

For Release: Immediate April 22, 2018

Contact: Deborah Auspelmyer Foundation Executive dauspelmyer@tnybf.org 518-487-5650

NEW YORK BAR FOUNDATION PRESENTS GRANT TO VOLUNTEER LEGAL SERVICES PROJECT OF MONROE COUNTY, INC.

The New York Bar Foundation recently presented a grant of \$13,500 to the Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County, Inc., Rochester, NY. The grant will be used to support their Tenant Town and Village Court Pro Bono program.

The grant will enable Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County, Inc. to continue to provide free legal representation to unrepresented tenants facing eviction proceedings with the assistance of pro bono attorneys. The goal of the program is to prevent homelessness in areas of growing poverty in towns and villages in Monroe County. Volunteer attorneys are able to assist tenants in avoiding immediate eviction by negotiating time to move out or enter into a "pay-and-stay" agreement with their respective landlords.

"We are thrilled to be able to continue the program in 2018 with the help of this grant from The New York Bar Foundation," says Tina Foster, Executive Director, Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County, Inc.

"The New York Bar Foundation this year allocated nearly \$700,000 in grants to 105 programs across New York, and we have nearly doubled the total dollar amount of grants over the past five years," said Bar Foundation President John H. Gross. "Foundation leadership has worked hard to increase available funds so that we can continue to assist those in need of legal services across New York State and we are pleased that we are able to offer more assistance."

New York Bar Foundation grants assist in:

- Increasing public understanding of the law
- Improving the justice system and the law
- Facilitating the delivery of legal services
- Enhancing professional competence and ethics

The New York Bar Foundation, a 501(c) (3) organization, is the charitable arm of the New York State Bar Association. Established in 1950 The Foundation is dedicated to aiding charitable and educational projects to meet the law-related needs of the public and the legal profession. To learn more about The Foundation and how you can support its programs, go to www.tnybf.org or email Deborah Auspelmyer at dauspelmyer@tnybf.org