



JUSTICE IN ACTION

VOLUME II, NO. 8

Order of Contents

[From Our Executive Director](#)

[20 for 20 Campaign](#)

[Meet Our Scholars](#)

[Survivors Speak](#)

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Reader,

In the last few weeks, I've spent a lot of time reflecting on all that we've accomplished in the last two years. We launched the Appellate Advocacy Program, which has provided critical, expert legal services to survivors of intimate partner violence. We welcomed our first class of Mary Byron Legal Fellows, supported in part by a grant from the Louisville Bar Foundation, to train and mentor attorneys to become volunteers in our Appellate Advocacy Program. We've trained hundreds of individuals about intimate partner violence and the law, including police, prosecutors, attorneys, judges, and other justice-system participants. We provided much needed technology to local family courts to help ensure continued protections for survivors of intimate partner violence during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our work has helped to ensure that survivors of attempted sexual assault are provided the same legal protections as survivors of completed sexual assault. Our work has provided peace of mind and expert counsel to survivors of intimate partner violence who were scared for their lives, hauled into court vindictively, and denied valuable protections under the law that were intended for people just like them. One client described that our work helped her “breathe again” after four years and that we helped her find the “only justice” she had since she was abused.

This incredible work has not been possible without you. We, at the Mary Byron Project, are grateful to you. I, personally, am grateful to you for making my two years as Executive Director a time of meaningful, important work that truly enhanced justice to end intimate partner violence. It is with the sincerest appreciation for all the support you’ve provided over the last two years that I announce to you that I am resigning from the Mary Byron Project to pursue a different opportunity that I can’t share just yet, but that will give me the continuing opportunity to be a part of justice. As I do so, I have full confidence that because of the constant support of folks like you, this important work will continue.

I’d be remiss if I didn’t also take this opportunity to thank our incredible Board and our few, but mighty, staff. Our Board’s vision and dedication and our staff’s ingenuity, expertise, devotion to our cause, and willingness to work together as a team to help survivors of intimate partner violence have made this often emotionally exhausting work a pleasure to do. I’ve no doubt our very capable and passionate Board and staff—with your ongoing support—will sustain the continuing vital work of the Mary Byron Project.

In my last invitation to read, I encourage you to take a gander at some important case law regarding intimate partner violence, get introduced to another of our Mary Byron Scholars, and hear from a survivor we’ve served.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donde". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

20 *for* 20

20 IMPORTANT IPV-RELATED CASES

UNITED STATES V. CASTLEMAN, 572 U.S. 157 (2014)

FERNANDEZ V. CALIFORNIA, 571 U.S. 292 (2014)

GILES V. CALIFORNIA, 554 U.S. 353 (2008)

DAVIS V. WASHINGTON, 547 U.S. 813 (2006)

ROBERTS V. COMMONWEALTH, 599 S.W.3D 841 (KY. 2020)

PETTINGILL V. PETTINGILL, 480 S.W.3D 920 (KY. 2015)*

TELEK V. DAUGHERTY, 366 S.W.3D 463 (KY. 2012)*

BARNETT V. WILEY, 103 S.W.3D 17 (KY. 2003)

JONES V. JONES, 617 S.W.3D 418 (KY. APP. 2021)*

BROWN V. WASHINGTON, 2019-CA-1450-MR, 2020 WL 7418991 (KY. APP. DEC. 18, 2020)*

LEE V. KING, 2019-CA-001174-ME, 2020 WL 1970579 (KY. APP. APRIL 24, 2020)*

BENSON V. LIVELY, 544 S.W.3D 159 (KY. APP. 2018)

ASHLEY V. ASHLEY, 520 S.W.3D 400 (KY. APP. 2017)

CALHOUN V. WOOD, 516 S.W.3D 357 (KY. APP. 2017)

CRABTREE V. CRABTREE, 484 S.W.3D 316 (KY. APP. 2016)

RANKIN V. CRISWELL, 277 S.W.3D 621 (KY. APP. 2008)

MANNING V. WILLETT, 221 S.W.3D 394 (KY. APP. 2007)

WRIGHT V. WRIGHT, 181 S.W.3D 49 (KY. APP. 2005)

HOLLAND V. COMMONWEALTH, 192 S.W.3D 433 (KY. APP. 2005)

KINGREY V. WHITLOW, 150 S.W.3D 67 (KY. APP. 2004)

For this month's 20 for 20 campaign challenge, check out these 20 important IPV-related court cases.

*cases handled through the Mary Byron Project

Meet Our Scholars

AN INTERVIEW WITH CATHERINE PALMER-BALL

Name: Catherine Palmer-Ball

College Major and/or Occupation: I have two undergraduate degrees in Global Development and Spanish Language from the University of Kentucky and I completed my MBA in December 2020.

I currently work in Finance at Brown-Forman here in Louisville.

During what years were you a Mary Byron Scholar? I was a Mary Byron scholar from 2008-2009 (sophomore year) to 2011 when I graduated.



How did being a part of the Scholars program impact you both at the time, and in the future (i.e. your college major, career choices, volunteer efforts, etc.)? Being a Scholar not only prepared me for facing really hard conversations and topics, but it helped me find a strong, confident voice. It fostered compassion and advocacy in my life, which I've taken with me in my education and career. My mom was a social worker and I grew up in a home that emphasized caring about our neighbors and our community. Seeing how those values transitioned to the Project's larger goals, like passing dating violence prevention legislation and community education, were critical in shaping me into the woman I am now.

What is your favorite memory of the Scholars program? Our senior year we implemented the first Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event benefiting the Mary Byron Project. We spent weeks going to local all-male high schools giving presentations on dating and domestic violence warning signs, prevention, and power dynamics leading up to the event. We recruited teams of young men from St. Xavier and Trinity High Schools who raced in high heels to raise awareness for walking a mile in a woman's shoes. We brought together so many male leaders and future leaders in the community who were strong allies in preventing dating and domestic violence. It was such a powerful and fun day! As young people, we felt so proud that we could bring this community event to fruition.

Anything else you want to tell us about your involvement with the Scholars program, your other work, or yourself personally that you think our followers might be interested to know? It's incredibly hard for a 16 year old girl to stand up in front of a whole gymnasium full of high school boys and talk about something as complex and nuanced as dating violence and power dynamics. This program pushed us out of our comfort zones, which was critical to our development and critical to the subject matter. The Project and the teachers at Assumption who guided us through this program helped us develop our public speaking abilities, the tact and conviction needed to present this material, and helped us become true leaders among our peers. I've relied on these skills through the rest of my education and career. We were encouraged to create projects we cared about, to creatively present these materials so our peers could feel safe and connected. We helped them understand that anyone could be impacted by dating violence, and how important it was to be aware and be an advocate for yourself and others. I owe so much of finding my voice to the experiences that made up my time as a Scholar.

SURVIVORS SPEAK

Testimonials from MBP Clients

“ I honestly don't think I could have held on much longer....you helped me fight and I SURVIVED!! I can sleep now, I can eat again, I can turn the TV on and not worry about not hearing him get in. I don't have to be on high alert every second of every day . . . I CAN BREATHE NOW...I CAN LIVE NOW! ”

-C.S.

[Click Here to Donate](#)



Copyright © 2021 The Mary Byron Project, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

The Mary Byron Project
9901 Linn Station Rd
Louisville, KY 40223-3808