

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 2020

## NCVLI SELECTED AS SEMI-FINALIST FOR NATIONAL AWARD FOCUSED ON ENDING INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

NCVLI has been chosen as a semi-finalist by the Mary Byron Project for its 20th Anniversary Celebrating Solutions "Award for Excellence". The semi-finalists were chosen from among the 67 programs nationally who had previously received the Mary Byron Project's Celebrating Solutions Award. "We are honored to have made it to this point in the selection process in light of the amazing work done by so many," said NCVLI Executive Director Meg Garvin, "We are committed to a future in which all survivors of violence and abuse have meaningful rights and are heard, believed, and supported."

In 2013, <u>NCVLI was first honored by Mary Byron Project's Celebrating Solutions Award</u>, which honors innovative programs that demonstrate promise in ending the generational cycle of intimate partner violence (IPV). The Award recognized NCVLI's innovative Responding to Violence Against Women Project which had the goal of ensuring that service providers responding to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and similar crimes have the knowledge and skills necessary to protect a victim's rights—particularly in the criminal case against an offender.

Since being recognized, NCVLI has woven protection of the rights of victims of IPV into its mission ensuring that rather than being a standalone project the work is part of every aspect of NCVLI's effort. This means fighting systemic exclusion and the silencing and erasing of all survivors while ensuring select NCVLI staff remain focused on the issues of intimate terrorism and other forms of gender-based violence. Among NCVLI's recent efforts is its work with the International Association of Chiefs of Police to combat gender bias in policing.

As an organization, NCVLI has

- trained almost 18,000 people, over 90% of whom report the training enhanced their knowledge;
- responded to more than 650 requests for technical assistance on victims' rights issues from advocates and attorneys across the country with over 98% of recipients reporting the assistance was helpful;
- increased the number of sample pleadings available on <u>www.NAVRA.org</u> for use by pro and low bono attorneys serving survivors by more than 133%; and
- filed nearly 100 amicus curiae briefs.

This year, NCVLI is leading the way in challenging COVID-motivated policies that overlook the safety and rights of victims of abuse. NCVLI is collaborating with organizations nationally to seek solutions to enable victims to access and meaningfully participate in the justice system safely and effectively during the pandemic.

The "Award for Excellence" will be bestowed upon the program that has best continued its legacy of innovation and inspiration in ending intimate partner violence, in honor of the Mary Byron Project's 20th Anniversary.

Founded in 2000, the <u>National Crime Victim Law Institute</u> is a national resource for crime victim lawyers and advocates to support the assertion and enforcement of victims' rights in criminal and civil processes. NCVLI continues to be the only national organization whose mission is focused on enforcement of victims' rights in the courts.

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