

rochelle sendar

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNER



Rochelle Sendar (left) with Ramonita Cordero, director of inMotion's legal program.

Volunteer lawyer Rochelle Sendar recently received the New York State Bar Association's *2003 President's Pro Bono Service Award* for her work representing inMotion clients. Of the hundreds of attorneys nominated each year, the Bar Association honors only 12 individuals, one from each of the state's judicial districts. On May 1st, Ramonita Cordero and Sandra Muñoz accompanied Rochelle to Albany and proudly watched as she received this well-earned recognition for her extraordinary service to indigent women living in the Bronx.

Rochelle has volunteered with inMotion at least two full days a week for the past two years, working side-by-side with our Bronx-based staff. During that time, she has represented 18 inMotion clients in highly contested cases in both Family and Supreme Court. She has easily exceeded 1,300 hours of pro bono service during this time.

One of Rochelle's clients was a victim of domestic violence who was being stalked and harassed by the father of her child. The father petitioned for custody of their child and an order of protection

against Rochelle's client. Rochelle's intensive preparation and strong advocacy in Family Court resulted in an order giving full custody of the child to our client and permitting limited weekend visitation, under safe conditions, to the father. And, of course, his petition for a protective order was dismissed.

Rochelle has a deep compassion for her clients—as well as unflagging good cheer. She has made a real difference in the lives of women who otherwise might have had to proceed on their own, or, even worse, not proceed at all.