



# JUSTICE IN ACTION

VOLUME I, NO. 6

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## FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Reader,

Our world is hurting in so many ways. I know you feel the heaviness. This month, I invite you to remember that our desire to end intimate partner violence coexists with our desires for racial justice and an end to police brutality. Check out our official statement, and as police reform begins to take shape, know that we are positioned to join those conversations, to advocate for victims of intimate partner violence, and to bring an end to racial inequalities in our justice system.



In honor of fathers, check out some of our prior Celebrating Solutions Winners, who provide services for men. Hear about our gratitude to and resources for men who are involved in the movement to end intimate partner violence. Meet one of our long time Board members, Yung Nguyen, who really could be considered one of the fathers of the Mary Byron Project.

This month marks the mid-point of the year of our 20th Anniversary. While this year has not been as celebratory as we imagined, there are definitely high points. Our legal program is growing and succeeding. After a recent victory in a client's case, she said to us, "I am a survivor because I choose to be but I am no warrior without you!" After 20 years, we are continuing to make a difference! That is something worth celebrating. We'll be sharing soon how you can help us celebrate. In the meantime, happy reading.

-Dorislee

*Dorislee Dilbert*

**"OUR HEARTS BREAK WITH SO MANY PEOPLE ACROSS OUR NATION WHO ARE CRYING OUT FOR RACIAL JUSTICE, AND WE CANNOT STAY SILENT. INSTEAD, WE JOIN IN DEMANDING CHANGE."**

[Read the full statement from our Executive Director.](#)

# Meet Our Board

AN INTERVIEW WITH YUNG NGUYEN



This month we sat down with our distinguished Board Member, Yung Nguyen. He has long been an important part of our MBP team. Here's what he had to say:

**How long have you been involved with The Mary Byron Project?**  
19 years

**How did you get involved with MBP?**  
As a Board member and a supporter.

**What inspired your passion with the cause of ending intimate partner violence?**

Through the years of working on VINE, I learned the scope and consequences of the domestic violence problem.

**Why do you think the work of The Mary Byron Project is important?**

MBP is a great example of turning a tragedy into an opportunity to foster positive changes.

**What is your favorite memory or accomplishment of MBP in the past?**

My favorite memory of MBP is watching the “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” competitions.

**What are you most excited for in MBP's future?**

The most important asset of any organization is its people. MBP's new Executive Director is a great leader. Its Board and staff members are all passionate and dedicated to the cause. I believe MBP's future will be bright.

**What is your Occupation?**

Entrepreneur

**Tell us about your family.**

I've been married for 32 years. My wife (Vu) and I have three children — Han, 26, is entering her third year at U of K Pharmacy School; Thuy-Vy, 23, is starting the UI/UX Design program at Carnegie Mellon Graduate School; and Tuan, 20, is studying Computer Science at Stanford.

**What is your favorite movie?**

My favorite movie is “East/West.” It's a work of fiction, but in many aspects an accurate description of a society I once lived in.

**What do you like to do for fun?**

Eating, drinking, reading, solving puzzles.

**What are the best toppings for a pizza?**

Ham & pineapple

**Anything else you want to tell us about your involvement with MBP or yourself personally that you think our readers might be interested to know?**

I came to America almost four decades ago as an empty-handed refugee who could not speak English. America afforded me wonderful opportunities that I never had in my native country. The American people — the people of all walks of life that I encountered over the years — were so friendly and warm-hearted. Among all those I've had the privilege of working with are of course the wonderful people at MBP. Thank you, MBP. My tenure on the Board will soon end but my friendship and support will remain.

*Celebrating Solutions 20th Anniversary*  
**AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**  
*Looking Back on Our Winners...*

Each month leading up to the selection of the winner of the Celebrating Solutions “Award for Excellence”, will we spotlight several of our incredible former winners and their services to victims of intimate partner violence. In recognition of Father's Day, this month the winners are programs that engage, educate, and transform men.

The applications of all the Celebrating Solutions and Roth winners can be found on our website at <https://www.marybyronproject.org/celebrating-solutions/>

**Alma Center, Milwaukee, WI, 2014 winner.**

The Alma Center works locally and nationally to provide pioneering, trauma-informed healing, education, supportive services and a positive peer community to promote lifestyle transformation for abusive men and break the cycle of domestic violence in families. Agency programs have been developed from the core philosophy that violence is learned and can be unlearned—that men who perpetrate domestic violence can change. In order to change, the Alma Center believes abusive men must identify, understand, and make peace with the trauma they have experienced in their own lives, and in so doing become able critically to examine and transform their negative and oppressive beliefs and attitudes about gender. The Alma Center believes that to create true safety for victims and children in violent homes, and to break the cycle of violence—the abuser must change.

**Migrant Clinicians Network, Inc., Austin, TX, 2013 Winner.**

Hombres Unidos Contra la Violencia Familiar (Men United Against Family Violence)

Hombres Unidos Contra la Violencia Familiar, (Men United Against Family Violence), engages Latino migrant men in group dialogue, facilitated by their peers, to learn about sexual and intimate partner violence together. Using a peer educational approach, participants take ownership of the issue themselves, gain the skills and vocabulary to encourage others to develop healthy relationships, and become advocates against intimate partner violence. The program operates on the assumption that the participants have no history of domestic or intimate partner violence. Participants are not shamed or criticized for long held beliefs or behaviors creating the safe space for instrumental to group dialogue.

**Southcentral Foundation, Anchorage, AK, 2010 winner.**

Family Wellness Warrior Initiative

Family Wellness Warrior Initiative was designed by and for Alaska Native people and is carried out within the context of native organizations and communities. Men are actively involved in FWWI development; standing up and fighting for their families and calling for other Alaska native men to reclaim their roles as protectors of family wellness. FWWI training is a transformative experience; the alumni emerge from it with the ability to relate and respond to others in healthier ways. A result of FWWI, community members and helping professionals are taking action within their realm, those who have been harmed are participating in education/training events, and those at-risk of harming, or who are in a harming situation, are getting the help they need to prevent future harm.



This Father's Day, we honor the many men who work to end intimate partner violence, either in their professional roles or personal lives by being positive role models for their families and communities. Male voices and actions can play an important role in the movement to end intimate partner violence. So, thank you to all the fathers out there who are holding other men accountable when they speak or act disrespectfully. Thank you to the dads who talk to their sons (not just their daughters) about mutually respectful relationships. Thank you to the men who use their professional positions to support survivors and create cultural and systematic change. And thank you to the dads who are modeling respectful behavior at home.

If you'd like to learn more about how men can become involved in the movement to end intimate partner violence, [A Call to Men](#) works to "create a world where all men and boys are loving and respectful and all women and girls are valued and safe." Their website is full of resources, including free weekly Healthy Manhood Community Conversations.

[Click Here to Donate!](#)



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