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Network for Victim Recovery of DC Honored by U.S. Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus

Local DC Victim Service Organization Awarded the Ed Stout Memorial Award

WASHINGTON, March 23, 2017—The Network for Victim Recovery of DC (NVRDC), a non-profit organization providing services to victims of crime in Washington, DC, has been selected to receive the Ed Stout Award for Outstanding Victim Advocacy by the U.S. Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus in congruence with the 2017 National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

The United States Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, first established in 2006 by Congressmen Ted Poe and Jim Costa, was born from an abiding principle to advance crime victims' issues in Congress in a bipartisan manner without infringing on the rights of the accused, and to represent and advocate before the Administration and within the U.S. Congress on behalf of crime victims and law enforcement officials. Each year, the Caucus recognizes crime victims—and professionals dedicated to advancing crime victims' rights—with a select number of awards highlighting exceptional efforts in victim advocacy, allied professional advocacy, public policy, and public awareness.

Among the conferred awards is the Ed Stout Memorial Award for Outstanding Victim Advocacy, which is given to honor the memory of Ed Stout, the Director of Aid for Victims of Crime of St. Louis, Missouri—one of the nation's three oldest victim assistance organizations—who died in 2005 following a 30-plus year career of inspiring crime victims and those who serve them. It is upon his legacy that an honoree whose efforts directly benefit victims and survivors of crime is chosen annually. The national award recognizes innovations in victim services related to program development, public or agency policy development, community and public awareness, and collaboration among community and justice-based organizations that serve victims of crime—the very areas of the victim services field in which NVRDC strives to effect change.

In learning of the award, NVRDC's Co-Executive Directors, Nikki Charles and Bridgette Stumpf, released the following statement: "In just five short years, NVRDC has served over 2,200 people impacted by crime in the District with advocacy, case management and free legal support. Without our committed staff, board, volunteers, and supporters, NVRDC would not be able to provide the survivor-defined justice that is at the heart of what this honor represents. We are humbled and grateful for an opportunity to receive this recognition from the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus that has worked for many years to further the rights of crime victims."

By providing wraparound services that address the totality of an individual's needs, NVRDC prioritizes holistic, multidisciplinary approaches to serving victims of all types of crime in Washington, DC. NVRDC's leadership is committed to the continued development of systems-wide policy changes in the way the community responds to elders, low-income women and children, college-aged survivors of sexual assault, and many other of the District's most vulnerable residents.

The 2017 U.S. Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus awards will be presented at a ceremony in Washington, DC on Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Rayburn House Office Building.

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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. Learn more about NVRDC and their upcoming events to commemorate National Crime Victims' Rights Week at www.nvrdc.org/events.