



2024
NEWSLETTER
March

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A New Era for FVAP

The first few months of this year have flown by! I am so incredibly grateful for the ways in which FVAP staff and our board continue to step up and show up daily to advocate for our community of survivors both *in* and *out* of the courtroom. **Our most recent victories are highlighted within this newsletter.**

I have enjoyed meeting with and hearing from donors, volunteers, and community partners around how we can work together to continue advancing protections for survivors and to break the cycle of violence.

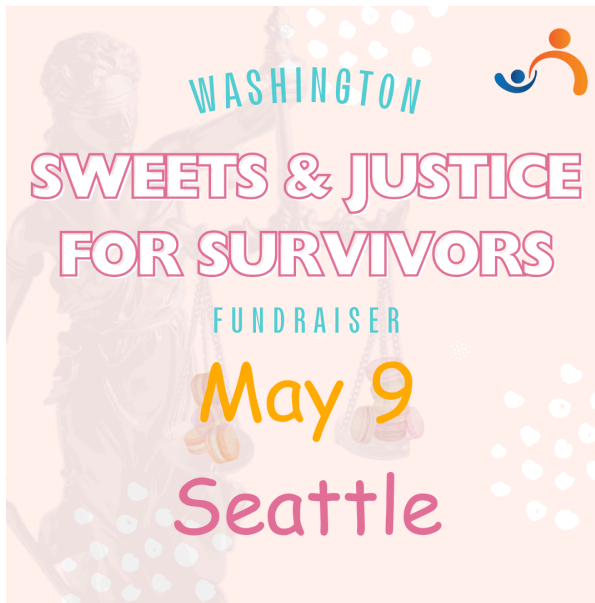
FVAP's work is often lifesaving and I cannot emphasize enough how important our backbone and front line staff are in carrying out our mission. To promote their wellbeing and sustainability, I am pleased to share that FVAP has officially transitioned to a 35-hour full-time work week. This is a big change for us. My hope is for our organization to model wellbeing and sustainability for ourselves, for our survivor community, and for others who carry out their work in trauma-informed ways.

Credit is due to FVAP's Board of Directors for their support in advancing these new and innovative ways for our non-profit to not only lead in high-quality legal aid representation and advocacy, but also in the ways that sustain the talent we need. We have no doubt that the impact of this new model will be positive for our programmatic and culture outcomes. Through diligent strategic planning, FVAP is evaluating our experiences to ensure all continuous organizational development is grounded in data and our commitment to quality assurance. I welcome your observations as we navigate this new era of FVAP, and am excited to continue to unveil more as FVAP continues to build this movement for survivor justice. Thank you for being a vital part of our community!

Onward,

Deborah

p.s. stay tuned for next month's newsletter where we will be highlighting the contributions of FVAP's Board of Directors.



FVAP Washington is turning 3!

We invite you to join us for macarons, light appetizers and refreshments. Come celebrate, learn more about how your support helps domestic violence survivors in the state, and get ready to be inspired!

Get your ticket [here](#)

We can't wait to see you there!

FVAP Washington Staff and Board
(Evangeline, Michelle, Renee, Shuray, Thao, Zyreena)



FVAP is dedicated to breaking the cycle of abuse and creating a world that is better for future generations. We accomplish this by overturning dangerous trial court decisions and setting new legal standards when we win appeals for our clients.

Successfully appealing and publishing a family law case in California or Washington creates a ripple effect, much like dropping a stone in an ocean. This precedent-setting act becomes a guiding light for countless similar cases, shaping how justice is served and rights are upheld for families statewide.

Below are our latest victories. Click on each case name to learn how we helped each survivor access the protection they deserve.

[Graser v. Olsen](#)
Washington

[Yorks v. Yorks](#)
Washington

[Sadat v. Sadat](#)
Washington

Two important resources for survivors in California have been updated and added to our Legal Resource Library!

1) The 2024 Compendium is a comprehensive list of the hundreds of laws in California dealing with domestic violence—from education to labor laws, to the state constitution to criminal laws, and everything in between.

2) The 2024 Case-Annotated Compendium expands on the list by providing summaries of the most important cases related to restraining orders, child custody and visitation, and several other areas of the law.

Updated annually, they're great resources for attorneys, advocates, and self-represented survivors. Check out our [website](#) for these plus other free resources.



Save the date for FVAP's annual Battle of the Bands fundraiser! **Thursday, September 26 at The Chapel** in San Francisco.

Shout out to our early sponsors:

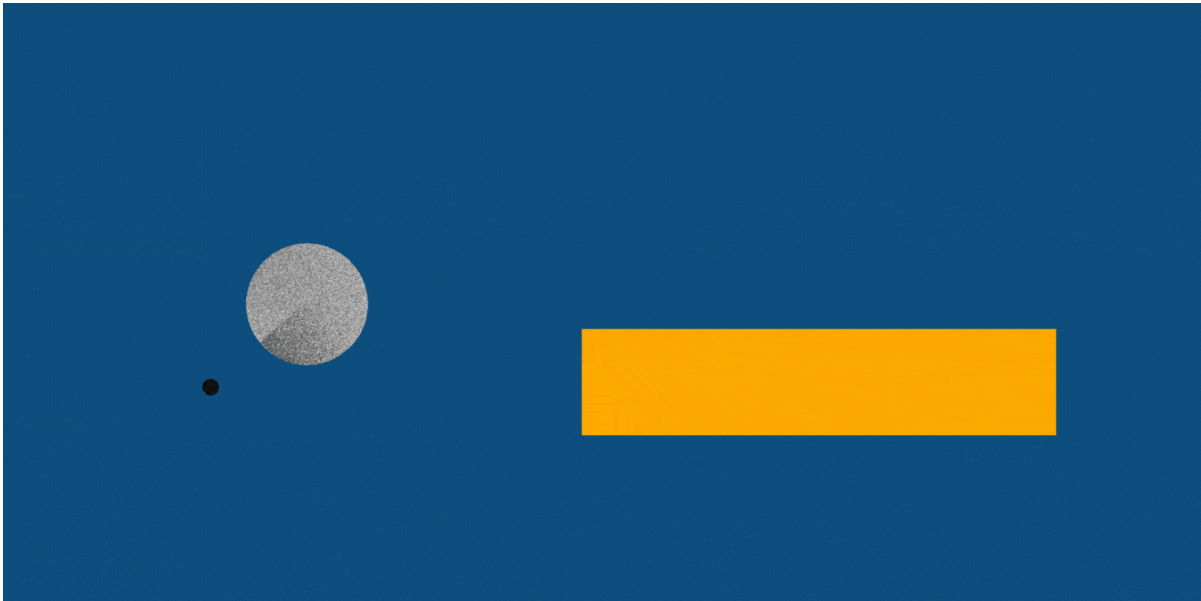
- [Foster Garvey](#)
- [Horvitz & Levy](#)

Never been to our Battle of the Bands event? It's a rockin' good time! Check out our [event page](#) to learn more and watch previous performances.



We are excited to welcome **Lupe Sanchez** as our **CA Intake Specialist**. Lupe joins FVAP with extensive experience as a community organizer advocating for undocumented students, tenant housing rights, and garment workers' wage and hour rights. Welcome to the team, Lupe!

FVAP is pleased to welcome our Spring 2024 law clerks to our Next Gen Program! Our Next Gen law students, including **Jenna Edra** from UC Davis School of Law, **Haley Kutulas** from UC Law San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings), **Kaumron Eidgahy** from UC Berkeley School of Law (returning), and **Tiana Pereira** from Seattle University, play a crucial role in transforming family law justice to meet the needs of low-income marginalized communities and who are most affected by trial court errors.



Congrats to FVAP co-founder, Sonya Passi, for winning a 2024 Elevate Prize! [People, February 2024](#)

FVAP Co-sponsors California bill to clarify requirements for child abuse mandated reporters [Press Release, February 2024](#)



Donate to FVAP today!

Your gift enables us to continue the fight to end domestic violence.



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