



Representation. Dedication. Justice.



VICTIM RIGHTS LAW CENTER | ANNUAL REPORT 2023  
(10/1/2022 – 9/30/2023)

VRLC's mission is to provide legal representation to victims of rape and sexual assault to help rebuild their lives; and to promote a national movement committed to seeking justice for every rape and sexual assault victim.



Dear Friend,

In FY23, Victim Rights Law Center (VRLC) celebrated our 20th year of seeking justice for survivors of sexual assault. We are the first organization devoted solely to the legal representation of survivors in their journey, free of charge. We've changed tens of thousands of lives; and taken our successful, creative legal strategies and trained other attorneys and professionals across the country. Our vision is that one day every survivor will have access to an attorney who is an expert in sexual violence law and understands the impact of trauma.

In our efforts to improve the legal response to sexual violence across the nation, VRLC continued to seek out opportunities to affect public understanding as well as policy. This year we once again raised our voice nationally.

The nomination of Attorney Michael Delaney to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit prompted a VRLC analysis for CNN and comments on the need to ask all judicial nominees questions concerning their handling of cases involving sexual violence during their careers.

We provided testimony to the Massachusetts Joint Committee on the Judiciary urging changes to 258E Harassment Prevention Orders which fail to offer adequate protection to victims of sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking.

We spoke with the Boston Globe about the overly complicated processes that create obstacles for student survivors who try to hold perpetrators accountable for sexual assault on campus.

On a panel co-hosted by The Miriam Fund (a Combined Jewish Philanthropies program) and the Social Innovation Forum, we described our years-long efforts to educate funders on the unique needs of sexual assault survivors and how they differ from domestic violence survivors. Our advocacy has resulted in expanded services for sexual assault survivors and eligibility for federally funded legal services across the country.

**VRLC Statement on  
Judicial Nominations**

**258E Fix Testimony**

**Title IX: Student sexual  
assault survivors seeking  
justice face murky process  
amid political shifts  
([bostonglobe.com](http://bostonglobe.com))**

**Lieutenant Governor  
Driscoll Swears in New  
Members of Governor's  
Council to Address  
Sexual Assault, Domestic  
Violence, and Human  
Trafficking | Mass.gov**

**Shining Star Gala**

In June, our Executive Director Stacy Malone was again sworn in to the Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Human Trafficking, on which she has served for over a decade. The Council will advise on strategies to prevent and to protect people from these crimes and support victims and survivors on their healing journeys.

We wrapped up our FY23 by honoring E. Jean Carroll and her attorney in her civil lawsuit against the former President. They inspired us all with their reflections on their effective teamwork. Their partnership – and success in finding justice for a survivor – are embodiments of what VRLC strives to do every day.

Each of us is honored to be donors to VRLC. We hope you are as well. Thank you for your investment and confidence. If you haven't yet supported VRLC, please consider making a gift in the coming year. We continue to face cuts to our state and federal funding and rely on private donations more and more.

Above all, thank you for being a member of our cherished community and for believing survivors.

In gratitude,



Rebecca Chasen  
BOARD CO-CHAIR



Krista Green Pratt  
BOARD CO-CHAIR



Stacy Malone, Esq.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# Representation

# Training and Technical Assistance

1,750 individuals participated in training and technical assistance

From 643 unique agencies/organizations

In 51 US States and Territories

## Training Topics

### INTRODUCTORY TRAININGS

- Serving Survivors of Sexual Assault
- Foundations of Legal Advocacy for Survivors
- LAV-Funded Civil Legal Services for Sexual Assault Survivors
- Representing Sexual Assault Survivors
- VRLC: An Overview for Rural Grantees

### INTERSECTIONALITY AND MEETING A CLIENT'S NEEDS

- Legal Advocacy for Latine Survivors
- Legal Advocacy for LEP (Limited English Proficiency) Survivors
- Legal Advocacy for Minor Survivors
- Dismantling Barriers: Promoting/Improving Legal Advocacy for Undocumented Survivors
- Culturally Responsive Legal Services for AAPI Survivors of Sexual Violence
- Sexual Assault in Later Life
- Increasing LGBTQIA2S+ Survivors' Access to Legal Services

### UNDERSTANDING A SURVIVOR'S EXPERIENCE

- Legal Advocates Working with Stalking Victims
- How We Center People Who Have Experienced Violence in Custodial Settings

- Housing Rights for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking
- Advocating for Survivors in the Criminal Justice System
- Confidential Victim Advocacy for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Detention

### PROTECTING A CLIENT'S SAFETY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY

- Case File Review: Confidentiality Requirements in SARTs (sexual assault response teams)
- Oregon Advocates' Confidentiality Requirements: The Next Level
- Privacy, Confidentiality, Privilege
- Safety Planning with Survivors of Non-Intimate Partner Sexual Assault

### EXPERTS AND EVIDENCE

- Making the Most of Your SANE (sexual assault nurse examiner) Expert Witness
- Understanding the Medical Forensic Exam

### JUDICIAL INSIGHTS

- Tips from the Bench: Judge Andrea Hertzfeld
- Tips from the Bench: Judge Jean Maurer
- Tips from the Bench: Judge Maureen McKnight

# Dedication

# Client Services

## Massachusetts



**818** individuals called the Massachusetts intake line

**407** rape, sexual assault, and stalking survivors were assisted with **883** separate legal matters

**43%** of clients identified as Black, Indigenous, or people of color

**20%** identified as immigrants

**18%** had limited English proficiency

**4%** were experiencing homelessness

**36%** disclosed a disability

**18%** identified as LGBTQ

Age	
0-11	4%
12-18	17%
19-24	18%
25-39	28%
40-64	21%
65+	1%
Undisclosed	11%

## Oregon



**366** individuals called the Oregon intake line

**375** rape and sexual assault survivors were assisted with **583** separate legal matters

**79%** of clients identified as Black, Indigenous, or people of color

**71%** identified as immigrants

**50%** had limited English proficiency

**7%** were experiencing homelessness

**17%** disclosed a disability

**10%** identified as LGBTQ

Age	
0-11	2%
12-18	8%
19-24	16%
25-39	33%
40-64	37%
65+	1%
Undisclosed	3%

## Totals

<b>60%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>5%</b>
471 BIPOC	348 Immigrant	261 Limited English Proficiency	210 Disability	111 LGBTQ	43 Homeless

## Pro Bono Programs

VRLC relies on the volunteer assistance of attorneys, law firms, and other professionals to serve more survivors, assist us in legal research to support our advocacy efforts, and enhance our technical assistance services. We train more pro bono attorneys in sexual violence law and benefit from their donated time, expertise, and deep commitment to supporting survivors of sexual assault.

### Hours Donated:

**870** Massachusetts Legal Services

**258** Oregon Legal Services

**686** National Technical Assistance

## Pro Bono Firms

Beaverton Law Group  
Bennett Hartman LLP  
Cambreleng & Marton  
Cappelli Law  
Conn Kavanaugh Rosenthal Peisch & Ford LLP  
Tiffany Davidson, Attorney at Law  
Dechert LLP  
Dumas & Vaughn, LLC  
Engrav Law Office  
Finastra  
Foley Hoag LLP  
Goulston & Storrs LLP  
Goodwin Procter LLP  
Graves & Swanson, LLC  
Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
Harriman Law  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
Knuuttila Law

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP  
Trisha Mayhew Law  
McCarter & English, LLP  
McDermott Will & Emery  
Miller Nash  
Mintz  
Morgan Lewis  
Proskauer LLP  
Rizzo Bosworth Eraut PC  
Seaside Attorneys  
Seyfarth Shaw LLP  
Shook, Hardy & Bacon  
Sinclair Law LLC  
Stoel Rives LLP  
Sullivan & Worcester  
Tonkon Torp  
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP  
WilmerHale



### Volunteers Refresh Boston Office

Deloitte employees, led by colleague and VRLC Board member Sofia Hussain, spent their corporate impact day volunteering at VRLC's Boston office. Deloitte team members created terrariums and digital art to beautify the space and create an inviting environment for survivors seeking services.

JUNE 2023



# SHINING STAR CELEBRATION



VRLC Executive Director Stacy Malone,  
and E. Jean Carroll  
Photo Credit: Kate Brindley Photography

On September 20, 2023, VRLC gathered for the Shining Star Celebration at Artists for Humanity EpiCenter in Boston. It was an evening filled with networking, community building, and motivating remarks from sexual assault survivors and those who inspire others to help find justice.

**Leadership Awardee:** Roberta "Robbie" Kaplan, Esq.,  
for her recent triumph representing writer E. Jean Carroll  
in her sexual abuse and defamation lawsuit

**Shining Star Awardees:** Madeleine Rodriguez, Esq., and  
Stephen Bartlett, Esq., Foley Hoag

**Champion Awardee:** Shook, Hardy & Bacon

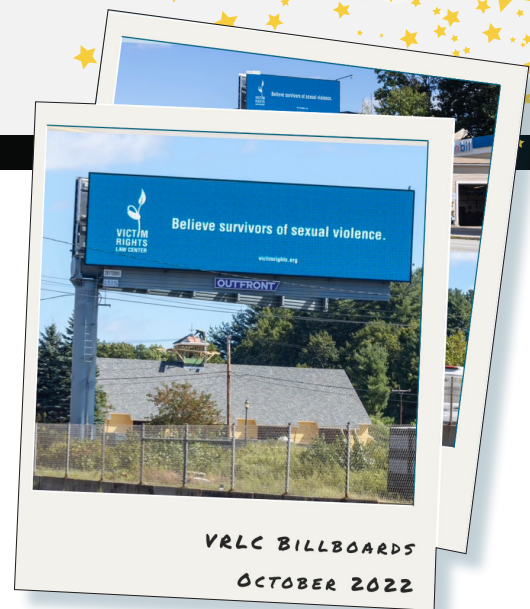
**Courage Awardee:** VRLC Client

Thank you to our volunteers, donors, and  
award recipients for an extraordinary celebration!



VRLC recognized our National Director of Training and Technical Assistance Jessica Mindlin in her transition to a consulting career after 17 years of service to VRLC. It was a wonderful tribute to an incredible lawyer and leader. Here with VRLC's Executive Director in Portland, OR.

JUNE 2023

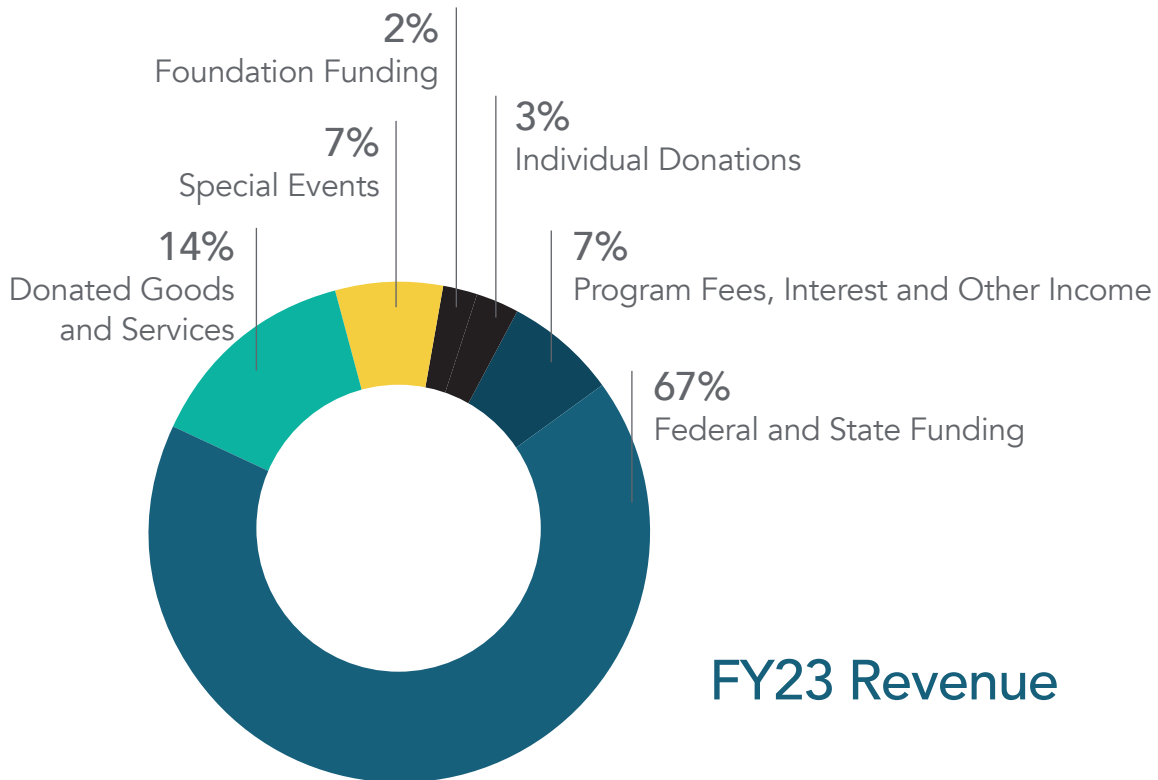
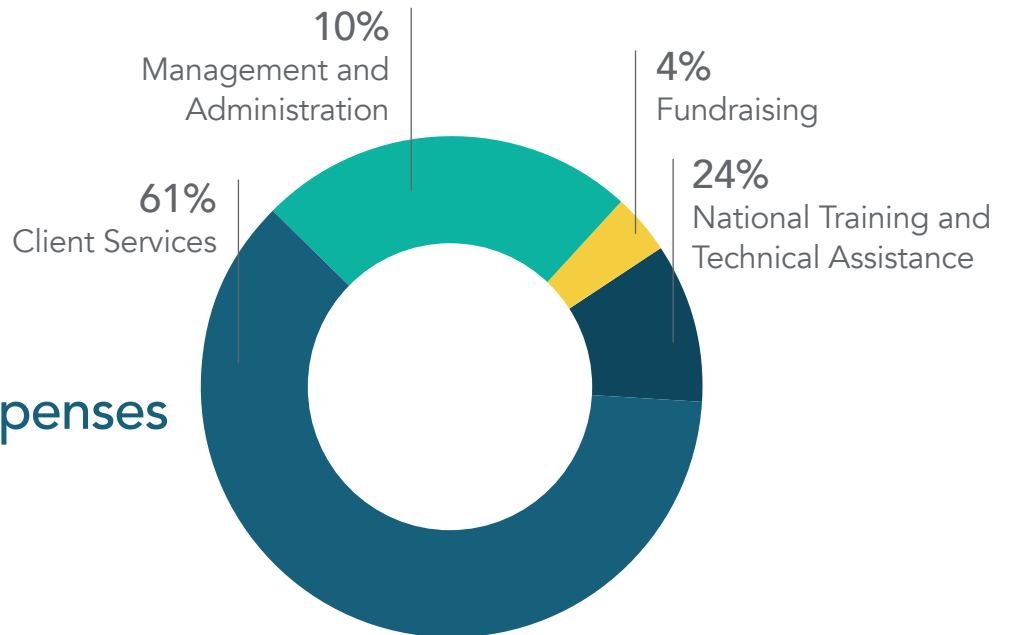


*Thank you to  
@outfrontmediausa for free  
billboards throughout eastern  
MA raising awareness about  
sexual assault and VRLC.*

# VRLC Financials

## Fiscal Year 2023

### FY23 Expenses



### FY23 Revenue

26% of our annual revenue comes from charitable donations. The full extent of our work wouldn't be possible without such generosity.

# Thank You to Our Donors

Donations from individuals, businesses, and foundations enable VRLC to extend our efforts, advocate for improved policies and laws, pilot new initiatives, and provide a range of free educational and information services to the community. We thank the generosity of our supporters in FY23.

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## \$10,000 and above

Marybeth Burke and Sam Lambroza  
Rebecca and Allan Chasen  
The William H. Donner Foundation  
Goodwin Procter LLP  
IBM Club  
Michele and Howard Kessler  
Knuuttila Law  
Jeff Lang and Rae Svendgard  
Stacy Malone and Al Tringali  
Deb and Steve Marcus  
Georgia Murray and Mark Maloney  
Kate Murtagh  
The Reilly Family Fund  
Ropes & Gray LLP  
Brenda and Rick Sharton  
Anne and Bill Tobin

## \$5,000 – \$9,999

Arnold & Porter  
Autzen Foundation  
Biogen  
Birch Hill Investment Advisors  
Anne E. Borghesani Community Fund  
CFG  
Susan Estrich  
Feldman Geospatial  
Foley Hoag LLP  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
Roderick MacLeish

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP  
John J. McDonell and  
Margaret T. O'Brien Foundation  
Mintz  
Morgan Lewis  
Claire Newton and Edward Maloney  
Andrea Robinson and Jonathan Talamo  
Shook, Hardy & Bacon  
Sidley Austin  
WilmerHale

## \$2,000 – \$4,999

Blue Cross Blue Shield  
By Land or Sea  
Cane Systems, LLC  
Birgitta Dickerson and James Crowley  
Elizabeth Fries  
Gorton Law  
Harriman Law  
Jackson Lewis P.C.  
Megan Kelleher and David Abramowitz  
McCarter & English, LLP  
McDermott Will & Emery  
Carolyn and James McGarry  
Anthony Mirenda  
Brett and Kristin Mirliani  
Oregon Immigrant Foundation  
Dwight and Kirsten Poler  
Krista Green Pratt and Josh Pratt  
Estie Rappaport

# Justice

Madeleine Rodriguez and Francisco Morales  
Seyfarth Shaw LLP  
Sandra Dee Shugart Fund of Oregon  
Community Foundation  
State Street Corporation  
Susan Vickers and Clint Fondo  
Sharon and Alan Weston

## **\$1,000 – \$1,999**

Anonymous (2)  
Michelle Anderson  
Spectra Asala  
Sarah Bailey  
Mary and Keith Barber  
Nancy Bender  
Elizabeth and Thomas Boates  
Roger and Betty Borghesani  
Risa Burgess  
Casner & Edwards, LLP  
Chrisicos Interiors  
Charlotte Cipolletti  
Conn Kavanaugh Rosenthal Peisch & Ford, LLP  
Gretchen and Nicholas Covino  
Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation  
Farah Englert  
Meaghan English and Michael Redbord  
Tim and Lisa Fagan  
Parvati Grais and Cory Greenberg

Erin Higgins  
Anita Hill  
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Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP  
Pathways for Change, Inc.  
Daniel Rawner  
Kevin and Janice Roden  
Ilene Seidman  
Sullivan & Worcester  
Chari Tager  
Town Fair Tire Foundation  
Rebecca Tulman  
Penina Weinberg



Amanda Walsh, Deputy Director for External Affairs, was both a trainer and a participant at the Office on Violence Against Women Technical Assistance Provider Planning meeting in April 2023 in Bethesda, MD. Pictured here are colleagues from OVV, NOVA, Mississippi Coalition Against SA, Alteristic, and Futures Without Violence.

# 2023 Staff List

Moire Balsam	Staff Attorney
Malia Bennett	Senior Attorney
Joelle Bueno	Paralegal/Intake Specialist
Betsy Byra	Staff Attorney
Michelle Ponce	Legal Assistant
Maura Crossin	Assistant Director of Training and Consultation
Mary Darcy	Senior Program Coordinator
Katrina Eberly	Senior Attorney
Elizabeth Fagan	Development, Outreach, and Communications Coordinator
Tanya Francois	Staff Attorney
Alexandra Gordon	Accounting Coordinator
Nora Grais-Clements	Senior Attorney
McKenzie Harker	Senior Attorney
Kayla Hogan-Daly	Staff Attorney
Stephanie Holt	Deputy Director, Operations
Shara Jones	Senior Attorney
Aileen Konanez	Staff Attorney
Ellen Leuchs	Director of Development
Stacy Malone	Executive Director
Austin Martell	Accounting Specialist
Shannon Masden	Assistant Director of Training and Consultation
Laura Maslow-Armand	Senior Attorney
Cornelius McGarry	Chief Financial Officer
Jane Merrick	Campus Grant Coordinator
Jessica Mindlin	National Director of Training and Technical Assistance/Director, Oregon Office
Kiah Murphy	Staff Attorney
Izabella Pereira	Intake Specialist/Paralegal
Erika Rajkovic	Development and Operations Manager
Stella Rivera	Campus Grant Coordinator
Tiffany Robertson-Brown	Finance Manager
Carol Schrader	Senior Attorney
Daniella Stoltz	Paralegal/Intake Specialist
Alexia Tomlinson	Staff Attorney
Ruth Vaughan	Senior Attorney
Gisela Verdeja	Legal Assistant
Amanda Walsh	Deputy Director, External Affairs
Robin Whitney	Director of Development
Tiara Williams	People and Culture Manager
Kelsey Worline	Managing Attorney

## 2023 Board of Directors

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**Krista Green Pratt, Esq.**  
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## Boston Office

11 Beacon Street, Suite 520  
Boston, MA 02108

## Portland Office

610 SW Broadway, Suite 308  
Portland, OR 97205

[victimrights.org](http://victimrights.org)



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