

# FY 2019 POLICY PRIORITIES

## NVRDC

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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 2019 policy priorities are consistent with our mission and philosophy of survivor-defined justice.

### **I. Protecting Crime Victims' Rights to Privacy:**

While NVRDC's year-round mission is to advocate for crime victims' rights, fiscal year 2019 priority will concentrate on the meaningful protection of crime victims' rights to privacy within the criminal justice system.

## MEANINGFUL PROTECTION

In fiscal year 2019, NVRDC hopes to apply multi-disciplinary advocacy approaches to addressing privacy concerns from crime victims. Within the court system, NVRDC will strengthen its collaborations with system partners and community providers to address subpoenas for crime victims' personal and confidential records. Legislatively, NVRDC will pursue and advocate for laws that provide DC crime victims with greater privacy when accessing justice. This includes training mental health providers on victim rights, implementing Jane/John Doe reporting, and reforming paid leave policies with employers.



### **II. Advocating for Title IX Reform:**

NVRDC will continue its 2018 efforts to reform Title IX processes at DC colleges and universities. This includes advocating for Title IX procedures that are fair, consistent, and trauma-informed.

In fiscal year 2019, 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 as well as educating schools on the use of alternative forms of justice. NVRDC will also look to fill a gap in the guidance offered to university athletic departments on establishing policies for student-athletes that engage the Title IX system.

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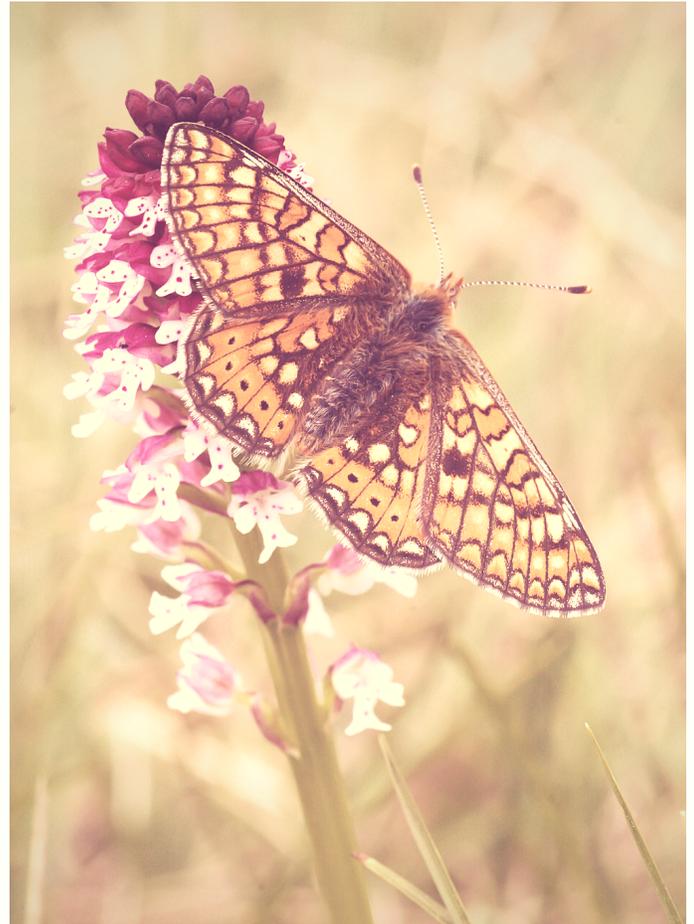
NVRDC

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## III. Increasing Survivor Access to Resources & Support:

NVRDC will continue its 2018 efforts to increase survivor access to justice by increasing the pathways to resources and 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 2019, 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, and survivors experiencing homelessness).



As a service provider, NVRDC aspires to provide transformative change in the lives of our clients and communities.

## ACCESS TO RESOURCES & SUPPORT