



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Stronger Together: Break the Cycle's DC Legal Practice Joins Network for Victim Recovery of DC**

WASHINGTON, DC (January 28, 2021)— In light of Break the Cycle's recent announcement regarding the winding down its programs, Network for Victim Recovery of DC (NVRDC) feels honored and grateful to be able to provide a new home for Break the Cycle's DC's legal staff members and clients, and to take on the legacy of such an impactful organization.

Founded in 1996, Break the Cycle (BTC) was the first national organization to recognize and fill a gap by working with young people ages 12-24 on dating and sexual violence. In addition to spreading its "everyone deserves a healthy relationship" message nationwide, the DC community has also been grateful for the support, advocacy and services BTC dedicated as one of the District's experts on dating violence and its impact on DC youth.

"NVRDC is an established leader in the DC legal services community with a progressive and visionary approach to advocacy, case management and legal services," said Megan Challender, Managing Attorney at Break the Cycle. "NVRDC shares our commitment to serving 12-24 year old survivors of dating violence through community-based lawyering that seeks to create a culture without abuse. I am incredibly proud of the Break the Cycle team for providing holistic legal services and healthy relationships education in District high schools and I am excited to bring our youth legal services program to NVRDC."

NVRDC is grateful to merge BTC's DC legal practice into its own and to continue a strong legacy of legal services for youth. BTC's dedicated and compassionate staff members bring considerable expertise to the NVRDC team at a time when the District has recently created the right to a youth sexual assault advocate in the [Sexual Assault Victims' Rights Amendment Act of 2019](#). NVRDC is confident this transition will expand the organization's ability to support the community and significantly strengthen the District's resources for youth survivors.

"NVRDC would not have been able to support Break the Cycle in this transition without the assistance and funding from DC's Office of Victims Services and Justice Grants," said Bridgette Stumpf, Executive Director at NVRDC. "NVRDC is honored to be entrusted with serving as the conduit to support BTC's team and youth survivors during this time and for many years to come."

NVRDC is pleased that this year's commemoration of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM) in February will begin with the official launch of this integration and significant expansion of our existing youth legal services. A formal announcement of NVRDC's TDVAM events and information is coming soon.

If you are a former client of Break the Cycle's LA or DC legal practice, please reach out to the Network for Victim Recovery of DC in order to access your file.

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*About NVRDC:* Network for Victim Recovery of DC empowers victims of all crimes to achieve survivor-defined justice through a collaborative continuum of advocacy, case management, and legal services. To learn more about NVRDC, please visit [nvrdc.org](http://nvrdc.org).