



Victim Rights Law Center

December Newsletter

Dear Friends,

The holiday season is upon us! Join us in sending extra warm wishes out to everyone who helped spread cheer to survivor families through our 2023 Holiday Gift Drive! Your generosity helped brighten the holidays for **82 children** (survivors and their siblings) and **23 adult survivors** this holiday season.

As the stresses and expectations of family gatherings, social events and other holiday obligations can be triggering for survivors, we are grateful for opportunities to both ease everyday burdens for survivors and their families, and allow greater focus on self-care and celebration.

If you'd like to participate in this year's gift drive, you can still purchase a gift card to help fulfill basic needs like groceries, household essentials, and transportation during the holidays and year-round [here](#).

Sending peace and joy to all this season!

In solidarity,
Stacy Malone
Executive Director

IN THE NEWS

VRLC Statement: Sexual Violence as a Weapon of War



Since the attack on Jewish civilians in Israel on October 7th, we are learning about reports of horrifying sexual violence and rape perpetrated by Hamas against Israeli women and girls. Sexual violence during armed conflict is a deeply disturbing violation of human rights and international humanitarian law. Sexual violence has a permanent impact on survivors. Standing by in silence retraumatizes survivors and

undermines the sense of safety in our communities, particularly for those of us who are survivors. Read our full statement [here](#).

NATIONAL TRAINING & TA

VRLC Welcomes OVW Grantees



Above: Maricarmen Garza, Chief of Programs at Tahirih Justice Center (left) and VRLC Deputy Director of External Operations Amanda Walsh co-trained on trauma-informed legal services programs

VRLC was honored to help welcome Legal Assistance for Victims grantees at this month's Office on Violence Against Women New Grantee Orientation. These grant programs are designed to develop the nation's capacity to reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by strengthening services to victims and holding offenders accountable.

Our team led conversations focused on trauma-informed organizations, supporting young survivors, and non-intimate partner sexual assault.



Above: VRLC Assistant Director of Training and Consultation Maura Crossin (right) and Darren Mitchell, Consultant for Center for Justice Innovation trained advocates on the difference between legal advice and legal information.

DEVELOPMENT

Shop & Sip Success!



Thank you to our everyone who shopped to support VRLC during our shop for a cause event held both in-person at Kendra Scott's Newbury Street, Boston store location and online at kendrascott.com. We are so grateful to our friends at Kendra Scott for hosting this event and inviting us to gather together to enjoy great company while browsing their gorgeous gifts.

Do you own or frequent a business interested in hosting a shop for a cause event in your community?

Email us at development@victimrights.org

End of Year Gifting

Still shopping? Consider making a [donation](#) to VRLC in your gift recipient's name and help survivors in their honor!

VRLC donations are great for end of year tax donations! [Donate](#) today and help change lives.

Thank you to [The Miriam Fund](#), an inspiring partner organization committed to expanding opportunities for women and girls, for including our Holiday Gift drive in their holiday [email](#).



[ROI Solutions, Inc.](#) also highlighted VRLC as an organization they are proud to support in their recent December newsletter. ROI Solutions provides innovative technology solutions for nonprofit organizations, and we are grateful for their work with VRLC. Check out their newsletter [here](#).

EVENTS

Sharing Support through the Holidays



VRLC Executive Director Stacy Malone and Deputy Director of Operations Stephanie Holt recently met with [Thomas H. Lee Partners](#) to discuss VRLC's mission and strategies for helping survivors navigate the holiday season. Thank you for THL for hosting this important conversation, and allowing us to share our vital work with your team.

Since 2003, the Victim Rights Law Center has worked to provide survivors with free legal services to help restore their lives and promote a national movement seeking justice for rape and sexual assault survivors. Learn more about our efforts [here](#).

[DONATE](#)

Massachusetts Office
11 Beacon Street, Suite 520
Boston, MA 02108
Phone: (617) 399-6720
Fax: (617) 399-6722

Oregon Office
610 SW Broadway, Suite 308
Portland, OR 97205.
Phone: (503) 274-5477
Fax: (503) 715-2183



Victim Rights Law Center | 11 Beacon Street, Suite 520, Boston, MA 02108

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