



nvrdc

Network for Victim Recovery of DC



2017

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



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Dear NVRDC Supporter,

The Network for Victim Recovery of DC (NVRDC) experienced a record breaking year. Our case managers provided services and support to nearly 800 victims of crime. Our attorneys served 303 clients in 388 cases—representing survivors in hearings related to campus Title IX advocacy at local colleges and universities, participating in criminal hearings, and filing motions to protect victims' rights in criminal prosecutions. Staff also reached thousands of community members through outreach events and trainings on victims' rights and resources.

We didn't do this work alone! In FY17, volunteer attorneys at partnering firms supported NVRDC clients and services by donating over 4,000 hours in nearly 50 matters. All told, these volunteer attorneys provided nearly \$2,500,000 in in-kind support to victims of crime in the District.

During National Crime Victims' Rights Week, NVRDC's commitment to excellence was recognized by the U.S. Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, who presented staff with the Ed Stout Award for Outstanding Advocacy. During FY17, the organization was also selected as "one of the best" nonprofits in DC by the Catalogue for Philanthropy.

NVRDC continues to combat barriers our clients face and challenge systems that often keep crime victims from seeking support and exercising their rights. During this past fiscal year, NVRDC offered legal analysis and advocated for the passage of DC's Address Confidentiality Program to enhance survivors' privacy and safety. Staff testified at DC Council in support of the Uniform Power of Attorney Act in order to enhance protections for DC seniors targeted by those in a position of caring for them.

NVRDC staff presented testimony in support of Amendments to the Sexual Assault Victims' Rights Amendment Act and Victim Services Omnibus Act of 2017 that will expand supportive services to minor survivors of sexual violence. NVRDC also testified in support of the Sexual Abuse Statute of Limitations Act of 2017 which seeks to address the reality that the average child abuse victim will not disclose until after the age of 40, and is currently left without avenues to justice.

As we look forward to the next fiscal year, we ask you and all our supporters, volunteers, and partners to help us maintain our presence and support for all those impacted by crime as we continue to push for survivor-defined justice in all its forms.

Sincerely,



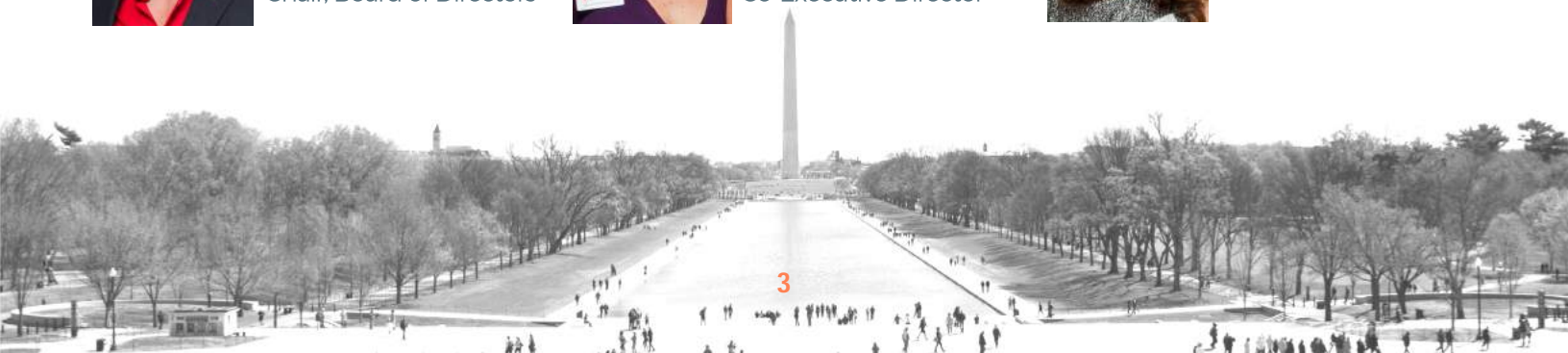
Ryan Guilds  
Chair, Board of Directors



Nikki Charles  
Co-Executive Director



Bridgette Stumpf  
Co-Executive Director





Network for Victim Recovery of DC (NVRDC) aims to change the impact of victimization by providing holistic, comprehensive services to victims of all crimes in DC.

Since opening its doors in 2012, NVRDC has remained dedicated to its commitment to empowering crime victims in the face of adversity.

In addition to its civil and crime victims' rights legal services, advocacy, and case management services, the organization runs the advocacy portion of the District's Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program, offering crisis intervention and case management to all sexual assault survivors in the city seeking a forensic medical exam.

## NVRDC'S MISSION

Network for Victim Recovery of DC empowers victims of all crimes to achieve survivor defined justice through a collaborative continuum of advocacy, case management, and legal services.



This report contains information on NVRDC's accomplishments and financial health for Fiscal Year 2017, spanning October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017.



# Survivor Story

## Michelle

Michelle\* originally came to NVRDC in the Summer of 2016 via the hospital program after being physically and sexually assaulted by a former intimate partner. NVRDC represented Michelle and asserted her crime victims' rights in the criminal

prosecution of the offender. Pre-trial litigation regarding Michelle's confidential and private information began in the late Winter of 2017 and continued for almost six months.

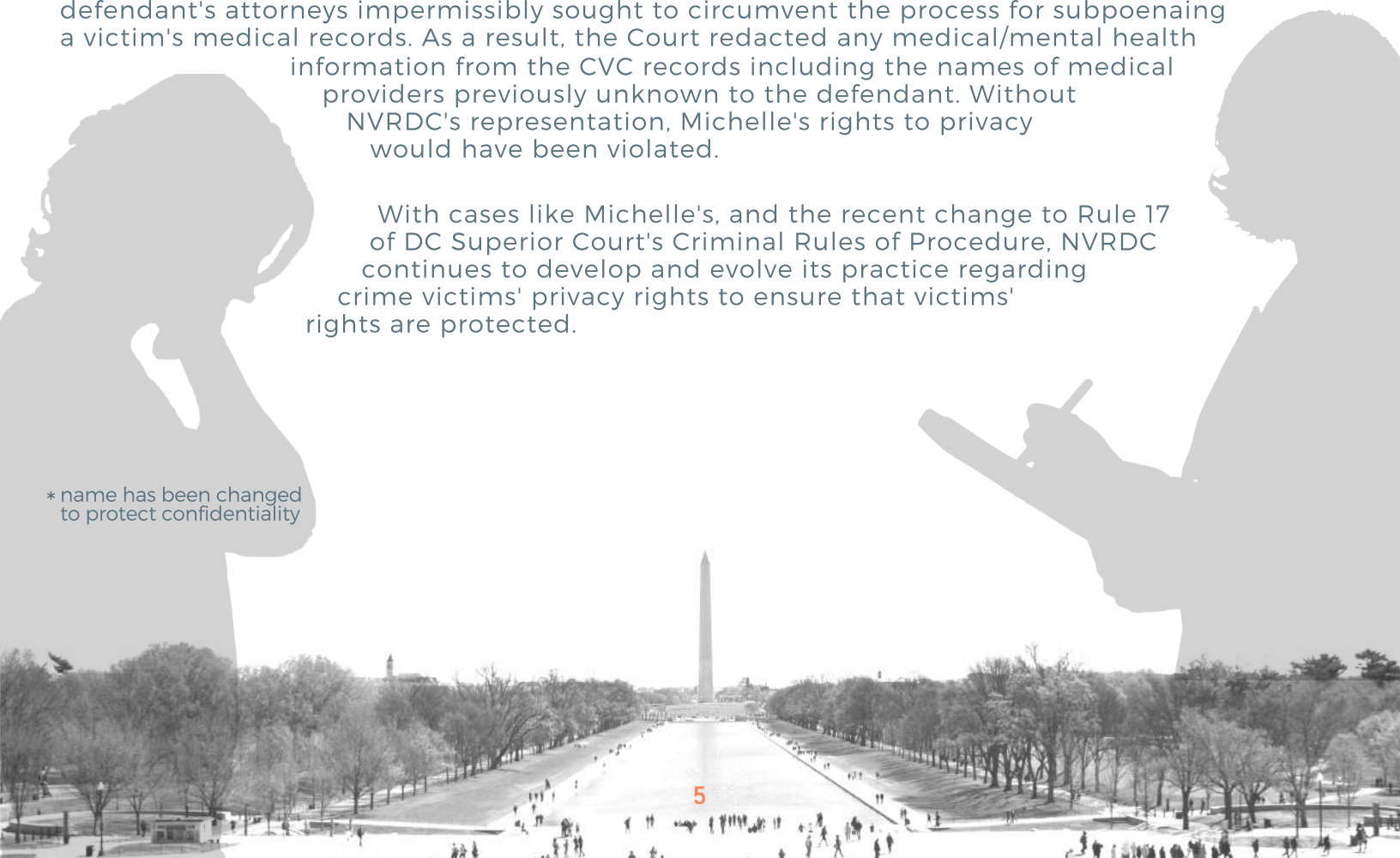
During that time, the defendant sought to obtain Michelle's medical records despite not knowing the names of her medical providers. In short, the defendant argued that even though he didn't know where Michelle received treatment, he knew that she did receive treatment somewhere. The defendant thus sought a court order compelling the disclosure of the names of the providers in addition to the records held by such providers. NVRDC was able to successfully argue against the defendant's attempt, with the Court finding that it could not require Michelle to disclose the names of her providers for defense counsel to subpoena.

Thereafter, the defendant hoped to obtain the names of Michelle's providers by sending a subpoena for Michelle's Crime Victims' Compensation (CVC) claims records. The defendant correctly guessed that if Michelle sought medical or mental health treatment related to the sexual assault, the costs of that treatment would be compensable through CVC, and thus, Michelle's CVC records would contain the names of the providers that the defendant wanted to subpoena.

NVRDC successfully argued against the defendant's efforts with the court finding that the defendant's attorneys impermissibly sought to circumvent the process for subpoenaing a victim's medical records. As a result, the Court redacted any medical/mental health information from the CVC records including the names of medical providers previously unknown to the defendant. Without NVRDC's representation, Michelle's rights to privacy would have been violated.

With cases like Michelle's, and the recent change to Rule 17 of DC Superior Court's Criminal Rules of Procedure, NVRDC continues to develop and evolve its practice regarding crime victims' privacy rights to ensure that victims' rights are protected.

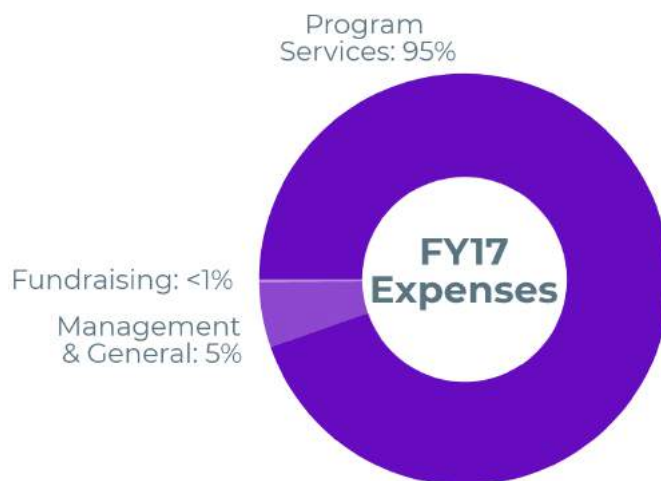
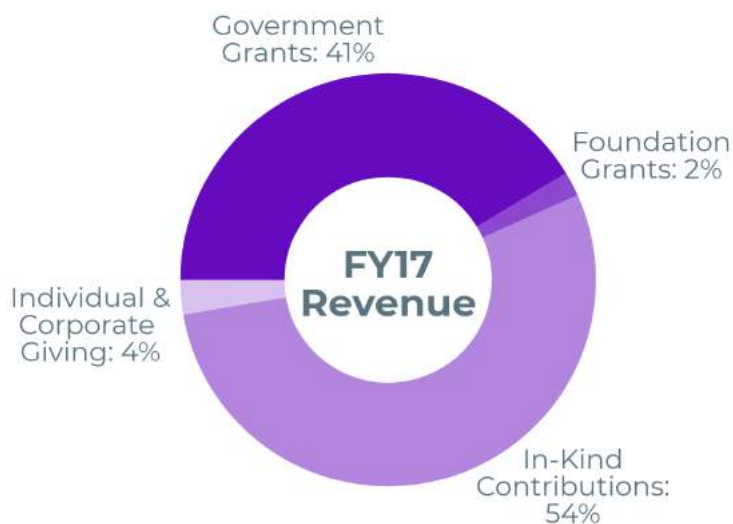
\* name has been changed to protect confidentiality





## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	FY 2017	FY 2016
Government Grants	\$1,847,075	\$1,316,534
Foundation Grants	85,000	40,000
In-Kind Contributions	2,413,394	2,786,785
Other Contributions	120,097	123,520
Interest Income	144	53
Other Income	250	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$4,465,960</b>	<b>\$4,266,892</b>
Program Services	\$4,170,842	\$4,083,765
Managements & General	223,748	97,116
Fundraising	11,000	8,010
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,405,590</b>	<b>\$4,188,891</b>
Changes in Net Assets	\$60,370	\$78,001
Net Assets: End of Period	260,228	182,227
<b>Net Assets: End of Period</b>	<b>\$320,598</b>	<b>\$260,228</b>



# Financial Statements

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	FY 2017	FY 2016
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$152,795	\$146,771
Grants and Other Receivables (net)	252,877	194,747
Prepaid Expenses	8,847	47,887
Property and Equipment (net)	49,447	20,588
Intangible Assets (net)	6,195	5,278
Other Assets	16,116	16,116
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$486,277</b>	<b>\$431,387</b>
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$137,576	\$107,787
Deferred Revenue	-	30,000
Capital Lease Payable	-	3,968
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$137,576</b>	<b>\$141,755</b>
Capital Lease Liability (net)	-	\$16,152
Deferred Rent	\$28,103	13,252
Total Other Liabilities	28,103	29,404
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$165,679</b>	<b>\$171,159</b>
Unrestricted	\$195,543	\$206,007
Unrestricted: Board Designated	102,199	52,055
Temporarily Restricted	22,856	2,166
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$320,598</b>	<b>\$260,228</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$486,277</b>	<b>\$431,387</b>

\* Fiscal Year 2017 spans from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017; NVRDC's audited financial statements and 990 are available on our website.

## ED STOUT MEMORIAL AWARD

APRIL 2017

FOR  
OUTSTANDING  
VICTIM  
ADVOCACY

by the U.S.  
Congressional  
Victims' Rights  
Caucus

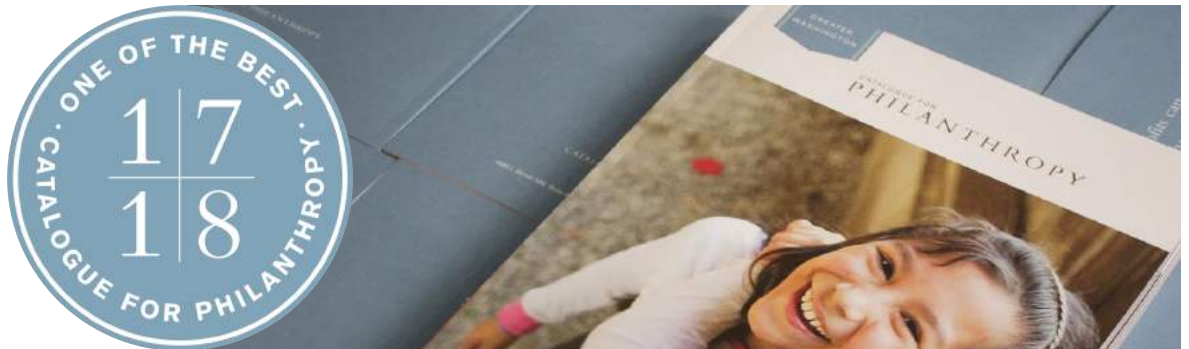


## NAMED "ONE OF THE BEST"

JUNE 2017

& SELECTED  
TO BE PART  
OF THE  
2017-18  
CATALOGUE

by the  
Catalogue for  
Philanthropy





# Advocacy & Case Management

## Sexual Assault Crisis Response Project

The Sexual Assault Crisis Response Project (SACRP) is a staple of NVRDC's programs. The project serves as the largest gateway to NVRDC's case management and legal services.

Services include:

- Safety planning
- Victim notification
- Criminal justice support and court accompaniment
- Interpretation services
- Clothing and transportation
- Resource information and referrals

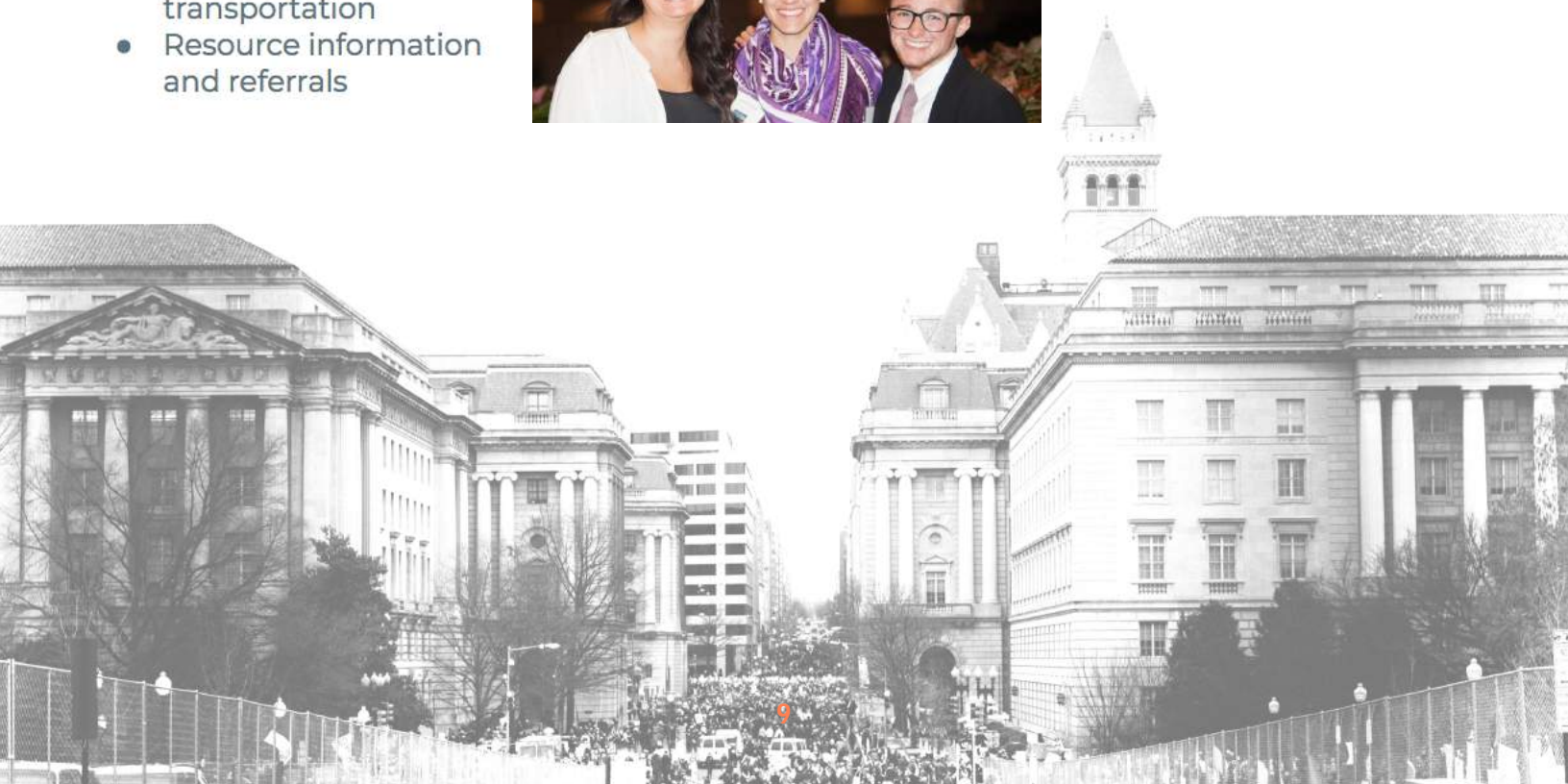
During FY17, October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017, NVRDC's case managers responded to nearly 430 calls for hospital crisis advocacy when adult sexual assault survivors sought out support during a Sexual Assault Nurse Exam and/or police interview to report sexual assault.

Additionally, NVRDC case managers served another 124 people with comprehensive case management and advocacy, including but not limited to, housing referrals, entry into mental health support, follow-up medical care, assistance with Crime Victims Compensation claims, and internal and external referrals to legal support.

In total, NVRDC's case managers worked with 781 clients during the fiscal year—545 new clients and 254 continuing into FY17 with ongoing case management needs.

“ Having an NVRDC representative by my side throughout this experience gave me comfort & strength.”

-advocacy client





**NVRDC's** legal services represented over **300 people in 388 cases** during FY17.

**193** crime victims' rights issues

**155** matters related to civil legal needs

**40** campus survivors with Title IX-related issues



- Of the clients accessing NVRDC's legal services, 213 were new during FY17 and 90 clients had cases carrying over from the previous period.
- These efforts required 34 written motions in CPO cases in addition to the court hearings attended.
- NVRDC's legal team accompanied 16 survivors of sexual assault to provide conversion reports to MPD.
- Legal staff also assisted 40 students in Title IX cases, representing campus survivors of dating/sexual violence and stalking at DC universities.
- NVRDC attorneys attended 136 CPO hearings on behalf of survivors of gender-based violence—receiving 43 CPOs on behalf of clients and defending 9 CPOs that were cross-filed in retaliation.
- Additionally, the same attorneys assisted clients in 29 grand jury proceedings, appeared in criminal court representing victims nearly 250 times—filing 44 motions to assert and enforce their rights in these cases and obtaining over \$3,000 in restitution.





# & Clinics

## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS LEGAL CLINICS

NVRDC continued to do monthly Know Your Rights clinics with American University. Each month NVRDC and American tailored the clinics toward specific populations. The first event of academic year 2017-2018 trained 80 Resident Life Advisors at American. NVRDC also hosted one clinic with Georgetown University. During FY 2017, the attorney in charge of clinics reached out to additional schools to expand the amount of clinics and increase the number of students being trained.

“ [MY ATTORNEY] HELPED ME UNDERSTAND THE LEGAL PROCESS AND MADE THE WHOLE ORDEAL MUCH MORE PAINLESS. ”

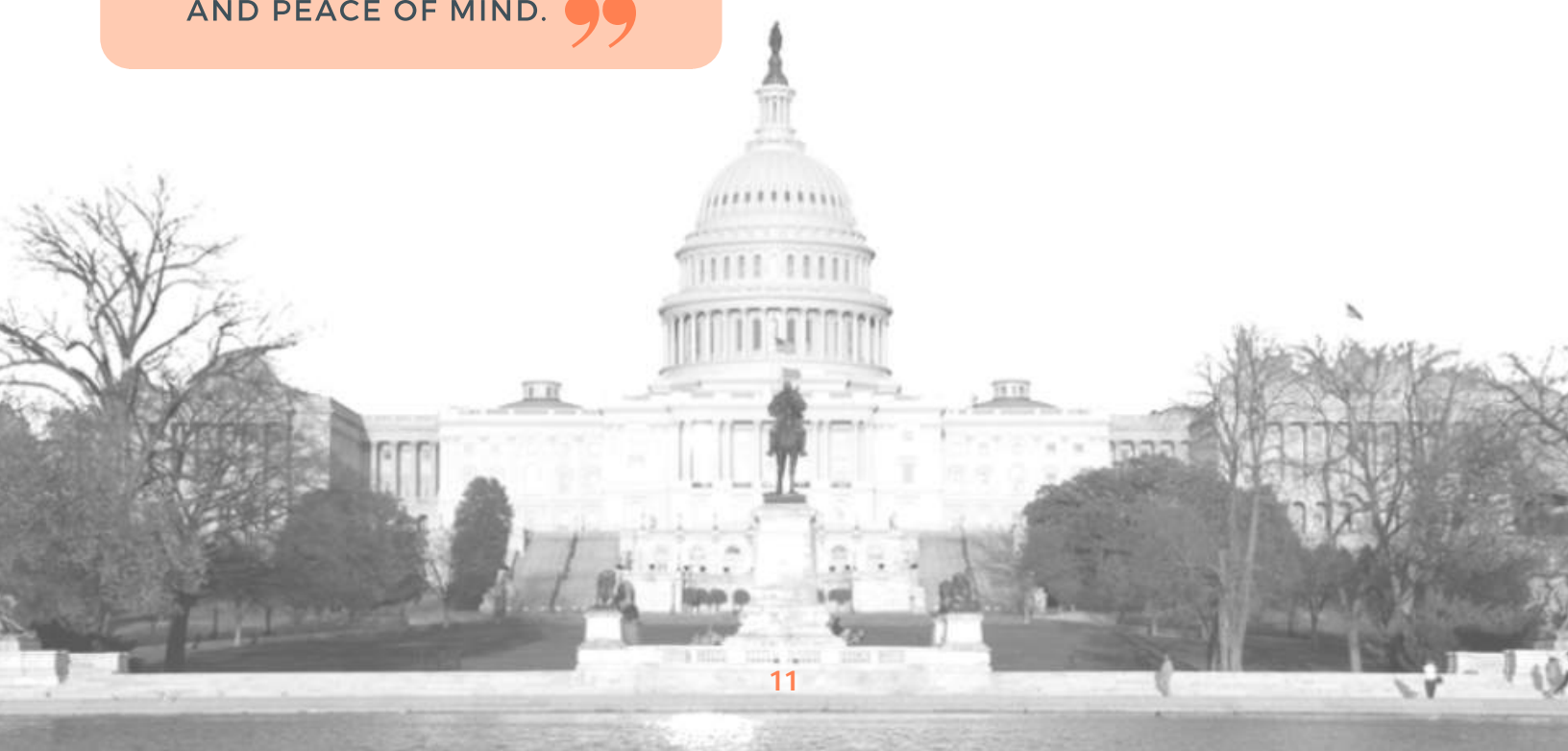
“ THROUGH [MY ATTORNEY], NVRDC WAS ABLE TO EXTEND MY CPO GIVING ME A GREATER SENSE OF PERSONAL SECURITY AND PEACE OF MIND. ”

## CALL-IN CLINICS

In FY 2017 attorneys spoke with 29 individuals through the call-in clinic and staff implemented an additional referral system where case managers could put clients on a "to be called list" increasing the number of calls attorneys responded to by 111%.

“ SIEMPRE ESTUVIERON ALLÍ PARA MÍ. ”  
"AT ALL TIMES THEY WERE THERE FOR ME."

what **clients** have to say about NVRDC legal services



In FY 2017, pro bono attorneys assisted NVRDC by researching discrete legal issues impacting crime victims' rights enforcement, defending NVRDC clients when they were wrongfully sued for defamation, representing survivors in Civil Protection Order and Title IX hearings, and representing crime victims in criminal prosecutions. Pro bono partners also supported NVRDC's policy advocacy by researching systemic issues impacting survivors of crime and presenting strategies for legislative reform.

Without pro bono help, NVRDC would be unable to achieve its mission.

## 4,248.3 hours

were donated to work on cases  
or research projects, totaling:

## \$2,413,394.00

in individual  
in-kind donations

### 28

Completed pro  
bono cases

### 19

Ongoing pro bono cases  
at the close of the year

### 7

Pro bono trainings  
conducted

### 80

Attorneys trained to co-  
counsel cases with NVRDC



“ Pro bono work is a vital part of law practice because it makes us better human beings. My experience with NVRDC epitomizes this philosophy—it allowed me to support meaningful work that honed both my writing and my empathy skills—the two key qualities of any great lawyer. It was an honor to create resources for both victims and law enforcement to explain the legal rights and processes involved in sexual assault cases. ”

—An associate at Sidley Austin LLP





# Public Policy



IN FY17, NVRDC INCREASED ITS  
FOCUS ON EFFECTING CHANGE IN  
POLICIES THAT ADDRESS SYSTEMIC  
BARRIERS FOR DC SURVIVORS

April 2017

May 2017

June 2017

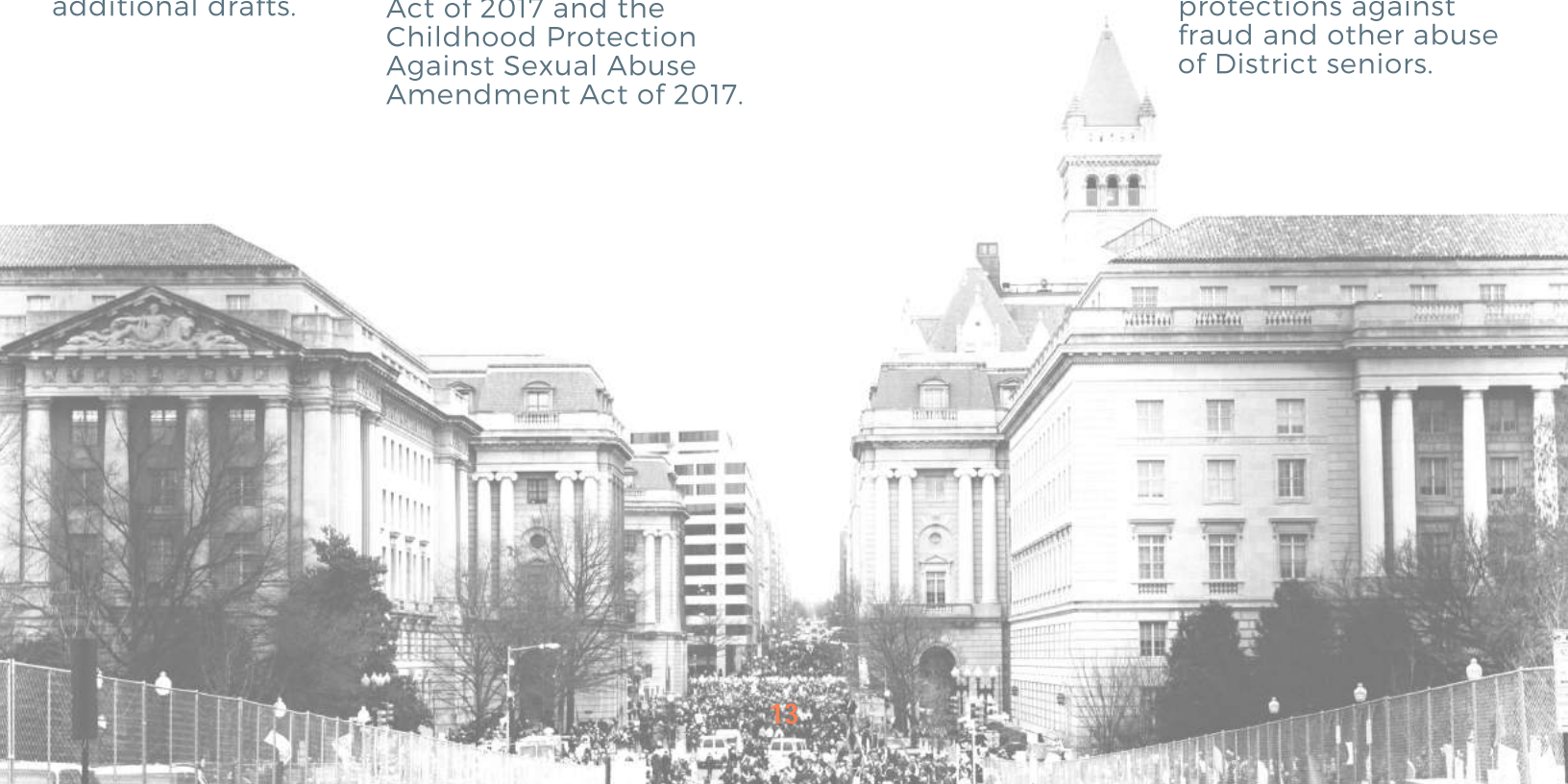
July 2017

NVRDC staff submitted written testimony and provided feedback on the Address Confidentiality Amendment Act of 2018 (B22-0037) and have continued advocacy through feedback on additional drafts.

NVRDC's Strategic Advocacy Counsel, Naida Henao, and Co-Executive Director, Bridgette Stumpf, provided written and oral testimony to the DC Council in favor of Bills 22-0021 and 22-0028, the Sexual Abuse Statute of Limitations Elimination Amendment Act of 2017 and the Childhood Protection Against Sexual Abuse Amendment Act of 2017.

NVRDC leadership provided written and oral testimony to the DC Council on the Sexual Assault Victims' Rights Amendment Act of 2017 and the Victim Services Omnibus Amendment Act of 2017.

NVRDC's Grants Administrator & Elder Justice Coordinator, Merry O'Brien, provided educational materials, advice, and testimony to the DC Council on the Uniform Power of Attorney Amendment Act of 2017—an act which seeks to enhance protections against fraud and other abuse of District seniors.



## WEBSITE & EMAIL

**11,778** unique visitors to nvrdc.org in FY 2017

➤ **12.7%** increase over FY 2016

**37,831** pageviews in FY 2017

➤ **9.6%** increase over FY 2016

**7,810** number of times subscribers opened emails from NVRDC

➤ **24.5%** increase over FY 2016

**29.74%** average open rate ➤



## SOCIAL MEDIA



**9,417** users engaged with NVRDC's content by liking, clicking on, or sharing posts

➤ **23.5%** increase over FY 2016

In October 2016, NVRDC's tweets gained the highest # of impressions yet: **49,900**

➤ **2X** their monthly average in FY 2016

NVRDC's reach in FY 2017 was **163,607**

➤ **23,307** more reach than in FY 2016

On Facebook, "reach" is the # of unique people who saw a page's content

Users visited NVRDC's profile **9,158** times

➤ **47.7%** increase over FY 2016

**164** new profile likes

➤ **13.5%** growth since end of FY 2016

**378** new followers

➤ **26.4%** more growth in FY 2017 than in FY 2016

END OF  
FY16



1,219 Facebook likes

768 Twitter followers

14

END OF  
FY17



1,383 Facebook likes

1,145 Twitter followers



# NVRDC in the Media

**10.5.2016** **STREETSENSEMEDIA**  
Real Stories | Real People | Real Change

Healing Together: Service Builds Community

**10.7.2016** *The Washington Post*

Why the most outrageous part of Donald Trump's 'hot mic' comments isn't the vulgar language

**10.7.2016** *theEAGLE*

Student celebrates birthday with 30 days of service

**10.9.2016** *The Washington Post*

Anderson Cooper told Trump 'That is sexual assault.' The Justice Department agrees.

**10.28.2016**  **PBS NEWSHOUR**

The woman behind the sexual-assault survivor 'bill of rights'

**11.1.2016** **Rewire**

Data Suggests D.C. Prosecutors Pursue Cases That Conform to Rape Myths

**11.18.2016** *The Washington Post*

It's not clear if Jeff Sessions thinks grabbing a woman by the crotch is sexual assault

**11.30.2016** **STREETSENSEMEDIA**  
Real Stories | Real People | Real Change

Workplace Protections Not Guaranteed for Volunteers Harassed or Assaulted on the Job

**1.31.2017**



Life In D.C. After A Violent Crime

**8.31.2017** <sup>The GW</sup> **Hatchet**

RAs call for more sexual violence training

**9.18.2017** <sup>The GW</sup> **Hatchet**

Panhel tightens security at Greek life events, adds trainings in sexual assault crackdown

**9.25.2017** <sup>WYCB</sup> **SPIRIT 1340 AM**  
MySpiritDC.com

Legal Zone on The Senior Zone

"I was met with incredible kindness and unrelenting support from the team at NVRDC. I always felt respected, heard, and looked after by both the legal and case managing team. I have thoroughly appreciated the wide ranges of services NVRDC has to offer and feel as though I wouldn't have begun the process of recovery if not for them."

quote from a DC survivor



## NVRDC in the community

"Your presence was unrivaled and students have already come up to me sharing how much your workshop impacted them."

-Student conference coordinator

	pro bono trainings	university legal clinics	trainings for professionals	outreach events	total events attended
# of events	7	7	22	49	85
# of participants	80	188	710	>2,400	>3,300

### Denim Day

April 2017



### Wear Orange 4 Love Day

February 2017





# Rising Up

## Observing National Crime Victims' Rights Week

For the 5th year in a row, NVRDC received a sub-grant from the National Association of VOCA Administrators to host community events in honor of the 2017 National Crime Victims' Rights Week. On Monday, April 3, and Wednesday, April 5, they partnered with a local non-profit, Yoga Activist, to host free yoga classes taught by a trained, trauma-informed instructor. On Tuesday, April 4, and Thursday, April 6, Know Your Rights presentations were held covering crime victims' rights and NVRDC services. NVRDC's final event was Friday, April 7, on which they hosted a Twitter Chat, yielding 12,200 impressions and 394 engagements on Twitter in that day alone.



### Teal Tuesday

April 2017



### World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

June 2017





## NVRDC'S ANNUAL ART WORKSHOP

On Tuesday, October 11, 2016, NVRDC held its 5th Share Your Story art event. This annual event invites victims and survivors of crime in DC to use art as an act of testimony and self-expression through the use of paint, pastels, pencil, and more.

After creating their piece, survivors are given the opportunity to donate the artwork back to the silent auction at the following Annual Event. The funds raised from the silent auction go right back into providing services to more survivors.

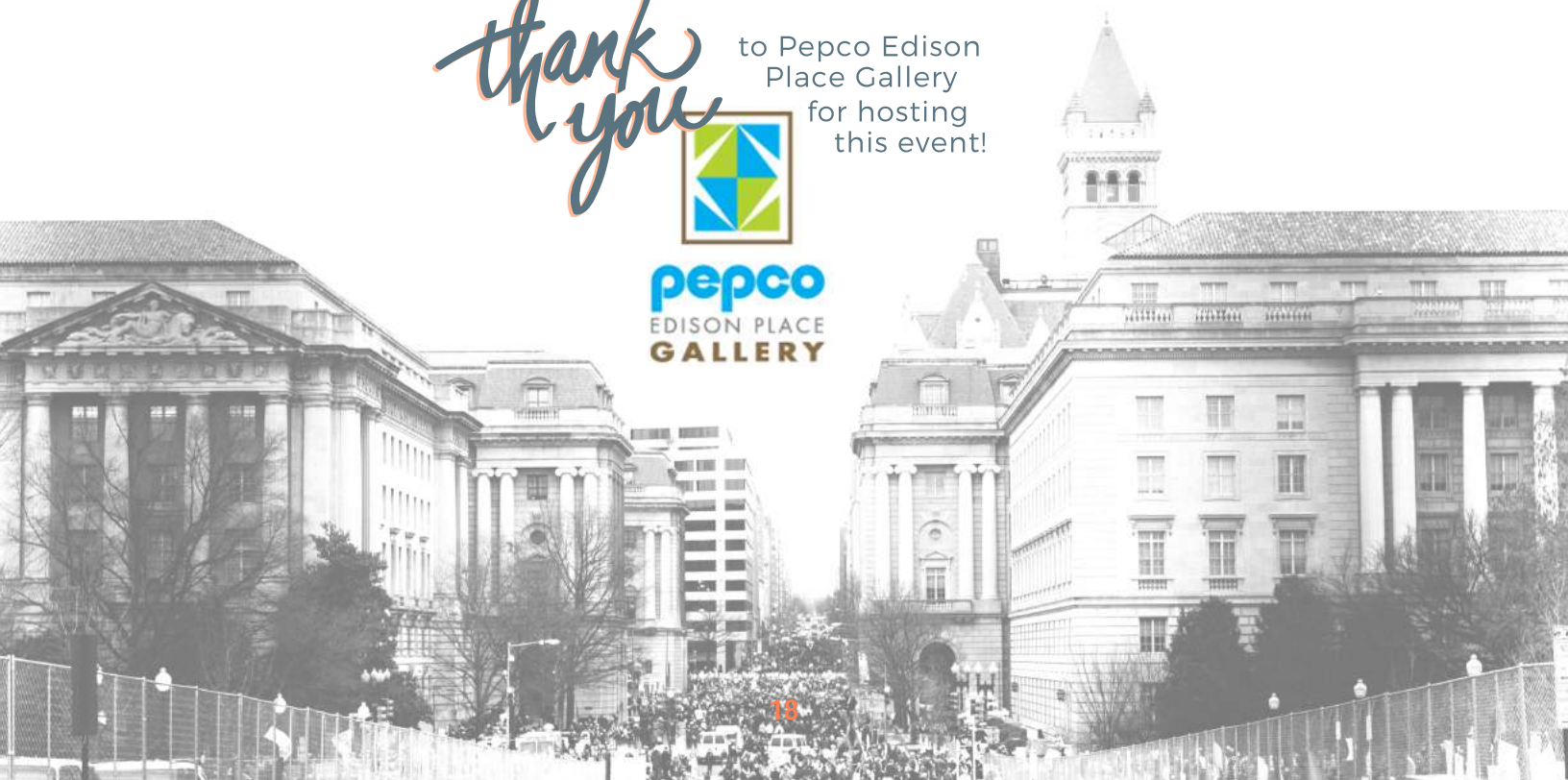


*thank  
you*

to Pepco Edison  
Place Gallery  
for hosting  
this event!



**pepco**  
EDISON PLACE  
GALLERY



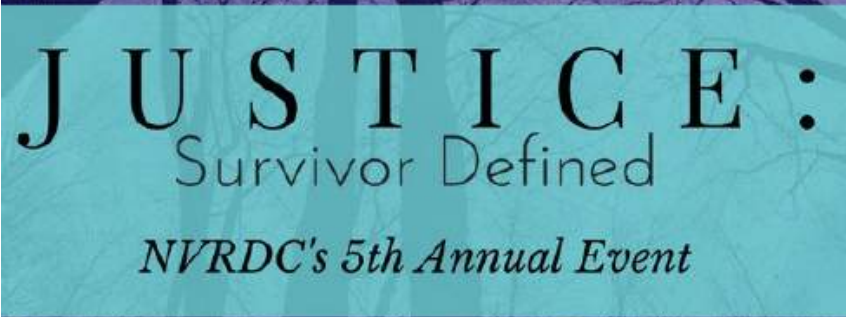


# Annual Event

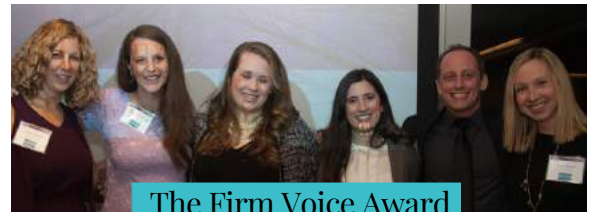
## Justice: Survivor Defined

November 10, 2016

At their 5th Annual Event, NVRDC's supporters helped raise over \$25,000 to sustain services for DC crime survivors.



### AWARDEES



The Firm Voice Award

Blair Decker, Hilary LoCicero, Alicia Paller, Ashley Stancik, and Mary Helen Wimberly, from Hogan Lovells LLP



The LW Advocacy Award

Elisabeth Olds

### SPONSORS

#### Champion Sponsors

Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP  
Hogan Lovells LLP

#### Advocate Sponsors

Jackson & Associates  
Latham & Watkins LLP  
Silverman, Thompson, Slutkin, & White LLC  
Williams & Connolly LLP

#### Supporter Sponsors

Crowell & Moring LLP  
Monocacy Brewing Company  
Stephoe & Johnson LLP

## nvrdc's 5TH ANNUAL CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

### THANK YOU!

to everyone who attended Cornhole for a Cause at American University on July 22, 2017.

NVRDC staff & board had so much fun with all of the attendees and are so grateful for the support of all participants, donors, and sponsors!



Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP



Williams & Connolly LLP  
Latham & Watkins LLP  
Resolution Economics LLC  
Hogan Lovells LLP  
Jackson & Associates



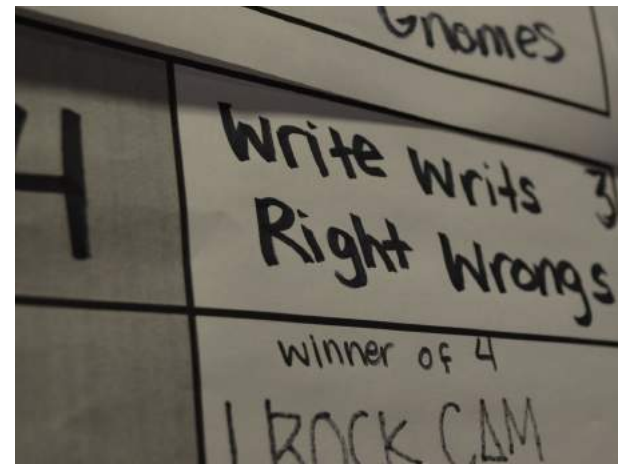
Steptoe & Johnson LLP  
Crowell & Moring LLP  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
Your Part-Time Controller





# Cornhole for a Cause 2017

Saturday, July 22  
2PM  
to  
7PM  
American  
University





## **ANNUAL EVENT 2016 JUSTICE: SURVIVOR-DEFINED**

### **CHAMPION SPONSORS**

ARNOLD & PORTER KAYE SCHOLER LLP  
HOGAN LOVELLS LLP

### **ADVOCATE SPONSORS**

JACKSON & ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM  
LATHAM & WATKINS LLP  
SILVERMAN THOMPSON SLUTKIN WHITE LLC  
WILLIAMS & CONNOLLY LLP

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### **OTHER SPONSORSHIPS**

COVINGTON & BURLING LLP  
EXELON CORPORATION

## **CORNHOLE FOR A CAUSE 2017**

### **CO-HOST & SPONSOR**

MONOCACY BREWING CO.

### **SILVER SPONSORS**

ARNOLD & PORTER KAYE SCHOLER LLP

### **BRONZE SPONSORS**

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RESOLUTION ECONOMICS LLC  
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### **HONORABLE MENTION SPONSORS**

AKIN, GUMP, STRAUSS, HAUER, & FELD LLP  
STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP  
CROWELL & MORING LLP  
YOUR PART-TIME CONTROLLER





# & Supporters

## THANK YOU to NVRDC's GENEROUS SUPPORTERS \*

AKIN, GUMP, STRAUSS, HAUER & FELD LLP

ALEXIS BLAKE

AMIT JUNEJA

ANNE SEYMOUR

ANONYMOUS

ARNOLD & PORTER KAYE SCHOLER LLP

BLAIR DECKER

CAFRTIZ FOUNDATION

CHRISTOPHER EKIMOFF

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

CORTNEY FISHER

COVINGTON & BURLING LLP

CROWELL & MORING LLP

DAVID BOGEN

DEBRA ELIASON

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DC BAR FOUNDATION

ELIZABETH BUSSEY

EXELON FOUNDATION

GALE AND MIKE SEATON

GREATER HORIZONS

HOGAN LOVELLS LLP

IDENTITY THEFT ASSISTANCE PROJECT

JACK FLEMING

JACKSON & ASSOCIATES

JAMIE WOHLERT

JANE LEE

JESSICA URBAN

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JULIE O'BRIEN

KIMBERLY BENDER

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LIAM MONTGOMERY

MARC FILER

MARGARET HEGG

MARY AND DENNIS O'BRIEN

MARY NUSSER AND RICK PARKER

MELANIE ANASTASIO

MICHAEL KING

MICHAELA STANCH

MICHELLE ARNETT

MICHELLE PALMER

MIM LANDRY

MIRANDA PETERSEN

MONICA MCHUGH

PAUL & ABIGAIL CASEY

PHIL BOWERS

RESOLUTION ECONOMICS LLC

ROGUE DARTS

RYAN GUILDS

RYAN SILVERBERG

SHAAHIN BAHMANI

SILVERMAN, THOMPSON, SLUTKIN & WHITE LLC

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

SUZANNE & MARK FOSTER

WILLIAMS & CONNOLLY LLP

YOUR PART TIME CONTROLLER

ZETA BETA TAU FRATERNITY

\* The individuals, firms, and foundations above contributed at or above \$250 to NVRDC during Fiscal Year 2017.



## VLNDC went from planning

### 1 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

VLNDC's Project Coordinator finalized a comprehensive, 22-page Implementation Plan, which would serve as a guiding document for taking the project from the planning stages to VLNDC's soft launch in July 2017. The plan—approved in just two weeks by the the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime—outlined policies and protocols VLNDC would use to create a legal assistance network to provide wraparound legal services to individuals impacted by a crime.

### 2 SIGNED MOU

VLNDC's ten member organizations—Amara, Asian Pacific American Resource Center, Ayuda, Break the Cycle, DC Volunteer Lawyers Project, the Domestic Violence Clinic at Washington College of Law, Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia, Legal Counsel for the Elderly, and NVRDC—executed a final Memorandum of Understanding that outlines the roles and responsibilities of each agency as a member organization of VLNDC.

### 5 TECHNOLOGY BUILDOUTS

VLNDC collaborated with DC's Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants to hire an experienced developer to build a responsive, public-facing website allowing visitors to submit a "Get Help" form that is sent to the Navigator and commences the intake process. VLNDC also worked closely with the developer to build a secure and unique portal that enables an efficient referral process, including conflict checks, pop-ups that nudge member organizations to update their capacity information, and messaging functionality that attaches to cases.

### 6 ORIENTATION & TRAINING

VLNDC held its two-day cross-training and orientation to educate member organizations on the purpose and objectives of VLNDC, how to utilize VLNDC's services, and how to issue spot for legal needs. A pre-test and post-test were administered to assess the increase in knowledge of the individuals in attendance. After the 2017 Orientation and Cross-Training, attendees from member organizations expressed greater confidence in their ability to use VLNDC and demonstrated increased ability to identify the available legal services.



**24** UNIQUE  
INDIVIDUALS  
SERVED



**35** LEGAL  
ISSUES  
ASSISTED





# Legal Network of DC

## stages to soft-launch in FY17

### 3 NCVLI ON-SITE TRAINING

In March, the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI)—the national training and technical assistance provider for the VLNDC grant—held a two-day, on-site training for all member organizations of VLNDC. The training focused on increasing member organizations' knowledge on providing legal services to survivors of crime. Topics included: the Intersection of Trauma and Victim Legal Services, Working with Child Victims, and Key Provisions in VAWA.

### 4 HIRED VLNDC NAVIGATOR

In May, NVRDC hired and trained the VLNDC Navigator, Alexandra Smith. Her work on the project builds upon her experience with the Gender Violence Program while she was a student at Harvard Law School and as a law firm associate. The Navigator is responsible for the day-to-day operations of VLNDC. This includes conducting intakes with clients to identify their diverse legal needs and facilitating referrals to member organizations and non-network providers.

### 7 SOFT LAUNCH & PILOT PHASE

In July, VLNDC commenced its three-month pilot phase that will focus on honing the details of the referral process, training member organizations' direct services staff, troubleshooting the portal, and drafting a Best Practices Manual for Facilitators. In addition to incorporating this open-referral service within member organizations' intake and representation processes, the Pilot Phase also seeks to optimize the referral process and procedures in preparation for recruiting new member organizations in FY18.

### 8 DATA & EVALUATIONS

In late August, VLNDC participated in a kickoff meeting with its research partner, ICF. This kickoff meeting commenced an ongoing partnership between VLNDC and ICF where the collaboration will enhance the Network's data collection techniques and processes. Robust data collection will enable VLNDC's capacity to evaluate the impact of the services being provided and to continuously assess the Network's progress towards its goals and mission.

15 TYPES OF LEGAL NEEDS

13 OUT-OF-NETWORK REFERRALS





## Identity Theft Assistance Project

In FY17, NVRDC was pleased to be awarded a second round of funding for the Identity Theft Assistance Project (ITAP) from the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region (CFNCR). These funds have allowed NVRDC advocates and attorneys to continue assisting victims of identity theft, fraud, and financial exploitation. This is especially crucial in cases where the perpetrator has also committed violent crimes such as domestic violence, elder abuse, and sexual assault against the victim.



In these cases, when a victim's personal identifying information has been compromised, NVRDC offers supportive case management, advocacy and free legal services to address any potential identity theft and/or fraud. This may include providing guidance to victims on reporting and halting the identity theft, obtaining an ID theft report, completing an FTC ID theft affidavit, communicating with credit agencies, exploring legal options, dealing with financial institutions, requesting a "credit freeze," and accessing other options for recovery.

NVRDC first launched the Identity Theft Assistance Project in 2015, with support from CFNCR through its Identity Theft Assistance Corporation (ITAC) Fund. The project allows NVRDC to ensure that services to victims of identity theft are provided by competent staff and partners through a series of internal and external trainings which has elevated the community's response to financial crime survivors. This training effort has included producing a roll-call film for the Metropolitan Police Department and providing training to over 100 advocates and allied professionals on screening and referring victims of domestic violence who have compromised personal identifying information.

In May 2017, NVRDC traveled to Dallas to present at the Conference on Crimes Against Women (CCAW) on "Integrating Identity Theft Safety Planning into Your Work with Survivors of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Other Crimes." The presentation explored protocols victim service professionals can implement to increase their organization's ability to provide assistance to survivors of financial and violent polyvictimization, as well as steps victim service organizations can take to train and collaborate with allied professionals, using the model NVRDC has created.





# DC TROV

## The District's Collaborative Training & Response for Older Victims

In FY17, NVRDC continued its leadership of the District's Collaborative Training & Response for Older Victims (DC TROV) multidisciplinary team, which is comprised of law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, aging services, shelter organizations, and many other governmental and nonprofit member entities who interact with senior survivors through their work. This team continues to work towards improving the community's response to elder abuse through trainings, outreach, and strategic planning to increase services to senior survivors.

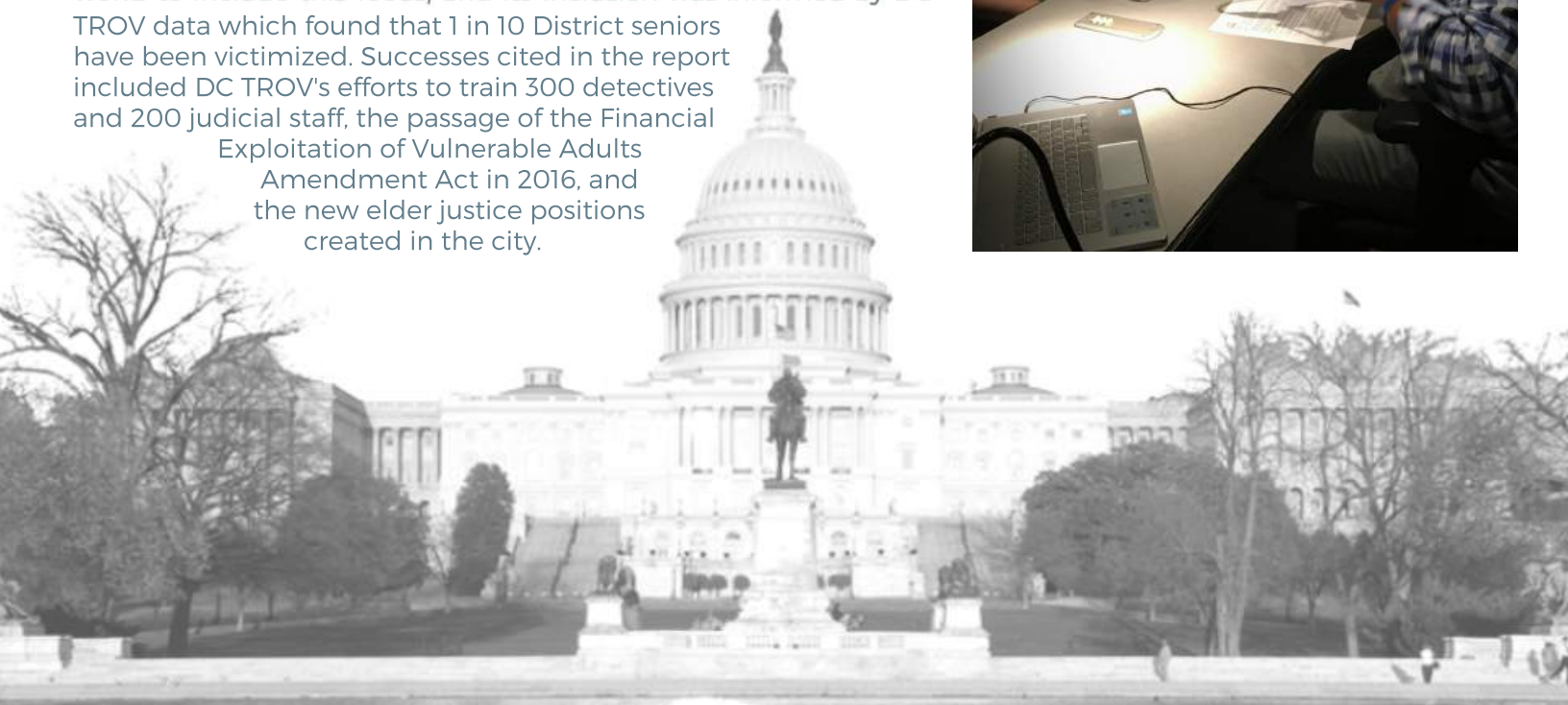
FY17 included some of the most exciting developments in the DC TROV project yet. In the first quarter, DC TROV launched its collaboration between NVRDC and Legal Counsel for the Elderly (LCE) to co-host an Elder Justice Legal Fellow.

The fellowship program is part of a new initiative at the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) which funded Equal Justice Works (EJW) to provide support to local organizations throughout the country hosting AmeriCorps attorneys focused on serving elder abuse survivors.

In addition to expanding legal services for older survivors, DC TROV also grew housing services for them during this year. Through a subgrant from NVRDC, the District's Alliance for Safe Housing (DASH) was able to hire a Community Housing Resource Specialist: Elder Advocacy.

Training and outreach continues to be a priority for DC TROV. In the past fiscal year, partners have trained staff of the DC Department on Disability Services (DDS), the DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), and other professionals. Partners have provided outreach at senior centers, tabled events, appeared on The Senior Zone radio show, and worked with the DC Office on Aging (DCOA) to co-host the District's observance of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in June.

In September, DC TROV participated in the submission of DC's Age-Friendly Report to the World Health Organization, in the Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Fraud Focus Area. DC was the first city in the world to include this focus, and its inclusion was informed by DC TROV data which found that 1 in 10 District seniors have been victimized. Successes cited in the report included DC TROV's efforts to train 300 detectives and 200 judicial staff, the passage of the Financial Exploitation of Vulnerable Adults Amendment Act in 2016, and the new elder justice positions created in the city.





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