

# SURVIVORS RISING

AMPLIFYING SURVIVOR'S VOICES SINCE 2016



Dear friends and supporters,

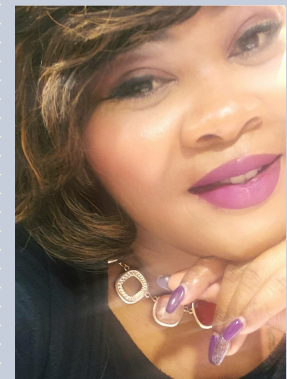
Last winter—right before the New Year—we announced we were seeking new board members to join our small, though strong and committed, team.

Today, we are delighted to report that we've enhanced our organization with a truly stellar group of new folks who strengthen our board in myriad ways. We are already relishing the growth of new avenues of work, and the prospect of even greater achievements in 2021.

This Spring Newsletter will be dedicated to our new board members. We're deeply gratified to introduce you to this group of accomplished and enthusiastic advocates and influencers. Each one lends their passion, knowledge and light to uplifting and amplifying survivor voices, to reimagining safety and justice, and to promoting healing. Many also bring to the table their lived experience—and expertise—as survivors.

We look forward to what we will build together in collaboration with you, our supporters, and ally organizations, to educate our community while simultaneously providing hope and tools to transform lives and promote survivor engagement.

Warm regards,  
Candias Jones, Chair  
Survivors Rising Board of Directors



Candias Jones

# Introducing.....



## Marisa Hattab

Passionate and about transformative change with a heavy focus on racial equity and justice.



## Cass Hackett

Lends her light to that of others to create a collaborative lighthouse of hope for those still lost in darkness.

## Chelsea Souder

A champion for women's health and racial equity, a zealous advocate for family planning and eradicating intimate partner violence and human trafficking.



## Theresa Lawson

Helping other survivors move towards thriving again after experiencing abuse and trauma.



# Introducing.....

## Lucía Pedroza-Estrada

Inspired by hope for a future where survivors are no longer bound and defined by their trauma, and instead find joy and opportunities to thrive in a more equitable and just world.



## Jamise Williams

Her knowledge of and passion for working with homeless youth and sex trafficking survivors is more important to her than ever.



## Tracy Durbin

**Board Secretary**

Matching her education in social work, public administration, and healthcare administration with a passion for engagement, training, and education.



## Angie Lauritsen

**Board Treasurer**

Bringing years of political and leadership experience to legislative advocacy as long-time chair of Survivors Rising's Policy & Legislation Committee, as she returns to the board.



And re-introducing.....



## **Candias Jones**

***Board Chair***

Deeply engaged in community, and committed to elevating the voices of all survivors by centering her own voice and personal experiences with trauma.

## **Nanette Wellens**

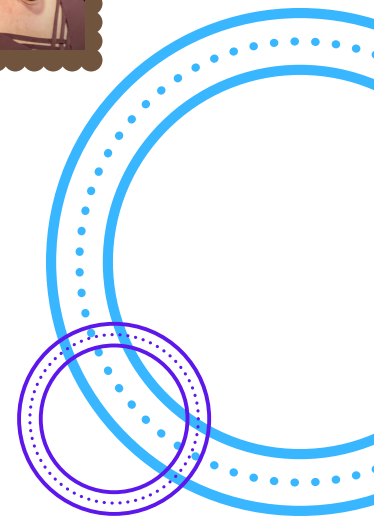
***Board Vice Chair***

Committed to normalizing conversations around trauma--in particular, domestic violence, sexual assault, and PTSD.



## **Bradley Ekwerekwu**

Spreading influence and motivation toward healthy relationships and progressive mindsets, especially for men and boys.



*A strong and vibrant board leading the way and reimagining safety and justice from the survivor point of view!*

# Making Hashtag History



The power of  
the survivor voice is real.

In February and March, we ran our first hashtag series of 2021, centered around the stories of Omaha survivors.

Through **#MaskOff**, Survivors Rising increased community awareness that abuse is happening, and is caused by some of the very people we expect to keep us safe.

We are continuing with various hashtag series throughout the year as one of the tools we use to amplify the voices of survivors and shape the narrative around abuse and trauma.

Our newest series--**#ThisIsAbuse**--will start in June. Check it out on our social media. Find the links on the last page of this newsletter!

# Awesome Programming

LEONTYNE EVANS  
SURVIVOR ENGAGEMENT  
SPECIALIST



MORISHA BROWN  
PROGRAM SPECIALIST



Ongoing workshops and networking opportunities for survivors, allies, and the community at large:

**Rise Up & Speak:** Equipping survivors with tools to share their stories their way! (*Link to register for June, on next page.*)

**Rise Up & Meet:** A safe space for all survivors to meet in community.

**Rise Up in Community:** A series of deliberative dialogues—creating compassionate community to support survivors of abuse and trauma, foster understanding, and nurture environments survivors need to heal and thrive.

- Survivor-centric
- Culturally relevant
- Trauma-informed

Still time to register for Rise Up & Speak! This 2-part workshop takes place on June 12 and 19 from 2:00-4:30pm



SURVIVORS RISING PRESENTS:

# RISE UP AND SPEAK

Your story deserves to be told!

Let your voice be heard!



### Register Part 1:

<https://bit.ly/Part1-RiseUpAndSpeak>

### Register Part 2:

<https://bit.ly/Part2-RiseUpAndSpeak>

## Connect



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Executive Director

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402.215.5173

[www.survivorsrisingomaha.org](http://www.survivorsrisingomaha.org)

## CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

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 [@survivorsrisingomaha](https://www.instagram.com/survivorsrisingomaha)

 [@survivorsrise1](https://twitter.com/survivorsrise1)

## DONATE

Your donation right now helps survivors rise!

<http://bit.ly/DonateNow-SurvivorsRising>