

THE MARY BYRON FOUNDATION

RECEIVED SEP 18 2006

Celebrating Solutions Award  
Nomination Form

Legal name of organization National Center for Victims of Crime Year established 1985

Program nominated for award (if different) Stalking Resource Center Year established 1998

Address 2000 M Street, NW Suite 400

City/State/ZIP code Washington DC 20036

Contact person Mary Lou Leary

Title Executive Director

Phone number (202) 467-8700 Fax number (202) 467-8701

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Brief description of the nominated program:

The Stalking Resource Center works to raise national awareness of the prevalence and danger of stalking, and encourages the development and implementation of multi-disciplinary responses to stalking in local communities across the country.

Geographical area served Nationwide

Is organization tax-exempt under IRS 501(c)(3) guidelines?  yes  no

If no, is your organization a public agency/unit of government?  yes  no

Signature of contact person Mary Lou Leary

Date 9-15-06

The Mary Byron Foundation  
Celebrating Solutions Award  
*Program Outline*

**1. Describe the overall mission of your organization in five sentences or less.**

The National Center for Victims of Crime is the nation's leading resource and advocacy organization dedicated to serving individuals, families, and communities harmed by crime. Our mission is to forge a national commitment to help victims of crime rebuild their lives.

**2. Describe the most innovative aspects of the program you are nominating.**

The Stalking Resource Center, launched in July of 2000 with funding from the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), works to raise national awareness of the prevalence and danger of stalking, and encourages the development and implementation of multidisciplinary responses to stalking in local communities across the country. The Stalking Resource Center (SRC) also leads the effort to raise public awareness about stalking and the nexus of stalking and domestic violence.

Research indicates that 77 percent of victims are stalked by someone they know and 59 percent by a current or former intimate partner. Fifty-seven percent of the time, stalking begins prior to the end of the intimate partner relationship. Furthermore, stalking and intimate partner femicide (murder of a woman) are also closely linked: 76 percent of femicide victims had been stalked by their intimate partner, and 54 percent had reported the stalking to police before they were killed.

Legislatures began criminalizing stalking in the early 1990s and by the end of the decade every state, the District of Columbia, and the federal government had enacted laws addressing stalking. However, law enforcement, victim service providers, prosecutors, and other allied professionals have been slow to combat stalking and integrate knowledge of stalking into their disciplines and their responses to domestic violence and other crimes. This has left many victims unprotected, not knowing where to turn, and assuming (sometimes correctly) that no one was willing or able to help them. The Stalking Resource Center has given these victims a reason to hope.

Since its inception, the Stalking Resource Center has, among other projects:

- Conducted the first-ever national conference on the use of technology in intimate partner stalking which brought together law enforcement, prosecutors, victim service providers, and others to explore how technology is used to stalk, the implications for victims and the criminal justice system, and how to remain safe in the digital age. We now hold this conference annually.
- Conducted the first-ever Tribal Summit on stalking. Stalking in Indian Country requires specialized responses due to jurisdictional issues, legal issues (concerning the development of tribal codes), and other concerns related to helping victims in small, dispersed communities. By partnering with Native American Circle, a Native American organization addressing domestic violence and stalking, we were able to bring together a diverse group of tribal leaders, tribal police, victim advocates, prosecutors, and others to explore the issues related to having effective victim-centered responses to stalking in Indian Country.
- Conducted the first-ever national conference on the intersection of stalking and sexual assault. New research indicates that stalking is a form of predatory behavior that often precedes sexual assault. The SRC responded by developing a training to help communities understand the implications of this finding and how to improve their responses to victims accordingly.
- Developed a new model code for states to guide the development and evolution of stalking laws. One of the main technical assistance requests to the Stalking Resource Center is for information and guidance on stalking laws. The SRC has undertaken an extensive review of every state stalking statute and existing case law to develop a model that informs states on ways to strengthen stalking laws.
- Created a model policy for using community-oriented policing to address stalking and support victims. The Stalking Resource Center developed a model policy regarding the use of community-oriented policing to address stalking, and then worked with a broad group of community stakeholders in Philadelphia to adapt that policy for the city. The effort

culminated in a new directive issued by the police commissioner and training for the entire department.

- Established January as Stalking Awareness Month, beginning in 2004. The impetus for Stalking Awareness Month was the murder of Peggy Klinke by her ex-boyfriend. The Stalking Resource Center has worked closely with Peggy's family to make Stalking Awareness Month a reality. For the past three years, numerous communities and states have sponsored Stalking Awareness Month activities, and the momentum is growing.
- Created two educational videos to raise public awareness of stalking : 1) *Stalking: Real Fear, Real Crime* (produced in conjunction with Lifetime Television) focuses on the Peggy Klinke story and is geared for law enforcement; 2) *Links in a Chain: Two Communities Respond to Stalking* (produced with a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice COPS Office) shows how two communities—San Jose, CA and Troy, NY—have developed different, innovative models of community coordinated responses to stalking.

**3. Describe your program's implementation. What barriers did your organization have to overcome? How did you marshal the necessary resources for implementation?**

In its inception, the Stalking Resource Center assumed an already high level of understanding about stalking in the victim services field. However, we quickly learned that there was a tremendous need for basic education. We changed our project's objectives from (a) providing intense technical assistance to help communities develop coordinated stalking responses to (b) developing large-scale training conferences to inform multidisciplinary teams, who were then addressing domestic violence, about stalking and its implications for their current practices.

Stalking statutes have also been an obstacle. Stalking can comprise incidents that under other circumstances are not crimes, such as the sending of unwanted gifts or e-mail, numerous phone calls, and driving by a victim's home. The acts become criminal when the totality of the behaviors induces fear in the victim. Laws vary widely, and many do not cover the use of technology in stalking, have high thresholds of victim fear, or require the offender to have intended to threaten or cause the victim to be

fearful. In response, our training and technical assistance work is always focused on how a greater understanding of stalking needs to be integrated into any community's response.

**4. How do you know your program works? Please site two examples.**

Training is by far the most significant activity that the Stalking Resource Center undertakes. Since the inception of the project, the SRC has trained over 10,000 law enforcement personnel, victim service providers, prosecutors, and allied professionals on stalking. At each training, we ask for evaluations of the content, the presenters and the relevance of the training to the attendee's work. Our training is consistently highly rated overall. To learn more, we instituted a six-month follow up survey for training participants in 2004, and among the survey results were the following:

- 48 percent of participants began new collaborations on individual cases
- 55 percent of participants began to network with others about stalking
- 81 percent of participants had referred to the materials since the training
- 32 percent of participants held training on stalking in their community
- 14 percent of participants reported a new protocol or policy was developed and implemented on stalking—significant because most attendees are not necessarily policy-makers

In a recent letter to the Stalking Resource Center, Dr. Julie Mostov of Drexel University, part of the West Philadelphia Campus-Community Consortium, a group comprising community domestic violence and sexual assault organizations as well as colleges like Drexel University and the University of Pennsylvania, wrote:

“We were extremely pleased with the day-long training workshop led by NCVV experts. After the training, which was well-attended and universally praised by our partner agencies and Public Safety officers, Student Life staff, and counseling professionals, we were eager to include a section on stalking in all of our campus training programs. The NCVV contributed significantly to this enterprise, providing us with power point materials, data and advice. Now all of our campus training programs, from new student orientations to Public Safety workshops, include sections on stalking. This information is increasingly important to students and first responders on campuses nationwide.”

## **Who are your key partners? What are their roles?**

Partnerships are key elements of the Stalking Resource Center's work. Because stalking often exists in connection to other crimes such as domestic violence and sexual assault, it has served our work well to partner with other organizations to expand their concepts of stalking and include that understanding as a component of their work. The Stalking Resource Center has worked with many groups including:

- National Network to End Domestic Violence—developing a training on the use of technology to stalk
- Battered Women's Justice Project—developing a national conference on intimate partner stalking
- California Coalition Against Sexual Assault—adding stalking information to training for college campuses
- American Probation and Parole Association—adding stalking information to training for parole and probation officers
- Native American Circle—developing the first-ever Tribal Summit on Stalking in Indian Country
- Southwest Center on Law and Policy—developing training for tribal police and prosecutors on investigating and prosecuting stalking cases in Indian Country.

## **5. Could/should your program be replicated in other areas of the country? How and why?**

The Stalking Resource Center is national in scope. Its goal is to raise awareness about stalking and to initiate community-level change across the country in how stalking is addressed. The SRC has, from its start, developed materials, training programs, and products for use by communities to address the issue head on. These resources are also developed to be inclusive of the diversity that makes up most American towns and cities. Examples of our efforts include the translation of our fact sheet and brochure into Spanish, the development of training specific to Indian Country, writing articles in our newsletter and for the web site that feature populations with special needs, such as immigrant victims and victims with disabilities. Our goal is that communities continue to increase their commitment to addressing stalking, including providing resources, support and hope for stalking victims.

## **Mary Byron Foundation Celebrating Solutions Award Application**

National Center for Victims of Crime  
Stalking Resource Center

### **1. Submit three letters of support that illustrate why the applicant or nominee is deserving of the award.**

The Stalking Resource Center (SRC) is pleased to submit letters from the National Network to End Domestic Violence, a partnering agency; Cornerstone, Inc., a victim service organization in Bloomington, Minnesota; and the Honorable Mary Beth Buchanan, Acting Director of the United States Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women. (See Attachment I.)

### **2. Submit proof of 501(c)(3) status if program is operated by a non-profit, non-governmental agency.**

The National Center for Victims of Crime operates as a 501(c)(3) non profit agency. (See Attachment II.)

### **3. Submit last year's budget for the program to be served by the award.**

Provided is the program budget for the Stalking Resource Center for Fiscal Year 2006. (See Attachment III.)

### **4. Respond to the following questions:**

- a) What is the approximate number of individuals served annually by the applicant or nominee?

The Stalking Resource Center provides training and technical assistance to professionals and victims nationwide. Since the inception of the Stalking Resource Center in 2000, the number of individuals served has steadily grown. In 2006, the Stalking Resource Center provided training to 5,097 individuals nationwide and responded to 204 requests for technical assistance from 30 states and the District of Columbia. We anticipate serving a greater number in 2007 and future years.

- b) Are there past awards, accolades, and grants furnished upon the applicant or nominee that would further exemplify its success in combating domestic violence?

The Stalking Resource Center is proud to have been honored with past awards, accolades, and grants in recognition of its efforts to combat domestic violence related stalking.

In 2005, the National Center for Victims of Crime and the Stalking Resource Center produced a video titled, *Links in the Chain: Two Communities Respond to Stalking*. Produced by Academy Award-winning documentary filmmakers Citizen Film and Women's Educational Media, this video features two jurisdictions successfully engaging in multidisciplinary, collaborative responses to stalking. This video received the Crystal Award of Excellence, the top honor in "The Communicators Awards," an international competition that recognizes excellence in communications.

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women has provided funding since 1998 to continue the critical work of the Stalking Resource Center.

- c) If funding were not an issue, what (if any) changes or additions would you make to your program?

The Stalking Resource Center continually engages in assessment and evaluation to ensure that we are meeting the needs of practitioners and victims. If funding were not an issue, we would expand the SRC in a variety of ways. Although the SRC has reached many communities, a tremendous amount of work remains to be done.

The vast majority of communities are still in the early stages of developing coordinated community responses to stalking. With unlimited resources, the SRC could train additional local community teams (typically consisting of prosecutors, law enforcement, and victim service providers) on the fundamentals of stalking as well as assist them in developing stronger, more victim-focused approaches to combat stalking in their communities. This training would be supplemented with ongoing technical assistance and cross-fertilization of best practices among communities.

The SRC would also devote special attention to developing and promoting cross-jurisdictional responses among communities. Stalking behaviors often occur in multiple jurisdictions. Therefore, it is essential that these jurisdictions cooperate by establishing effective information-sharing protocols and coordinated investigations and prosecutions.

Additionally, the SRC would pay special attention to developing dedicated services for victims of stalking. Few communities have specialized services for stalking victims. Victims are greatly in need of services that can help them



enhance their safety, provide counseling and advocacy services, and connect victims with peers in support groups.

Even as communities are beginning to address stalking, there are still many emerging issues that require additional research, legislation, and creativity to address. These issues include the prevalence of stalking in abusive teen relationships, the nexus of stalking and domestic violence in Indian Country, stalking in the workplace, and the rise of stalking on college campuses. The SRC would develop campus-based programs that engage college students in peer-to-peer education and services and would conduct similar programs for younger students.

The SRC would also devote more resources to addressing stalking victims who are traditionally marginalized, including victims with disabilities, immigrants, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender victims. Too many victims of stalking suffer in isolation, and this suffering is compounded for victims who face additional systemic, community barriers, or both.

Finally, the SRC would initiate a national outreach campaign to educate the public about stalking, its seriousness, and information for victims seeking assistance. The message conveyed through such a campaign is that: stalking is real; it can happen to anyone; it's dangerous; and it's a crime.

**5. Our selection committee has created a series of questions about each semi-finalist's specific program so that we can better understand your work. Please see the enclosed separate sheet for your set of questions and answer each thoroughly.**

- 1) What is your annual budget?

The annual budget of the National Center for Victims of Crime for Fiscal Year 2007 is \$3,687,000. The annual budget for the Stalking Resource Center for Fiscal Year 2007 is \$667,000.

- 2) How does your agency advertise resources?

The National Center for Victims of Crime uses a number of mechanisms for advertising our resources. We maintain a dynamic Web site that provides information on the organization, the services we provide, and resources for the field. The Stalking Resource Center Web site receives 23,000 unique visitors each month. The National Center's Web site is one of the most linked to sites on victim issues on the Internet and is also Google's number one site for "victims of crime."

The National Center is engaged in regular communication with the field about resources for victim service providers, law enforcement, prosecutors, and allied

professionals. We maintain a database of over 12,000 organizations nationwide that provide victim assistance to which we periodically alert to new resources. More regularly, we e-mail a list of approximately 6,000 practitioners who have requested our e-mail alerts. Additionally, 1,300 National Center members receive regular e-mail alerts and the National Center for Victims of Crime flagship magazine, *Networks*, which details new resources available to the field.

The National Center for Victims of Crime also benefits from many partnerships across the field. For example, in collaboration with the United States Postal Service and United States Postal Inspection Service National Crime Victims' Rights Week posters, highlighting the National Center's Helpline phone number and Web site, were posted in the 15,000 largest post offices across the country.

The Stalking Resource Center also publishes a periodic newsletter, *The Source*, distributed to more than 3,000 recipients, including law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim service providers. *The Source* contains articles on emerging issues related to stalking, legislative updates, and information on newly developed products and resources available to stalking victims.

The National Center for Victims of Crime's Communications Department regularly engages the media to make the general public more aware of the crime of stalking, as well as to reach victims directly with information and resources. We also provide information on a range of available services and resources at each training we conduct to inform attendees of the full scope of assistance that is available to them from the Stalking Resource Center.

Finally, we rely on the numerous relationships we have with other national organizations, such as the National Network to End Domestic Violence, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Battered Women's Justice Project, and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, to assist us in making their constituents aware of the resources offered by the Stalking Resource Center.

- 3) Does the agency keep track of states that pass Model Legislation and those that still need to?

The Stalking Resource Center maintains an extensive Web site that includes stalking laws for each state, U.S. territories, the military, and Tribal and federal stalking laws. These posted laws are updated twice a year to ensure the latest statutory amendments are reflected. Additionally, we provide technical assistance to state, federal, and tribal legislators, state coalition staff, and victim service providers seeking to develop, expand, or improve stalking legislation in their jurisdictions.

Upon observing the increased incidence of the use of technology in stalking cases, as well as experiencing an increase in the volume of requests for model stalking

legislation, the National Center for Victims of Crime developed the *Model Stalking Code Revisited: Responding to the New Realities of Stalking*. The *Model Stalking Code Revisited* updates the original model stalking code, developed in 1993, and provides a more comprehensive model statute that covers the various forms of stalking behaviors employed by stalkers today as well as incorporates the ideas and “lessons learned” from case law published on stalking in the last 13 years.

Stalking statutes can look dramatically different from state to state. For this reason, the Stalking Resource Center does not point out particular states that have model legislation versus those that do not. Instead, the SRC promotes certain elements of stalking statutes that are more effective than others. For example, the SRC recommends the exclusion of an explicit threat requirement in stalking statutes. Some states require that the offender make an overt, explicit threat to the victim for the case to be charged as stalking. However, the SRC has learned that many intimate partner stalking cases involve only implied threats—those that are clearly understood by the victim, but not necessarily by an outside observer. States that require an explicit threat, therefore, may not be able to charge the majority of intimate partner stalking cases.

For that same reason, the *Model Stalking Code Revisited* is a valuable resource for legislators and victim service providers on stalking statutes. In addition to providing model language for stalking statutes, the *Model Stalking Code Revisited* also distinguishes elements of effective stalking statutes and provides legal analysis and commentary on those elements so legislators can understand the reasoning behind the language recommendations.

4) Does the agency work with state coalitions?

The Stalking Resource Center has active relationships with many state domestic violence, sexual assault, and joint coalitions. The SRC has collaborated with and provided training for the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association, the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, the Florida Council on Sexual Assault, the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and the District of Columbia Rape Crisis Center. The SRC has scheduled trainings with the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

Earlier this year, the SRC worked closely with the Washington State Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs to provide both in-person and online train-the-trainer on stalking and technology presentations to coalition staff and lead advocates from

throughout the state. Armed with training and materials from the SRC, coalition staff and advocates conducted several additional local trainings.

Finally, the SRC has an established partnership with the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault under which program staff have provided on-going training about stalking on college campuses. The SRC is currently collaborating with them to develop a model stalking policy for colleges and universities.

5) What is the number of people accessing the resource?

As indicated above, there are many different ways individuals can access the resources provided by the Stalking Resource Center. In 2006, 5,097 individuals received training, 204 requests for technical assistance were fulfilled, and over 3,000 individuals received the SRC newsletter, *The Source*. During the same time period, there were 281,676 unique visitors to the Stalking Resource Center Web site who viewed a total of 460,212 pages.

Additionally, the National Center's National Crime Victim Helpline (1-800-FYI-CALL) receives many calls regarding stalking. From July through December 2006, the Helpline received 2,246 stalking-related calls—nearly 20 percent of all the calls received by the Helpline. These callers are provided with a variety of resources on stalking, including many available on the SRC Web site, as well as referrals to local service providers and other professionals trained to respond to stalking.

**National Center for Victims of Crime  
STALKING RESOURCE CENTER**

Budget for Fiscal Year 2006: October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006

**REVENUE**

Grants & Other Income **750,723**

**EXPENSES**

Personnel

Salaries 333,462

Benefits 84,399

Total Personnel **417,861**

Travel, Meetings, Consultants, Contracts

Air, Rail 15,100

Ground 5,624

Meals 28,027

Incidentals 335

Room 12,885

Equipment, AV 3,696

Consultants & Contracts 32,416

Total Travel, etc. **98,083**

Supplies

Printing 8,385

Copies 2,299

Office Supplies 943

Computer Supplies 2,798

Program Materials -

Telephone 15

Postage 4,620

Shipping 2,717

Courier 11

Total Supplies **21,788**

Other

Dues 404

Subscriptions -

Online Exp 8,623

Library Acquisitions -

Recruiting 50

Conferences 125

Total Other **9,202**

Total Direct **546,935**

Indirect\* **203,788**

**Total Expenses 750,723**

\*Indirect costs are pooled and allocated in accordance with our negotiated agreement with the US Department of Justice and OMB Circular A-122 Cost Principles for Non-profit Organizations.

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May 5, 2007

Marcia Roth  
 Executive Director  
 Mary Byron Foundation  
 10401 Linn Station Road  
 Louisville, KY 402223

1000 East 80th Street  
 Bloomington, MN 55420  
 Business 952.884.0376  
 Fax 952.884.2135  
 www.cornerstonemn.org

Dear Ms. Roth:

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the National Center for Victims of Crime Stalking Resource Center's application for the Mary Byron Foundation's Celebrating Solutions Award. Cornerstone has benefited greatly from the outstanding work of the Stalking Resource Center. Founded in 1983, Cornerstone is a community-based non-profit organization whose purpose is to prevent violence and provide comprehensive services to victims of domestic abuse and their children. By investing in the long-term needs of the family and its individual members, Cornerstone's programming helps create a nonviolent future.

Stalking is an issue that we identified as an emerging issue in our community approximately two years ago. While staffing domestic violence client cases, we found it troublesome that though we could identify a client who was being stalked, our community did not have services specifically for these clients. In researching the topic, I found the Stalking Resource Center which became the single resource for these clients.

In March of 2006, I attended the Stalking Resource Center and Battered Women's Justice Project sponsored conference, "Investigating and Prosecuting Intimate Partner Stalking." This was the beginning of a process of re-defining stalking for me and for our agency. In September, 2006, I attended the Stalking Resource Center and National Network to End Domestic Violence sponsored conference, "The Use of Technology in Intimate Partner Stalking," and a new way of thinking about stalking was born.

The Stalking Resource Center generously provided me with their training materials in order to conduct local training on stalking. I conducted trainings for staff of Cornerstone and advocates at the Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County, Family Violence Coordinating Council Advocates Committee, with the Stalking Resource Center's support and encouragement.

To further enhance our community efforts to address stalking, in October 2006 Cornerstone applied for a Federal VAWA Grant which we were awarded in January 2007. With this funding we have created a Stalking Response Program. In the first year of this two-year grant, we will develop a stalking protocol with two of our communities. In year two, we will provide training to law enforcement, advocates, judges, probation officers, prosecutors, and other community stakeholders. Providing direct services, support groups, and community outreach will be ongoing programmatic components during the grant period. To my knowledge, Cornerstone's Stalking Support Group is the first of its kind in the State of Minnesota.

The Stalking Resource Center has been of tremendous value to our agency. They are providing technical assistance as we develop and implement the Protocol Committee and the Stalking Support Group. They respond to questions in a timely manner and always provide honest and concise feedback. I believe my level of confidence and our anticipated success for the project would not be so high if I did not have the Stalking Resource Center as a resource.

January 2008 will begin Cornerstone's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. To kick off our year-long recognition of our agency achievements, we will be observing Stalking Awareness Month by hosting the Stalking Resource Center to provide training on stalking to our community law enforcement officers. We are looking forward to having our new partners here to assist us in raising the awareness of prevalence of stalking in Minnesota.

I am grateful beyond words for this group of folks at the Stalking Resource Center. Their dedication has changed the strategic planning of our agency, the course of my life, and the lives of the clients we serve. I strongly encourage you to award the Stalking Resource Center a Celebrating Solution's Award.

Sincerely,



Deirdre Keys  
 Stalking Response Specialist  
 Cornerstone Advocacy Service

*Rebuilding lives, restoring hope*



**NATIONAL NETWORK  
TO END DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE**

660 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE SE  
SUITE 303  
WASHINGTON, DC 20003

[www.nnedv.org](http://www.nnedv.org)

May 3, 2007

Ms. Marcia Roth  
Mary Byron Foundation  
10401 Linn Station Road  
Louisville, Kentucky 40223

Dear Ms. Roth:

I am delighted to provide this letter in support of the National Center for Victims of Crime Stalking Resource Center's application for the Mary Byron Foundation's Celebrating Solutions Award. The Safety Net Project at the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) and the Stalking Resource Center have a partnership dating back to 2002. Together, we work to enhance national awareness of the use of technology to stalking in intimate partner relationships and to enhance community responses to these crimes and victims.

There is a strong nexus between stalking and domestic violence, but too often this connection is overlooked, undefined, or minimized. Research shows that the majority of women (62%) who are victims of stalking are stalked by a current or former spouse, partner, or date. In 57% of the cases where there is stalking in an intimate relationship, the stalking begins before the relationship ends. We also know that while most stalking does not result in murder, most domestic violence homicides did involve stalking. It is critical that those who respond to stalking and work with victims understand the link between stalking and domestic violence and are aware of the various technologies stalkers employ against their victims.

Since 2004, the Safety Net Project and the Stalking Resource Center have co-hosted five national conferences on the use of technology in intimate partner stalking. Through these conferences we have trained nearly 500 prosecutors, law enforcement officers, victim service providers, and other community stake holders on technology and stalking. We work closely together to provide ongoing technical assistance to the field, often referring individuals seeking assistance to each other's programs. We collaborate on developing resources and materials for victims and service providers and the Stalking Resource Center links to NNEDV's Web site on Internet and Computer Safety from their Web site. We have great respect for each other's programs and truly enjoy our collaborations.

I strongly encourage the Mary Bryon Foundation to award the Stalking Resource Center a Celebrating Solution's Award in recognition of their vital efforts to combat stalking and abuse.

Sincerely,

  
Sue Else  
President

  
Cindy Southworth, MSW  
Director of the Safety Net Project



U. S. Department of Justice

Office on Violence Against Women

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Washington, D.C. 20530

May 1, 2007

Marcia Roth  
Executive Director  
Mary Byron Foundation  
10401 Linn Station Road  
Louisville, KY 402223

Dear Ms. Roth:

I am writing today to applaud the efforts of the Stalking Resource Center of the National Center for Victims of Crime. The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) of the U.S. Department of Justice has been proud to fund this innovative program since its inception more than six years ago.

Stalking is a crime of intimidation and psychological terror that often escalates into serious violence against its victims. Even though more than 1.4 million people are stalked in the United States each year and stalking laws have been enacted by all 50 states and the federal government, stalking continues to be greatly misunderstood and far too many offenders escape justice.

In the face of these challenges, the Stalking Resource Center has provided extraordinary leadership in raising public awareness about stalking and advocating for more effective responses to stalking by the criminal justice system.

As the only national technical assistance center focused solely on stalking, the Stalking Resource Center has broken new ground in fostering multidisciplinary community responses to stalking; addressing difficult cross-jurisdictional issues; encouraging victims to use safety plans, protective orders, and evidence collection strategies; highlighting the close link between stalking and domestic violence; understanding the use of emerging technologies for stalking; and responding to stalking in Indian Country. The Stalking Resource Center has trained tens of thousands of victim service providers and criminal justice practitioners throughout the United States, and its staff of experts responds routinely to requests for technical assistance from other OVW-funded technical assistance providers on a wide range of stalking-related issues—ensuring that stalking is integrated into other violence against women programs across the country.



The Stalking Resource Center has also become the preeminent authority on stalking for the nation's media. The Stalking Resource Center fields hundreds of media queries each year and, through its unique insight and knowledge of the most current information on stalking rates and behavior, has helped to shape important national and local news stories.

Its Web site at [www.ncvc.org/src](http://www.ncvc.org/src) is the leading on-line resource for anyone seeking information on stalking, and its numerous educational products—fact sheets, brochures, and posters—are used daily by victims, volunteers, and professionals around the country.

One of the Stalking Resource Center's greatest achievements is National Stalking Awareness Month. Like so much positive change in the victim services arena, the genesis for this annual observance was a victim's story. Debbie Riddle, the sister of Peggy Klinke, who was murdered by her ex-boyfriend who stalked her incessantly and across state lines, contacted the Stalking Resource Center after seeing its staff director on television; Debbie wanted to do something so her sister's murder was not in vain. This resulted in the Stalking Resource Center securing Congress's support for National Stalking Awareness Month, now entering its fourth year, and mounting a national campaign to observe the month. Under the Stalking Resource Center's guidance, National Stalking Awareness Month has become an enormously effective vehicle for educating the public about stalking and for engaging communities, state legislatures, and local elected officials all across the country to focus on this issue.

As much as the Stalking Resource Center has accomplished, its work is far from complete. Daily we still hear of domestic violence and stalking-related homicides like the recent case at the University of Washington where an employee was killed in a murder-suicide on campus by an estranged boyfriend who had engaged in continuous surveillance and an ongoing campaign of fear. This and other cases underscore the need for continued vigilance in addressing the crime of stalking and for the critical role provided by the Stalking Resource Center in finding innovative ways to help stalking victims and practitioners who support them.

I congratulate the Stalking Resource Center for advancing creative solutions to responding to stalking and supporting stalking victims, and for its unique role in encouraging communities to expand and increase their efforts to combat this insidious crime.

Sincerely,



Mary Beth Buchanan  
Acting Director  
Office on Violence Against Women  
U.S. Department of Justice