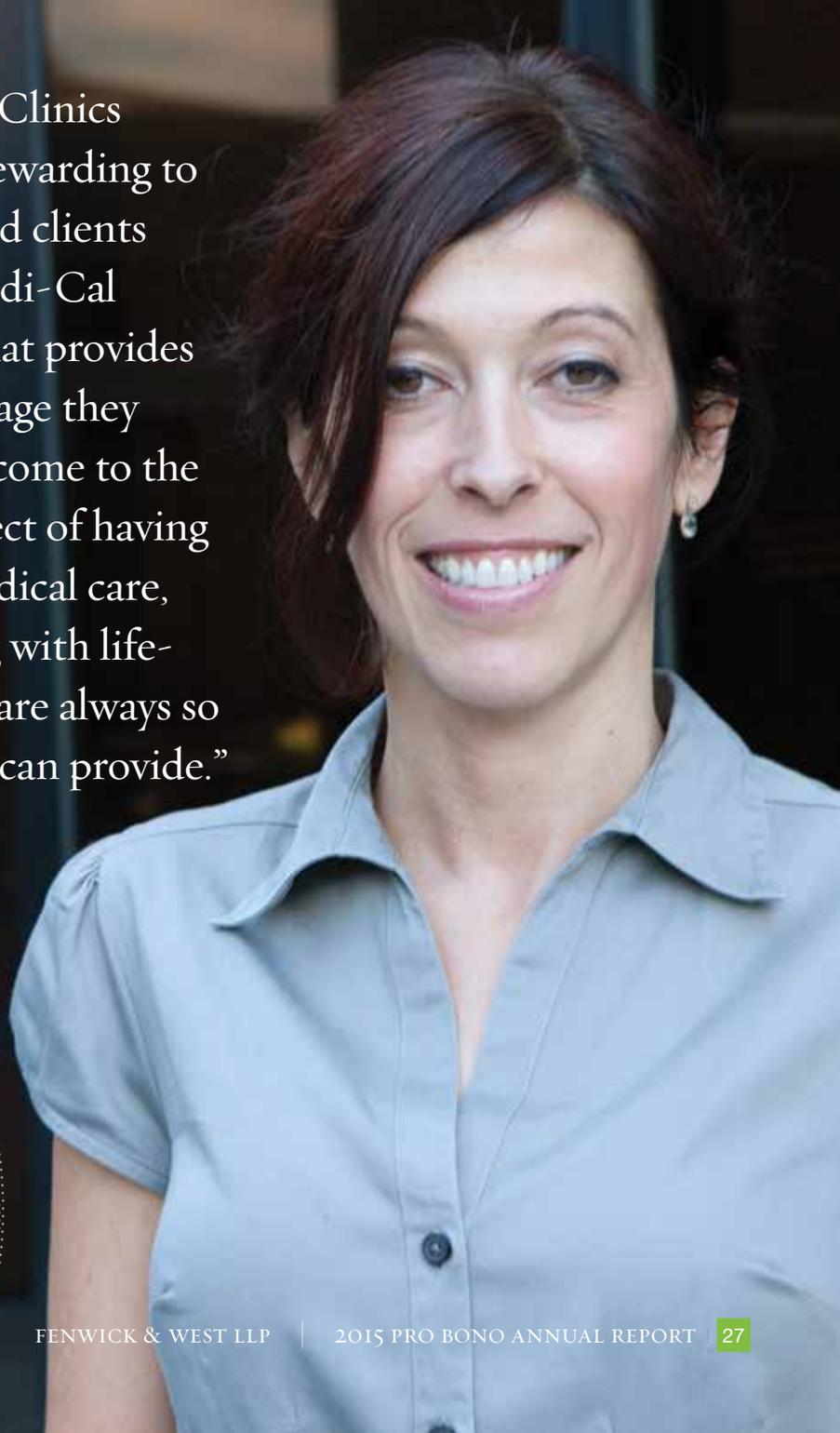
“I work on the Justice Bus[®] program because I believe that, as attorneys, we have a duty to provide public service. The Justice Bus offers an excellent framework and great support to enable volunteers to help underserved communities. They have a wonderful staff and provide excellent training for attorneys to build skills in high-need areas.”

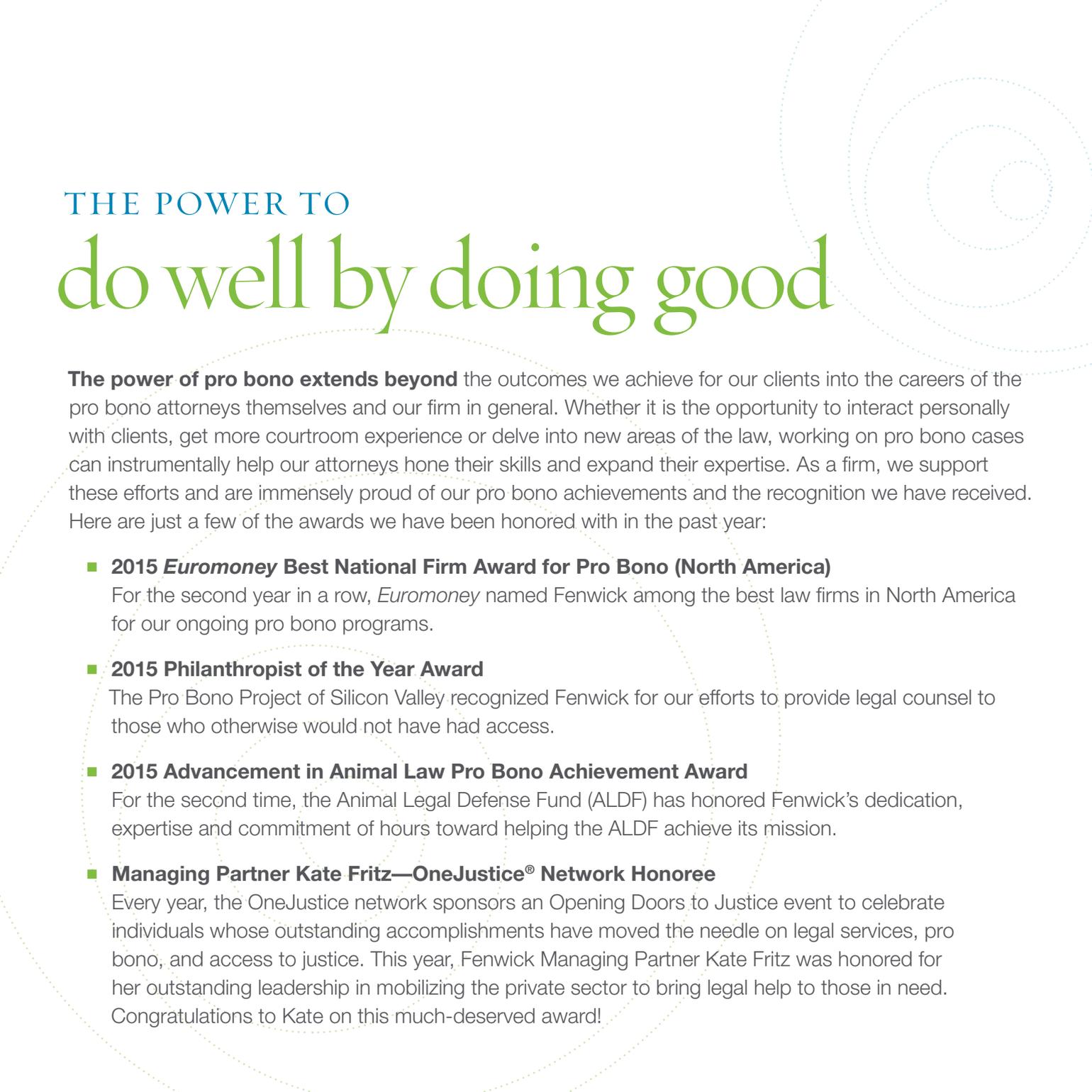
—*Phil Haack, Litigation Associate*



“I work on the Share of Cost Clinics because I find it incredibly rewarding to help low-income and disabled clients navigate the complicated Medi-Cal system and find a solution that provides them with the medical coverage they urgently need. Many clients come to the clinic facing the likely prospect of having to simply do without any medical care, even though they are dealing with life-threatening problems. They are always so grateful for any help that we can provide.”

—*Antonia Sequeira, IP Partner*





THE POWER TO do well by doing good

The power of pro bono extends beyond the outcomes we achieve for our clients into the careers of the pro bono attorneys themselves and our firm in general. Whether it is the opportunity to interact personally with clients, get more courtroom experience or delve into new areas of the law, working on pro bono cases can instrumentally help our attorneys hone their skills and expand their expertise. As a firm, we support these efforts and are immensely proud of our pro bono achievements and the recognition we have received. Here are just a few of the awards we have been honored with in the past year:

- **2015 *Euromoney* Best National Firm Award for Pro Bono (North America)**

For the second year in a row, *Euromoney* named Fenwick among the best law firms in North America for our ongoing pro bono programs.

- **2015 Philanthropist of the Year Award**

The Pro Bono Project of Silicon Valley recognized Fenwick for our efforts to provide legal counsel to those who otherwise would not have had access.

- **2015 Advancement in Animal Law Pro Bono Achievement Award**

For the second time, the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) has honored Fenwick's dedication, expertise and commitment of hours toward helping the ALDF achieve its mission.

- **Managing Partner Kate Fritz—OneJustice® Network Honoree**

Every year, the OneJustice network sponsors an Opening Doors to Justice event to celebrate individuals whose outstanding accomplishments have moved the needle on legal services, pro bono, and access to justice. This year, Fenwick Managing Partner Kate Fritz was honored for her outstanding leadership in mobilizing the private sector to bring legal help to those in need. Congratulations to Kate on this much-deserved award!

A woman with reddish-brown hair and glasses stands on a wide set of stone steps in front of a modern, multi-story building with large windows. She is wearing a black cardigan over a colorful floral top, a black skirt, black tights, and black shoes. She is smiling and has her right hand on a metal handrail. The building behind her has a mix of stone and glass facades.

“I DO PRO BONO because I have always viewed service not only to our clients but to our broader community as a core part of being a lawyer. It is both gratifying and deeply humbling to be able to serve those who do not have easy access to the privilege we take for granted and whose voices often go unheard.”

—*Kate Fritz, Managing Partner*

For more information regarding our pro bono work, ongoing projects and partnership opportunities, please contact:



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