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Spring Fundraising Campaign

Centering Survivors of Sexual Assault

Spring Fundraising Campaign



If you are a survivor of domestic violence or someone who works to support survivors, you no doubt know **abuse often shows up in many forms in a survivor's life**. When survivors come to [FVAP](#) looking to appeal a dangerous court decision, they may have experienced varied forms of intimate partner violence or abuse, including emotional abuse, sexual assault, stalking, and more. For this reason, as part of our Spring Fundraising Campaign and to raise awareness for this **Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)**, we'll be centering the stories of survivors of intimate partner violence who have experienced sexual assault.

[DONATE](#)

If you want to take your support a step further after making a donation, or cannot afford to give but still want to help, [visit our campaign page](#) for a list of actions you can take. You can build momentum with fellow supporters by taking these actions on the dates listed on the campaign page. We look forward to raising awareness with you this month.

FVAP in Court: Helping Survivors & Kids Get Legal Protection



We have been busy preparing for court for several important cases this year, including oral argument (court hearing) this week.

Today a federal court is hearing a case where we filed a friend-of-the-court brief in support of a survivor of domestic violence who was brought to the U.S. by her abuser and **forced to commit a crime**, which

resulted in her being sentenced to several years in prison. She is now facing deportation because of the crime. In the past, when she had sought help from the police, they refused to help her, and her safety is at risk if she is sent back. We filed a **friend-of-the-court brief advising the court** why a survivor may not be able to report the abuse and might commit a crime if she has been threatened or fears for her life or the lives of her children. We hope that the court rules on the survivor’s side in this case.

And yesterday we were in court representing another survivor of domestic violence who requested a restraining order and that the **children involved in the case be included on the order, but that was denied**. We co-counseled this case with [Law Offices of David C. Beavans](#) to challenge the failure to include the children on the restraining order and we’re waiting on the court’s decision.

Spotlight: Welcome to the Team Monika



We are excited to welcome our new team member, Monika Batra Kashyap. Learn more about her below.

Monika Batra Kashyap (she/her/hers) brings a wealth of experience in fundraising and donor relations built over twenty years of service on the boards of nonprofit organizations fighting for intersectional justice for immigrant communities in New York City and Washington State. During her decade-long tenure on the board of one of the largest immigrant rights organizations in the U.S., the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project in Washington, Monika contributed to the growth of the organizational budget from \$2.75 million to \$12.5 million. She has also provided strategic fundraising support to Workers’ Awaaz, an immigrant workers’ center co-founded by survivors of domestic violence in New York City, and Colectiva Legal del Pueblo, a collective organization in Washington committed to building power for migrant justice through legal advocacy and education. [Read Monika’s Full Bio](#).

Childhood Trauma and Stopping the Cycle of Violence



April is also **Child Abuse Awareness Month**. The video above is such an important one. Dr. Burke Harris explains the alarming findings behind childhood trauma as they relate to health outcomes and the importance of movement-building to address this. We know there’s still a lot of work to do, but we’re thankful that through our programs, partnerships, and the collective work of organizations and individuals, childhood trauma and its effects are becoming better known and attended to. If you liked the video above, please share it with your network.

Helping Abuse Survivors with Legal Precedent



An important part of [FVAP](#)’s work is making sure the cases that help survivors get justice in court are published so that they can be cited. **Sometimes, though, there are published cases that can hurt survivors’ chances of getting the justice they deserve.** This is why our case publication team works to review all published and unpublished cases involving domestic violence and other forms of gender-based abuse, so that we can work to get the cases that help published and the cases that hurt depublished. Many thanks to the lawyers at [Gibson, Dunn](#) who help us with this project daily!

Last month, **we requested depublication of a case** involving sexual harassment on a college campus. There is already strict and helpful legal precedent in place from other published cases and this case detracted from that. If this case is depublished, survivors will have a better chance at getting legal outcomes that can help them stay safe on college campuses.



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April, 2021

