

FY2018 Policy Priorities

THE NETWORK FOR VICTIM RECOVERY OF DC (NVRDC) PROVIDES HOLISTIC VICTIM SERVICES, INCLUDING FREE LEGAL REPRESENTATION, ADVOCACY, AND CASE MANAGEMENT TO VICTIMS OF ALL CRIMES IN DC. NVRDC'S 2018 POLICY PRIORITIES ARE CONSISTENT WITH OUR MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY OF SURVIVOR-DEFINED JUSTICE.



CONTINUED PROTECTION & MEANINGFUL ENFORCEMENT OF CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS.

NVRDC will continue to advocate for crime victims' voices within the criminal justice system. While federal and local laws provide the foundation for our work, NVRDC strives for a future where the rights and protections for crime victims are a meaningfully enforced and are a staple subject of discussion in all reform efforts related to the criminal justice system.

Through reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Crime Victims' Rights Act (CVRA) and the DC Crime Victims' Bill of Rights, NVRDC is working to enhance the enforcement mechanisms of crime victims' rights during the pre-charge and post-conviction phases.



DEMANDING STABILITY & CONSISTENCY OF TITLE IX PROCESSES FOR STUDENT-SURVIVORS.

In a time of many changes to the Title IX process, NVRDC will continue to advocate for processes that preserve the rights of student-survivors on campuses throughout the nation. This includes fighting for a Title IX system that is fair, consistent, and trauma-informed.

In fiscal year 2018, NVRDC is evaluating legislative options to require DC schools to use uniform standards in Title IX proceedings (e.g. standard of proof, time to resolve Title IX case, rights to appeal). Part of this effort includes exploring funding options for mandatory training requirements for school faculty and staff, and educating schools on the use of alternative forms of justice.



INCREASING SURVIVOR ACCESS TO RESOURCES & SUPPORT.

Every survivor will face their own unique set of triumphs and obstacles on their journey to recovery and healing after a crime has occurred. As an organization, NVRDC acknowledges that particular survivor populations may face additional challenges due to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, and other variables. NVRDC strives to ensure that if a survivor wants resources or support, their access will not be blocked by system barriers that discriminate against them.

During fiscal year 2018, NVRDC is evaluating efforts to identify gaps in services and opportunities for enhancing awareness of existing resources for marginalized communities (e.g., survivors with severe and persistent mental illnesses, immigrant-survivors, survivors with disabilities).