2020 Pro Bono and Community Services Annual Report

FOR FISCAL YEAR FEBRUARY 1, 2019 – JANUARY 31, 2020
PREPARED BY THE PRO BONO COMMITTEE
Clients and Friends,

We are pleased to present Wilson Sonsini's Pro Bono and Community Services Annual Report for fiscal year 2020. As it does every year, the report offers a brief glimpse into the legal services, financial support, and volunteer efforts that our firm’s attorneys and staff generously provide to nonprofit organizations and individuals in need in our local communities.

Our dedicated employees recognize their professional responsibility to pursue justice by helping those with limited means to gain access to the legal system. During fiscal year 2020, Wilson Sonsini attorneys and staff provided more than 62,000 pro bono hours, participated in over 95 community service projects, and raised in excess of $175,000 for charitable organizations and causes. Further, the Wilson Sonsini Foundation contributed almost $1.4 million to nearly 90 law-related organizations and close to 140 community organizations.

We hope you enjoy reading our latest Pro Bono and Community Services Annual Report. Perhaps now more than ever, we are incredibly proud of our employees’ longstanding and continued commitment to giving back to the communities in which we live and work.

With best wishes,

Doug Clark
Managing Partner, Wilson Sonsini
The John Wilson Award

The John Wilson Award honors the memory of the firm’s co-founder, John Arnot Wilson, who was actively involved in civic and nonprofit organizations. The award recognizes attorneys who have consistently upheld John Wilson’s commitment to pursue excellence in the practice of law while serving the community, and who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to the firm’s pro bono clients and handled significant responsibility on pro bono matters. In addition, the firm is honoring select staff members who have provided outstanding service for pro bono clients.

For fiscal year 2020, the firm honored the following individuals:

- **Austin:** Brandon Middleton-Pratt
- **Boston:** Morgan Brown and Robert Hemm
- **Los Angeles:** Stephanie Cheng and Ava Miller
- **New York:** Tania Abbas, Justin Cohen, and Johanna Collins-Wood
- **Palo Alto:** Stephen Horton, Josephine Kim, Nayha Lang, Doug McManaway, Jeremiah Nelson, Jamie Otto, Subha Patibanda, Miruna Predescu, Rosalind Schonwald, Jessica Yeh, Delilah Crim, and Stephanie Van Horn
- **San Diego:** Nathaniel Leachman and Aaron Parker
- **San Francisco:** Timothy Cronin and Dylan Savage
- **Seattle:** Stephanie Jensen and Jennifer Kendrex
- **Washington, D.C.:** Adam Burrowbridge, Lindsey Edwards, and Yolanda Gutierrez-Almazan
- **Wilmington:** Brian Currie

The recipients of the fiscal year 2020 Pro Bono Service Award are:

- **Partners:** David Berger, Samir Elamrani, Mark Fitzgerald, Steven Guggenheim, Andrew Hoffman, Melissa Rick, Rico Rosales, Tracy Rubin, Steve Schatz, Anthony Weibell, Lauren Gallo White, and Lucy Yen
- **Associates, Of Counsel, and Counsel:** Charles Andres, Christine Au-Yeung, Haley Bavasi, Carly Bernstein, Rachel Boocher, Andrew Braff, Alexander Brehnan, David Brekke, Nellie Brutoa, Sierra Bunnell, Jay Carter, Tiphanie Cascella, John Casey, Ying Chen, Lee Cumberland, Lisa Davis, Qiming Deng, Ralitza Dineva, Kenneth Edelson, Taylor Evenson, Katherine Fisk, Angela Flaherty, Han Gao, Christopher Garcia, Sonja Gerrard, Prashant Girinath, Abigail Givol, Evita Grant, Uri Greenwald, James Griffin-Stanco, Paul Gross, Nicholas Haenel, Kristina Hanson, Ingo Hardt, Christopher Harlem, Randy Holland, Siyu Jiang,
Pro Bono & Community Awards


**WILSON SONSINI HONORED AS PRO BONO LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR BY CASA CORNELIA**

Founded in 1993, Casa Cornelia Law Center is a public interest firm providing quality pro bono legal services to victims of human and civil rights violations. The organization has a primary commitment to indigent persons within the immigrant community in Southern California and seeks to educate others regarding the impact of immigration law and policy on the community and the public good.

On October 19, 2019, Wilson Sonsini was recognized as Casa Cornelia’s 2019 La Mancha Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year at the organization’s 12th Annual La Mancha Awards event at the University of San Diego’s Shiley Theatre. The annual La Mancha Awards celebrate the dedication of exceptional members of the legal community who are committed to the success of Casa Cornelia’s clients and their cases. The Wilson Sonsini Foundation was a sponsor of the event.

Partner Doug Carsten accepted the award on behalf of Wilson Sonsini, and a video feature titled “Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year” was produced by Casa Cornelia for the event.

“The firm has provided pro bono legal services to referrals from Casa Cornelia in various immigration matters since 2010.”

**COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

The Community Service Award recognizes attorneys and staff who have made significant contributions to the firm’s community service program over the past year. This award honors individuals who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to the program, both in terms of active participation in the firm’s community service activities and leadership in the firm’s community service efforts.

**Staff:** Andre Abrahamins, Peter Amos, Celine Bonnefous, Ruben Ceja, Srividya Chandramouli, Anthony DeNatale, Melisa Desperak, Laura Fox, Melanie Froh, Abenet Gebretsadik, Sanjukta Ghosh, Brenda Gray, Zoe Judge, Diana Lopez, Stacy Love, Candida Malferrari, Jose Martinez, Shawn Meade, Rodolfo Muñoz, Katrina Otrubova, Naomi Pierce, August Renshaw, Nicholas Tiee, Jing Wang, and David Williamson

**FIRM ACHIEVES SECOND HARVEST OF SILICON VALLEY’S “BLUE DIAMOND” RECOGNITION**

For the 11th consecutive year, Wilson Sonsini was recognized as a “Blue Diamond” contributor—Second Harvest of Silicon Valley’s highest level of recognition—for its fundraising and food-drive initiatives in 2019. The firm and its employees provided monetary donations totaling nearly $78,000, including $25,000 from the Wilson Sonsini Foundation.
Wilson Sonsini Obtains Pro Bono Victory in Medicare Class Action, Securing Appeal Rights for Vulnerable Medicare Patients Nationwide


Judge Michael P. Shea issued a 114-page opinion ordering the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a procedure that will allow Medicare beneficiaries who were initially admitted as an inpatient to a hospital and subsequently reclassified as an outpatient receiving “observation status” to challenge such alteration to their status. The ordered appeal right stems from the court’s finding that the Secretary violated the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

The case, which was brought on behalf of one of the largest classes of Medicare beneficiaries in history, stands to provide significant protection to senior citizens entering hospitals. The court’s order provides that once a doctor determines that a Medicare patient should be considered an “inpatient” for Medicare benefits, the patient has a right to the benefits, provided they are consistent with this status determination, and any effort to deprive the patient of these rights by changing their status constitutes a deprivation under the due process clause.

In reaching its conclusion that the plaintiffs were entitled to the requested right to an appeal, the court held that “[t]he fundamental prerequisite of due process of law is the opportunity to be heard at a meaningful time and in a meaningful manner.” In light of the “significant risk of error,” the court ordered the defendants to establish an appropriate appeals process to protect the plaintiff class.

Wilson Sonsini partnered with two nonprofits, the Center for Medicare Advocacy (CMA) and Justice in Aging, to represent a nationwide class estimated to include hundreds of thousands of the most vulnerable Medicare patients, who are by definition elderly and/or disabled. The litigation was originally filed in 2011. In 2015, the Second Circuit reversed an order dismissing the case, and Wilson Sonsini and its co-counsel successfully prevailed against multiple summary judgment motions and motions to dismiss over the last several years.

“We are enormously proud to have partnered with CMA and Justice in Aging, as well as others, to achieve this critical result for our nation’s elderly and medically vulnerable populations,” said Wilson Sonsini litigation Of Counsel/Pro Bono Counsel Luke Liss. “Working with our very talented co-counsel, we have litigated this case for years to ensure that our clients have the most basic appeal rights to protect their access to critical care.”

The decision has broad implications for patients. As made clear in the court’s detailed opinion, patients who have their Medicare status changed from “inpatient” to “observation” suffer significant economic and other harms. As the court recognized, an “elderly person’s arrival at a hospital is a stressful moment. . . . One question that might not be uppermost in their minds at that moment—but that may soon emerge to add to the stress of the experience—is who will pay for the elderly person’s medical care.”

The Wilson Sonsini pro bono trial team included David Berger, Steven Guggenheim, Luke Liss, Dylan Savage, Lindsey Edwards, and Alexander Brehnan, with assistance from Stacy Love and Stephanie Van Horn.
LAWYERS FOR A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Wilson Sonsini Exceeds—and then Doubles—its Commitment to Advance Sustainability

In September 2018, Wilson Sonsini joined eight other leading law firms in announcing a groundbreaking initiative to deliver free legal services worth $15 million by 2020 to advance sustainability across the globe. A first-of-its-kind initiative, Lawyers for a Sustainable Economy (LSE) offers pro bono legal assistance to entrepreneurs and community-based nonprofits taking on key sustainability challenges across multiple economic sectors in energy, transportation, and land use. The initiative was announced in San Francisco at the Global Climate Action Summit, where Wilson Sonsini committed to provide legal services worth at least $2 million by the end of 2020. By the end of 2019, however, the firm had already exceeded this goal, and has since announced that it is doubling its commitment to $4 million.

As part of its pro bono commitment to LSE, Wilson Sonsini has provided pro bono legal assistance to at least 23 entrepreneurs and community-based nonprofits taking on key sustainability and climate challenges. The initiative has been led by partners Bob O’Connor and Scott Zimmermann, with participation from numerous attorneys and staff members across Wilson Sonsini offices. Some highlights include the following:

- **ACORE:** Wilson Sonsini teamed up with the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) to publish a white paper titled "Enacting a Federal High-Penetration Renewable Energy Standard," which described how a renewable energy standard (RES) would most effectively put electric utilities throughout the United States on a pathway to a carbon-neutral power sector. In addition to providing recommendations regarding the central components of a federal RES—such as timeline and qualifying technologies—Wilson Sonsini and ACORE addressed how policymakers crafting such legislation should also consider stranded assets, grid reliability, the need for transmission and energy storage infrastructure buildout, and the importance of a socioeconomically fair transition to a carbon-free power sector (e.g., by way of catalyzing robust employment opportunities in regions historically dominated by fossil fuel industries).

- **Energy Peace Partners:** Wilson Sonsini assisted Energy Peace Partners (EPP) with their formation and fiscal sponsorship agreement with the California Clean Energy Fund (CalCEF). EPP leverages economic and climate solutions to support peace in the world’s most fragile regions. Their climate-sensitive approach expands the existing toolkit for supporting peace and development by extending the renewable energy revolution to some of the most vulnerable populations on the planet. Wilson Sonsini put together the first Peace Renewable Energy Credit (PREC) term sheet and form agreement, and
Environmental Protection

has counseled EPP in structuring the role of the PREC as part of the development of energy projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan.

- **The Nature Conservancy:** In February 2019, a Wilson Sonsini pro bono team represented The Nature Conservancy in a groundbreaking issuance of $40 million aggregate principal amount of 4.496 percent Taxable Bonds, Series 2019A, and $62 million aggregate principal amount of Floating Rate Taxable Bonds, Series 2019B, in an underwritten offering. J.P. Morgan and BofA Merrill Lynch were the underwriters for the offering. The net proceeds of the offering were used to redeem The Nature Conservancy’s outstanding 6.30 percent Bonds due July 1, 2019. Established in 1951, The Nature Conservancy aims to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

- **Sabin Center for Climate Change Law:** Wilson Sonsini, along with more than 20 other law firms across the country, has worked with Columbia’s Sabin Center for Climate Change Law to draft model legal documents to implement the recommendations from *Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization in the United States*, a book edited by Professors Michael Gerrard and John Dernbach. The book identifies more than 1,000 legal options for reducing U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80 percent from 1990 levels by 2050. The legal options identified involve federal, state, and local law, as well as private governance. Once drafted, these model legal documents will be made available through an online clearinghouse, established and managed by the Sabin Center, for use and implementation by policymakers at the local, regional, state, and federal levels.

- **Sustainable Ocean Alliance:** Wilson Sonsini has worked with Sustainable Ocean Alliance in its efforts to develop leaders, cultivate ideas, and accelerate solutions around the world to promote ocean health and sustainability. Through supporting Sustainable Ocean Alliance’s start-up accelerator program, Ocean Solutions Accelerator, the firm helps prepare ocean entrepreneurs to market, scale, and raise capital for their sustainable innovations in the fields of clean energy, fisheries management, hydrocarbon and plastics extraction, upcycling and closed loop innovations, ocean data analytics, and assisted evolution for corals.
Firm Secures Victory in Federal Habeas Death Penalty Appeal

In 2017, Wilson Sonsini partnered with the American Bar Association’s (ABA’s) Death Penalty Representation Project to become appellate counsel for a death-sentenced inmate in the state of Florida. The client’s federal habeas petition had been denied by the Southern District of Florida in 2016 and was pending appeal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. The ABA’s Death Penalty Representation Project sought conflict-free counsel to defend the client’s fundamental constitutional rights and establish that his federal habeas petition was timely.

Wilson Sonsini secured a victory in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit when the court granted a certificate of appealability and remand to our client. The court granted the certificate of appealability on three issues: (1) whether the federal habeas petition was timely; (2) whether trial counsel violated the client’s right to effective counsel under the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments; and (3) whether the state’s nondisclosure of critical evidence violated the client’s rights.

In granting the certificate of appealability, the appellate court found the petitioner’s arguments credible, accepted the appeal, and ordered substantive briefing. The Wilson Sonsini team further pursued a remand to give the client access to materials and discovery not otherwise available on appeal. On January 6, 2020, the Eleventh Circuit provided critical due process to the client by remanding the case back to the district court to consider conflict-free counsel’s arguments and whether an evidentiary hearing is warranted.

Pro bono team: Mark Rosman, Adam Burrowbridge, Carly Bernstein, Doug McManaway, Tasha Thomas, Eric Kohan, Ed Powell, Yolanda Gutierrez-Almazan, and Zoe Judge
Wilson Sonsini has continued its pro bono work on behalf of immigrants and refugees through many avenues, including interactive workshops, asylum applications, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status petitions, U-Visas, T-Visas, DACA applications and renewals, and impact litigation. Below are several examples of this critical work.

**OneJustice’s Justice Bus Project (Palo Alto)**

On October 16, 2019, a Wilson Sonsini pro bono team led by litigation Of Counsel and Pro Bono Counsel Luke Liss partnered with a team from firm client Lyft led by its general counsel, Kristin Svercheck, for a OneJustice Justice Bus Project to provide pro bono immigration and paperwork legal assistance to 20 clients at a daylong clinic in East Palo Alto, California.

**Pro bono team:** Chidera Anyanwu, Stephen Horton, Drew Liming, Luke Liss, Dennise Martinez, Douglas McManaway, Jamie Otto, Subha Patibanda, Mary A. Procaccio-Flowers, Ana Miruna Predescu, Melissa Rick, Ruben Ceja, Delilah Crim, and Rodolfo Muñoz

Established in 2007, the Justice Bus Project “mobilizes and empowers volunteer attorneys and law students to provide legal help to isolated and rural communities over the course of one and two-day trips.” Since its inception, the program has transported more than 2,000 volunteers to isolated and underserved communities to provide much-needed legal assistance to over 5,000 low-income Californians.

In granting asylum, Immigration Judge Anna C. Little found the client’s testimony credible and that the threats to the client’s life were clearly tied to the client’s relationship and loyalty to her father, as well as the imputed political opinion of being anti-gang.

**Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area (Palo Alto) Country: El Salvador**

Wilson Sonsini, along with Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area, secured a victory in the San Francisco Immigration Court when the court granted asylum status to a 32-year-old mother of three from El Salvador. The client’s father was affiliated with the anti-gang group La Sombra Negra, and as a result, the MS-13 gang killed her father and targeted other family members with threats of harm. After enduring years of threats and police inaction, the client sought asylum in the United States.

**Pro bono team:** Blair Nelson, Jamie Otto, and Sara Tolbert, with assistance from Malavika Lobo, Andrew Kramer, Welles Mathison, Candida Malferrari, Moira Rueda, Ruben Ceja, Delilah Crim, Rodolfo Muñoz, Abenet Gebretsadik, Tracy Fritz, Penny Ortega, and Andre Abrahamians
Immigrants’ Rights

Founded in 1968, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area (LCCR) works to protect and promote the rights of people of color, immigrants, and low-income people in California. Assisted by hundreds of pro bono attorneys, LCCR provides free legal representation to communities on the front lines of racial, economic, and immigrant justice struggles through direct services, impact litigation, and policy advocacy. Wilson Sonsini’s partnership with LCCR started in 1994.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel (San Francisco)
Country: Thailand

Wilson Sonsini pro bono attorneys secured a grant of asylum for Priya (not her real name), a woman from Thailand who came to the firm through AIDS Legal Referral Panel and was our first client from the organization. Priya originally came to the United States in 1996 to pursue her master’s degree. However, a financial crisis in Thailand caused her to lose her school funding. She stayed in the United States in order to work and save money for school, and to avoid her family, who do not support her as a transgender woman.

In 2008, Priya contracted HIV. To stay alive, she requires several expensive medications that she would not be able to access in Thailand. With the help of her doctors, Priya transitioned in her public and private life in April 2019 and now lives fully as a transgender woman.

Partner Steven Guggenheime provided guidance on the matter.

The mission of AIDS Legal Referral Panel (ALRP) is to help people with HIV/AIDS maintain or improve their health by resolving their legal issues. Founded in 1983, ALRP accomplishes this mission by providing free and low-cost legal services to people with HIV/AIDS in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Human Rights First (New York)
Country: Nepal

Wilson Sonsini pro bono attorneys secured a second chance for a Nepali asylum seeker to pursue his asylum application. Paresh Bardewa (not his real name) came to the United States as a student in 2008 after fleeing persecution by Maoists in Nepal over articles he published and other pro-democracy activism. He applied for asylum and was referred to Wilson Sonsini by Human Rights First.

Both the immigration court and the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) found that Mr. Bardewa had proven past persecution by Maoists on account of his political beliefs, but they denied his application for asylum on the grounds that conditions had changed in Nepal so that it would be safe for him to return. Wilson Sonsini briefed an appeal for Mr. Bardewa to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, which held that the immigration court and the BIA had not conducted a sufficiently individualized analysis of Mr. Bardewa’s claims and failed to sufficiently address evidence that Mr. Bardewa had received threats even after moving to the United States. The appellate court therefore ordered the government to reconsider Mr. Bardewa’s application.

Pro bono team: Daniel Weick led the briefing on the appeal with the support of Robert Corp, Lee Ann Almeida, and Anthony Geritano. Partners Chul Pak, Wendy Waszmer, and Jeff Bank provided guidance on the matter.

In November 2019, a team of Wilson Sonsini attorneys provided pro bono immigration and paperwork legal assistance to low-income clients at a Citizenship Workshop hosted by the Asian Law Alliance.

Pro bono team: Elise Lopez and Malavika Lobo, with assistance from Lilli Cardenas and Debbie Faszholz.

**Capital Area Immigrants’ Rights Coalition (Washington, D.C.)**
*Country: Sierra Leone*

In July 2019, a team of Wilson Sonsini attorneys represented Jack (not his real name) at his asylum hearing, helping him secure asylum and remain in the U.S. with his family. Jack grew up in Sierra Leone during a civil war, experiencing horrific violence throughout his childhood. He was tortured by rebels for refusing to shoot his own father and witnessed the murder and kidnapping of other family members by rebel troops. The violence followed Jack from village to village as he and his family sought safety. Jack ultimately fled with his family to a refugee camp outside of Sierra Leone before his mother, who had visited the United States and was unable to return to Sierra Leone after the civil war escalated, arranged for Jack and his siblings to come to the U.S.

In 2018, Jack was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). With less than a week to prepare, the Wilson Sonsini team filed an emergency motion to stay Jack’s removal from the U.S. and requested that the immigration court reopen his case. The court granted the request and stayed Jack’s removal. In preparation for Jack’s final asylum hearing, the Wilson Sonsini team completed extensive briefing and worked closely with Jack and his family. The attorneys argued, among other things, that Jack should be granted asylum on the grounds that he is a member of a particular social group of individuals with traumatic brain injuries who exhibit erratic behavior. The court accepted this argument and ultimately granted Jack asylum. Instead of being deported to Sierra Leone, Jack was released after a year in ICE custody. He is now receiving proper medical care and living with his family in the United States.

**Pro bono team:** Nick Miller, Julie Krosnicki, Christina Clemens, Amanda Hudson, and Lisa Hoffman

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**Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto (Palo Alto)**
*Country: Mexico*

After nearly five years of waiting while the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services considered the application, a Wilson Sonsini pro bono team helped secure U-Visa nonimmigrant status for a Mexican man and his former partner, whose teenage son was murdered by gang members in the United States.

The parents are longtime residents of the United States (the father as far back as 1989) and upstanding members of their community. In 2011, their eldest son was shot and killed by gang members, who subsequently threatened the father in person for cooperating with law enforcement. The gang members also threatened to kill the entire family, and made similar threats on social media. Despite this, the father continued to cooperate with the police and prosecuting attorneys, and ultimately was instrumental in bringing the killers to justice. While nothing can replace the loss of their son, the family is grateful to Wilson Sonsini for their assistance over the years, and they can now legally stay in the United States—the only country they know as home.

**Pro bono team:** Luke Liss, Peter Zaffaroni, and Rodolfo Muñoz

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Founded in East Palo Alto, Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto (CLSEPA) is a nonprofit offering legal services that improve the lives of low-income families throughout the region. CLSEPA specializes in immigration, housing, workers’ rights, records clearance, and consumer protection.
Wilson Sonsini is committed to becoming a more sustainable organization throughout both its domestic and international offices.

**Annual Earth Day Fair**

In April 2019, the Palo Alto office held its Annual Earth Day Fair. The event provided a variety of information on what employees can do to be more sustainable both at work and at home. For example, the City of Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant and GreenWaste tested employees’ knowledge of earth-friendly facts and recycling, composting, and waste with their “Wheel of Trash” games. Employees also obtained information about sustainable commute alternatives from Stanford Research Park Transportation and WageWorks, received water-saving and other environmental tips from the City of Palo Alto Utilities, heard about local habitat-restoration efforts from Grassroots Ecology, and learned about plant-based diets from Guckenheimer.

In addition, employees had the opportunity to safely dispose of a variety of items to help keep them out of our landfills. These items included old cell phones and other electronic equipment, worn-out shoes, baby clothing, men’s and women’s professional clothing and shoes, printer cartridges, eyeglasses, and fluorescent light bulbs and batteries. Further, the firm hosted an e-waste drop-off event to help employees recycle e-waste responsibly.

**ABA-EPA Law Office Climate Challenge**

Since 2008, Wilson Sonsini has participated in the American Bar Association-U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Law Office Climate Challenge, which is “designed to encourage law offices to take specific steps to conserve energy and resources, as well as reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants.” As part of the Climate Challenge, the firm is engaged in the following programs: Best Practices for Office Paper Management, the U.S. EPA WasteWise Program, the U.S. EPA Green Power Partnership Program, and the U.S. EPA Energy Star Program. In 2016, Wilson Sonsini began purchasing 50 percent renewable energy for its global operations, elevating the firm to the Leadership level in the U.S. EPA Green Power Partnership Program.
In addition to its comprehensive pro bono program, the firm offers numerous opportunities to provide hands-on service and monetary support for worthy causes. In 2019, Wilson Sonsini attorneys and staff participated in more than 95 community service projects. Organizations with which they volunteered included nonprofits supporting hunger relief, human services, health, education, the environment, animals, and home and community-facility renovation.

A few highlights from the various firmwide activities include several initiatives to fight hunger and restore the environment, as well as the firm’s involvement in a series of home and community renovation projects in Spring 2019.

**FIGHTING HUNGER**

Employees from numerous Wilson Sonsini offices supported a variety of local nonprofit organizations to help fight hunger and provide food for those in need. In January 2019, the Washington, D.C., office held a food drive for Capital Area Food Bank to support those affected by the federal government shutdown of 2018-2019. In March 2019, the Palo Alto and San Francisco offices held a fundraising drive for Second Harvest of Silicon Valley to help support children at risk of hunger, raising $37,695 (including $10,000 from the Wilson Sonsini Foundation). In November and December 2019, 10 of the firm’s offices participated in holiday fundraising campaigns, for which the Wilson Sonsini Foundation also provided support. All told, over $120,100 in contributions (including $74,250 from the Wilson Sonsini Foundation) was collected to support the following local nonprofits fighting hunger: Capital Area Food Bank (Washington, D.C.), Central Texas Food Bank (Austin), City Harvest (New York), Food Bank of Delaware (Wilmington), Greater Boston Food Bank, Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, San Francisco Food Bank, Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, and University District Food Bank (Seattle).

Additional activities included the following:

### Austin

Once a week throughout the year, volunteers from the Austin office teamed up with Meals on Wheels Central Texas (MOWCT) to deliver meals to homebound individuals in the North Austin area. In addition, the office provided gifts to four seniors through the MOWCT program. MOWCT provides hot, nutritious meals and other services to homebound individuals.

In November 2019, in celebration of the Austin office’s 20th anniversary, Austin employees volunteered at the Central Texas Food Bank (CTFB), sorting and packing produce to serve those in need in the community. CTFB is the largest hunger-relief nonprofit in Central Texas, and provided 45 million pounds of food to families in need last year through a network of 260 partner agencies in 21 Central Texas counties.

### Boston

The Boston office provided volunteers for a food-sort project at the Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB) in July 2019. GBFB collects and distributes food for low-income people in Eastern Massachusetts, and distributed over 61.8 million pounds of food last year through its network of 520 partner agencies and 60 direct distribution programs.

In November 2019, a team of volunteers from the Boston office served breakfast to veterans at the New England Center and Home for Veterans (NECHV). The breakfast was sponsored by the Wilson Sonsini Foundation. The volunteers also delivered cards of gratitude written by Boston employees to the veterans. The NECHV is a service and care provider for former military service men and women, offering a variety of programs and services that enable success, reintegration, meaningful employment, and independent living.

### Brussels

In December 2019, the Brussels office participated in Les Samaritains’ (“The Samaritans”) Shoe Box Initiative, collecting, filling, and gift-wrapping shoe boxes with food items and beverages (non-alcoholic, non-perishable, easy to open, and ready to
eat) and a season’s greetings card. The boxes were to be distributed to homeless individuals by The Samaritans and other nonprofits. The Samaritans provides food to the homeless and others in need in Brussels.

Los Angeles

Employees from the Los Angeles office volunteered at the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank (LARFB) in July 2019, assembling packages full of nutritious food for women with infants, children, and seniors in Los Angeles County. LARFB serves more than 300,000 people on a monthly basis. Approximately 25 percent of the food goes to children, 20 percent to older adults, and 10 percent to the homeless. The majority goes to low-income families and individuals who sometimes struggle to make ends meet.

Palo Alto

The Palo Alto office provided volunteers throughout the year for near-monthly Second Harvest of Silicon Valley (SHSV) food-sort projects held at the nonprofit’s facilities in San Carlos and San Jose. SHSV collects and distributes food to low-income people in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties, serving more than a quarter million people each month.

In addition, volunteers from the Palo Alto office helped prepare and serve dinner at the Project WeHOPE homeless shelter. The nonprofit is a year-round supportive and emergency shelter that provides resources and services for unhoused, homeless, and at-risk adults in East Palo Alto and surrounding communities.

Seattle

Seattle office employees volunteered at Millionair Club Charity, serving lunch to the organization’s homeless clients in July and October 2019. The nonprofit serves Seattle’s working poor and homeless, providing day-labor work programs, two hot meals per day, hygiene facilities, eye care, and social services.

Wilmington

In August 2019, employees from the Wilmington office prepared and cooked lunch for 50 parents and children served by the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware at Nemours Children’s Hospital, which provides a “home away from home” to families of seriously or chronically ill or injured children who are being treated at area hospitals.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

In 2019, several Wilson Sonsini offices participated in habitat-restoration and other environment-focused projects with local nonprofit organizations.

Boston

In May 2019, Boston employees participated in an urban farming project benefiting The Food Project.
Volunteers helped maintain the flower and vegetable beds at the nonprofit’s West Cottage Farm and participated in educational activities about the food cycle. The Food Project engages young people in personal and social change through sustainable agriculture. Food from its farms is distributed through the local community-supported agriculture programs and farmers’ markets, and donated to local hunger-relief organizations.

Palo Alto

In April 2019, volunteers from the Palo Alto office teamed up with Grassroots Ecology to remove invasive weeds near the San Francisquito creek in Palo Alto, one of many habitat-restoration projects of the nonprofit. Grassroots Ecology engages youth and adults in environmental restoration, community science, and education programs throughout Silicon Valley, from the foothills to the bay.

In August 2019, Palo Alto employees volunteered at Sweet Farm in Half Moon Bay. The team engaged in a variety of farming tasks to help maintain the farm and learned about the nonprofit’s sustainable farming practices. In addition, volunteers heard about Sweet Farm’s Farm Animal Rescue & Rehabilitation program and met the animal ambassadors—lifelong resident-rescued farm animals. Sweet Farm is a nonprofit animal sanctuary and plant farm dedicated to promoting animal welfare and environmental sustainability in food practices.

In addition, the Palo Alto office participated in the Annual California Coastal Clean Up Day in September 2019. Volunteers joined hundreds of Bay Area community members at Bedwell Bayfront Park in Menlo Park to help clean up the shores of the San Francisco Bay.

San Francisco and SOMA

In November 2019, volunteers from the San Francisco and SOMA offices partnered with Save the Bay (STB) on one of its wetland-restoration projects at the Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline in Oakland (a partnership with the East Bay Regional Park District). The team worked in STB’s Native Plant Nursery, where it grows site-specific plants from native seeds collected within the watershed, and cleaned up trash around the wetlands. STB works to protect and restore the San Francisco Bay for people and wildlife.

HOME AND COMMUNITY RENOVATION & BUILD PROJECTS

In April 2019, volunteers from five Wilson Sonsini offices supported their local communities by participating in community service events nationwide as part of National Rebuilding Day. In addition, in June 2019, employees from the San Diego office participated in a home-build project. The Wilson Sonsini Foundation generously sponsored the projects, which ranged from renovating a home for an elderly couple to transforming the outside spaces of two Head Start Centers serving children in East Palo Alto.

Austin

The Austin office teamed up with Austin Habitat for Humanity for a home-build project in East Austin for a single woman who worked at a senior living center and was living in a small apartment. Wilson Sonsini volunteers, along with other community volunteers, worked on a variety of tasks, including hanging doors, power washing the exterior of the house, painting interior baseboards, and preparing for other interior painting.

Palo Alto

The Palo Alto office partnered with Rebuilding Together Peninsula on a community-renovation project for two
Head Start facilities in East Palo Alto that serve approximately 100 three-to-five-year-old children. The facilities are managed by the Institute of Human and Social Development. Projects included creating two murals (one on a shed and one on the side of a classroom) and a painting of a snail with an ABC’s shell on the cement ground; renovating an existing caterpillar hopscotch; assembling a picnic table, two benches, and three children's picnic tables; constructing three planter boxes for a fruit/vegetable garden, as well as a new sandbox for the children; creating and installing six chalkboards and two tactile/soundboards; and planting and performing maintenance on the yards at both sites.

San Francisco

The San Francisco office partnered with Rebuilding Together San Francisco on a community-facility project for the Edgeworth Hotel, which provides permanent, supportive housing for formerly homeless adults in the city’s Tenderloin neighborhood. Team Wilson Sonsini, along with volunteers from Morrison & Foerster, cleaned and painted the facility to help create a brighter and healthier living space for the low-income neighbors and residents.

San Diego

The San Diego office collaborated with San Diego Habitat for Humanity on a build project in the Logan Heights area. The team worked on sets of tasks for two houses, including installing insulation in the garages and second floors and caulking around pipes in the garages.

Seattle

The Seattle office once again teamed up with Rebuilding Together Seattle and Board & Vellum to rehabilitate the home of an elderly couple who suffer from serious health issues and have lived in their house for more than 20 years. Volunteers from Wilson Sonsini and Board & Vellum worked on a variety of tasks, including the installation of interior handrails, miscellaneous repairs, item removal, and yardwork.

Washington, D.C.

The Washington, D.C., office joined forces with Rebuilding Together DC Alexandria and Del Rey Business Association to renovate a community facility in Alexandria, Virginia, for Friends of Guest House, a local nonprofit that helps women successfully reenter the community following incarceration. The team’s tasks included yardwork, exterior painting, deck repair, and interior prep and painting.
Established in November 1990, the Wilson Sonsini Foundation provides a vehicle for the firm’s members to make financial contributions to the community. Recognizing our professional responsibility to help those without means or with only limited resources gain access to the legal system, the foundation’s primary focus is to provide critical funding for nonprofit, legal service, and law-related organizations.

In 2019, the Wilson Sonsini Foundation provided nearly $797,000 in funding to law-related organizations nationwide, including:

- Accountability Counsel
- AIDS Legal Referral Panel
- Americans Advancing Justice- Asian Law Caucus
- Americans Advancing Justice- Los Angeles
- Asian Law Alliance
- Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach
- Bay Area Latino Lawyers Fund
- Bay Area Legal Aid
- Bet Tzedek
- Boston Bar Foundation
- California ChangeLawyers
- California Rural Legal Assistance
- Capital Area Immigrants’ Rights Coalition
- Casa Cornelia Law Center
- Center for Justice & Accountability
- Children’s Law Center
- Combined Campaign for Justice
- Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto
- D.C. Bar Pro Bono Center
- D.C. Volunteer Lawyers Project
- District of Columbia Bar Foundation
- East Bay Community Law Center
- Eastside Legal Assistance Program
- Equal Justice Society
- Equal Rights Advocates
- Family Violence Appellate Project
- Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence
- Human Rights Campaign Foundation
- Human Rights First
- Innocence Project
- International Refugee Assistance Project
- Justice & Diversity Center of the San Francisco Bar Association
- Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center
- La Raza Centro Legal
- Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund
- Latino Justice PRLDEF
- Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
- Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area
- Legal Aid at Work
- Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
- Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County
- Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia
- Legal Foundation of Washington (Campaign for Equal Justice)
- Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice
- MinKwon Center for Community Action
- National Center for Lesbian Rights
- National Center for Transgender Equality
- National Center for Youth Law
- National Partnership for Women & Families
- National Women’s Law Center
- New York Legal Assistance Group
- Northern California Innocence Project
- Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
- Northwest Justice Project
- OneJustice
- Public Advocates
- San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program
- Sanctuary for Families
- Swords to Plowshares Veterans Rights Organization
- Tahirih Justice Center
- Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid (Texas C-BAR)
- Tzedek DC
- Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas
- Western Center on Law & Poverty

Gail McFall serves as the foundation’s administrator.

2019 Wilson Sonsini Foundation Board

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