



Victim Rights Law Center

November Newsletter

Dear Friends,

Like many of you, we spent the early part of this month closely monitoring the government shutdown and its impact on survivors. The shutdown will inevitably lead to a delay in awarding and disseminating competitive grants that sexual assault and domestic violence programs rely on. Some programs may have to lay off staff while they await the news.

The shutdown has also paused or cancelled trainings meant to build skills and strengthen our field. But if there's one thing we know how to do, it's adapt. We've used this time to dig in on one-on-one mentoring and case support. Whether it is a new attorney seeking a civil protection order for a client for the first time or a seasoned attorney taking on their first Title IX case, we're here to help.

This period of uncertainty has also reminded us how much we rely on our community. Below, you'll find highlights from two meaningful house parties hosted on VRLC's behalf. As we close out a month focused on gratitude, I am so thankful for the extraordinary support and commitment of our donors, allies, pro bono attorneys, and VRLC's Board during this tumultuous year.

In gratitude,
Stacy

NATIONAL TRAINING

Attention Advocates & Intake Specialists

UPCOMING WEBINAR:

Legal Information or Legal Advice? Walking the Line

December 10, 2:00pm - 3:15pm ET

Legal advocates and intake specialists are invited to join us for an online training session outlining the differences between providing legal information and giving legal advice. This webinar will both clarify the line between advice and information and highlight activities that could constitute the unauthorized practice of law. Using real-world examples, participants will learn how to offer meaningful, creative assistance to clients while also remaining within the boundaries of permissible legal information. Don't miss this valuable professional development opportunity.

Register today [here](#).

NEWS

Should States Step Up for Students?



In response to the gutting of the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, some states are proposing their own agencies to protect students from discrimination.

But is a state-led approach the best solution for students?

Check out VRLC Senior Education Attorney Tiffany Hester's take in her recent addition to VRLC's [Stand Up, Speak Up](#) blog. Read the post [here](#).

Inside Higher Ed's recent coverage further examines the steps that some states are taking and the sustainability of state-based efforts. Read their article [here](#).

Looking to connect with resources in your state? Email us at TA@victimrights.org.

DEVELOPMENT

Bringing our Mission Home

More than ever it's important for us to expand our community and raise public awareness of the legal challenges facing survivors of sexual assault. This fall, some generous donors hosted house parties to help us do just that.

In September, a longtime pro bono attorney and VRLC awardee brought together 40 friends, colleagues, and neighbors at her home in Newton, MA. She got everyone into the party mood with a homemade game of Trivial Pursuit filled with VRLC facts.

This month, wonderful supporters hosted us in New

York City for an intimate gathering. While enjoying the amazing view, we shared updates on VRLC's work and answered many questions about our national training and mentoring program.

Interested in opening your home to connect VRLC with your community? [Send us an email](#) to learn more.



MISCELLANEOUS/FUN NEWS

Support Survivor Families this Holiday Season




As the holiday season approaches, this year, survivors face increased uncertainty with fewer resources available for assistance.

You can help ease that burden by participating in VRLC's Holiday Gift Card Drive. Gift card donations are enormously impactful for our clients and their families, providing immediate access to food, household essentials, and other necessities.

Your generosity helps provide security and comfort during an especially challenging time. Give a gift card and support survivors today. Shop our gift card wishlist [here](#).

Thank You to our Sponsors!



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