SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (April 4, 2022)—“and Justice for all” (AJFA) has received a $1.25 million dollar gift from the Florence J. Gillmor Foundation in support of their new civil legal aid facility currently under construction. The newly designed center is a tribute to Florence J. Gillmor, a lifelong supporter of Utah’s disadvantaged, whose estate has a long history of supporting AJFA’s civil legal programs. The lobby of the new facility will honor Florence J. Gillmor and the building will be named in honor of the Gillmor Foundation’s late trustee, James B. Lee.

“We are so grateful to the Gillmor Foundation for their long-time support of our work, and now this incredible gift in honor of James Lee and his passion for justice,” says Anne Milne, the Executive Director of Utah Legal Services, which Lee helped found in 1974. “Jim and his wife Evelyn were great friends to all our organizations, and he not only championed our work but gave us great advice behind the scenes. I can think of no one who deserves this honor more.”

The James B. Lee Justice Center, a remodeled building at 960 South Main Street, builds on the history of and provides new and better ways for “and Justice for all” partners—Legal Aid Society of Salt Lake, Utah Legal Services and the Disability Law Center - to serve the most vulnerable populations in our communities. Together, these agencies established “and Justice for all” in 1999 as an innovative collaboration to raise funds and streamline civil legal aid services. The primary providers of free and low-cost legal aid in the state, these three agencies serve 30,000 people a year to help people in our community with their most difficult problems — domestic violence, housing, employment, abuse and neglect, and financial self-sufficiency.

James Bracken Lee was a community leader with a lifelong commitment to justice and the law. After graduating from George Washington University College of Law in 1960, Lee went on to have an extraordinary career in the legal field. He joined Parsons Behle Evans & Latimer in 1961, a small firm of six lawyers, where he helped facilitate the growth of the firm and served as President from 1979 to 1993 and retired in 2020. Lee served as Utah State Bar Commissioner and later as President. He received multiple awards for his leadership and service including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Utah State Bar.

Lee had a fierce love of community and a belief in service to others that showed in his many charitable efforts. He helped found the nonprofit legal aid organization, Utah Legal Services, later serving as Chairman of the Board. He was one of the earliest supporters of “and Justice for all” and offered guidance as the organization grew. He was a mentor of many young lawyers and a committed supporter of bringing more women lawyers into the field.

“Throughout her life, Florence Gillmor made many anonymous contributions to causes and organizations benefiting Utah and its less fortunate. Ms. Gillmor and Mr. Lee both understood that legal services were a vital need for those least able to afford them. Ms. Gillmor was a steadfast contributor and supporter of the work of ‘and Justice for all.’ Dedicating a part of the Justice Center in recognition of her lifelong contributions is a fitting tribute,” said Raymond Etcheverry, Chairman of the Florence J. Gillmor Foundation.
ABOUT “AND JUSTICE FOR ALL”
“and Justice for all,” is a collaborative effort of Utah’s primary providers of free nonprofit civil legal aid—Legal Aid Society of Salt Lake, Utah Legal Services and the Disability Law Center. Additionally, “and Justice for all” provides support to other Utah nonprofit organizations addressing civil law issues such as immigration, tribal law, and mediation in family law matters. 
Learn more at www.andjusticeforall.org.

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