

A New National Resource to End The Criminalization Of Survivors Of Gender-Based Violence

Call for Inaugural Advisory Council Members

The **Justice for Youth Survivors Initiative (JYSI)** is seeking founding advisory council members to play a pivotal role in guiding the launch and strategic direction of this new, groundbreaking initiative to eliminate the criminalization of survivors of gender-based violence. The inaugural Advisory Council will consist of thought leaders, academics, researchers, funders, and practitioners committed to championing society's most vulnerable youth – girls, especially girls of color and gender-expansive youth, who are sent into the legal system because they have been sexually assaulted, trafficked, or abused.

JUSTICE FOR
YOUTH SURVIVORS
INITIATIVE

Background

Across the United States, survivors of gender-based violence are arrested, charged, tried, and sentenced by a legal system that fails to recognize their victimization or the factors of their age and development. Rather than receiving the services and support they deserve and need to heal, girls who have been sexually assaulted, trafficked, or abused – especially girls of color – are treated as suspects. JYSI works to end this unjust criminalization by serving as a national hub for legal practitioners and a training ground for young people interested in pursuing equity in law and policy for survivors of gender-based violence, by providing education, research, convenings, and resources for judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, police, and victim advocates.

The Role

JYSI's Advisory Council will consist of a diverse set of experts who can contribute critical perspectives, robust networks, and deep expertise on public engagement, mobilization, advocacy, youth engagement, policy development, law, and governmental affairs. Advisory Council members' expertise will be invaluable in positioning and advising the ongoing work of the Initiative.

Advisory Council Members Will:

- Serve a two-year renewable term.
- Act as strategic advisors on public engagement, media relationships, partnerships, youth leadership and inclusion, resource mobilization, funding, legislation and policy development, and governmental affairs as JYSI is launched and scaled.
- Provide knowledge, insights, and expertise to JYSI, and its coalition of partners and supporters, by participating in an inaugural convening and offering additional consultation as needed for special projects or events.
- Create energy, excitement, and momentum around JYSI. This includes making meaningful connections with various stakeholders, community organizations, government agencies, and other institutions to build a coalition of supporters, connect funders to the initiative, and steer financial resources towards JYSI to increase reach and impact. Members will amplify JYSI's message across networks, increase awareness, mobilize the public, and enact change within our systems.

Our goal at JYSI is to create a just, safe, and free world where girls who have survived abuse can thrive and follow their dreams. Advisory council members will provide a critical contribution to strengthening JYSI's critical mission and advancing justice for girls and gender-expansive youth.

Our Vision

The Justice for Youth Survivors Initiative will help end the unjust criminalization of girls and gender-expansive young people who are survivors of sexual assault and abuse.

