

Impact & Insights

The Journey Continues



Say Your Name, Inc.

Moving Individuals From Invisible To Visible

June 2026 | Volume 1, Issue 1

Monthly Newsletter | Survivor Advocacy • Education • Community Engagement

IMPACT & INSIGHTS

The Journey Continues

"Moving Individuals From Invisible To Visible"

Volume 1, Issue 1 | June 2026

WELCOME TO OUR FIRST EDITION

Welcome to the inaugural edition of **Impact & Insights**, the official newsletter of **Say Your Name, Inc.** This publication reflects our commitment to transparency, community partnership, survivor-centered advocacy, and the continued advancement of our mission to support individuals affected by intimate partner violence.

At Say Your Name, Inc., we believe every survivor deserves to be seen, heard, and supported with dignity. Intimate partner violence often thrives in silence, isolation, and fear. Visibility is one step toward safety, healing, and community accountability.

Through **Impact & Insights**, we invite you into the heart of our organization—our progress, our challenges, and the community that makes this work possible. Each month, we will share organizational updates, educational insights, community stories, blog highlights, and clear ways to help.

Thank you for being here from the beginning as we build safer, more visible pathways of support for survivors.

QUICK READER OVERVIEW

A snapshot of this month's progress and priorities

In this inaugural issue of **Impact & Insights**, Say Your Name, Inc. shares major progress in building the foundation for survivor-centered domestic violence services. We are now recognized in both Virginia and Maryland, have secured office space for confidential intake and support services, and are finalizing **EmpowerDB** as our client management system.

This issue also highlights our strengthened website, weekly blog, upcoming community initiatives, founding supporters, and ways readers can partner with us as we move from planning into public action.

At the heart of this newsletter is a simple message: survivors need consistent, compassionate, trauma-informed support—and community makes that possible.

This month's key takeaways:

- Say Your Name, Inc. is expanding its operational foundation in Maryland.
- Office space has been secured for intake and support services.
- EmpowerDB client management software is being finalized.
- Weekly blog posts are helping extend education and engagement.
- Community partnerships, donor support, and volunteer involvement are essential to the next phase of growth.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Say Your Name, Inc. expands operations into Maryland.
- Office space has been secured for confidential intake and support services.
- EmpowerDB client management software is being finalized.
- Website improvements strengthen survivor safety, accessibility, and education.
- The First Five partnership outreach begins with local community leaders.
- Supporters are invited to give, partner, serve, walk, volunteer, and share the mission.

SAFETY NOTE

If you are in immediate danger, call 911 if it is safe to do so.

For confidential support, the **National Domestic Violence Hotline** is available 24/7 at **1-800-799-SAFE (7233)**, by texting **START** to **88788**, or through online chat at **thehotline.org**.

RECENT MILESTONES

Celebrating progress, compliance, and expanded service capacity

Say Your Name, Inc. has been approved by the State of Maryland to operate as a Foreign Corporation. This means we are now recognized as a nonprofit organization in both Virginia and Maryland, expanding our capacity to serve survivors across state lines.

Office Space Secured for Intake and Support Services

Say Your Name, Inc. has secured office space that will support confidential intake and direct support services. This is a significant step forward in our ability to provide survivors with a safe, professional, and consistent place to begin accessing help.

The space will support survivor intake, resource navigation, safety planning, and advocacy-related support while allowing us to build a more stable service model for the community.

EmpowerDB Client Management Software

We are finalizing our client management software through **EmpowerDB**, a system that will help us document services, manage case information responsibly, and maintain confidential records in alignment with survivor-centered best practices.

This investment strengthens our ability to serve with professionalism, accountability, and care as we grow.

Stewardship & Compliance

We have submitted our application for a Maryland Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certificate (SUTEC), which will support our fiscal responsibility as we grow. We have also hired a registered agent for the State of Maryland to help ensure ongoing compliance with state requirements.

Website Safety Improvements

We overhauled the Say Your Name, Inc. website to be more survivor-centered, accessible, and easier to navigate. Updates include safety exit protocols, clearer service information, improved navigation, highlights from past events, and a redesigned blog page.

These enhancements reflect our commitment to creating digital spaces that prioritize safety, dignity, and trauma-informed access to information.

FROM THE BLOG



New posts publish every Tuesday morning at 8:00 AM.

Rotating themes:

Journal Prompts • Quotes to Live By • Overcoming Adversity • Monthly Reflections •
Becoming Visible

Recent posts:

Self-Reflection for Healing & Growth: Unlocking Emotional Trauma
The Architecture of Safety: Designing Safe Spaces
The Power of the Pivot

Through these weekly reflections, we continue the conversation between newsletters and offer readers practical encouragement, education, and community-centered insight.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Building Infrastructure for Survivor Services

Say Your Name, Inc. is moving from planning into implementation as we strengthen the infrastructure needed to support survivors with consistency and care.

Preparing the Office Space for Service Delivery

With office space secured, our next steps include preparing the space for confidential intake, support services, resource navigation, and advocacy-related meetings. This includes ensuring the environment reflects safety, dignity, privacy, and trauma-informed care.

Finalizing EmpowerDB Implementation

We are finalizing implementation of **EmpowerDB**, our client management software. This system will help us safely track services, document support provided, maintain confidential records, and strengthen reporting as we grow.

Why this matters

These foundational investments help us protect survivor confidentiality, document services responsibly, and provide consistent support. They also strengthen our ability to pursue funding, report impact, and build sustainable programs.

Support is needed to help equip the office space, complete system implementation, and sustain survivor-centered services.



UPCOMING INITIATIVES

What's Next for Say Your Name, Inc.

As we look ahead, Say Your Name, Inc. is preparing to launch several high-impact initiatives.

The First Five

We have identified five strategic partners—including local churches, small businesses, and community-based allies—with whom we are building intentional, survivor-centered relationships.

Say Your Name Introduction Packets will be hand-delivered in the coming weeks. The First Five reflects our belief that meaningful change requires collaboration across sectors, with every partner helping create safer pathways to support.

Say Their Names: Annual Memorial | October 2026

This October, in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we will host a virtual memorial event featuring our Empty Place at the Table display.

This visual remembrance honors lives lost to intimate partner violence within the preceding 12 months and creates space for reflection, grief, and renewed commitment to prevention and survivor support.

Walk A Mile In Her Shoes | September 2027

Planning begins now for our September 2027 **Walk A Mile In Her Shoes** event.

This community solidarity walk invites allies to stand visibly with survivors, raise awareness, and generate support for our mobile advocacy services.

These events and initiatives represent our commitment to moving from planning into public action.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Honoring Those Who Stand With Survivors

This month, we honor **Ms. Aliyah King**, who has graciously given permission to be featured, for her dedication to supporting survivors in our community.

Ms. King helped research confidential intake options that can support privacy, safety, and dignity for survivors seeking help. Her compassion, advocacy, and commitment to service reflect the spirit of Say Your Name, Inc.

We are grateful for partners like Ms. King who remind us that change begins with people who choose to show up.

Thank you for all you do, Ms. King.



COMMUNITY QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What would survivor-centered support look like in your neighborhood, workplace, church, school, or civic group?

We invite community members, churches, civic groups, workplaces, schools, and community partners to reflect, start conversations, and connect with us about ways to build safer pathways to help.

CALL TO ACTION

How You Can Make a Difference

Your support makes this work possible. Choose the pathway that best fits how you want to stand with survivors.

Give: Make a one-time or monthly donation to help equip our office space, support EmpowerDB implementation, expand mobile advocacy services, and sustain survivor support.

Visit: <https://www.sayyournameinc.org/general-donations>

Partner: Become a corporate, church, civic, or community partner for upcoming awareness and advocacy efforts.

Visit: <https://www.sayyournameinc.org/walk-corporate>

Serve: Join the Walk A Mile In Her Shoes planning committee and help bring this community event to life.

Visit: <https://www.sayyournameinc.org/walk-crew>

Walk: Register as an individual walker and stand visibly with survivors.

Visit: <https://www.sayyournameinc.org/walk-individual>

Volunteer: Join our team of dedicated advocates and community supporters.

Visit: <https://www.sayyournameinc.org/volunteer-form>

Share: Forward this newsletter to someone who cares about survivor safety and community healing.

Monthly gifts provide dependable support that helps us plan responsibly and sustain survivor-centered services.



ADVOCACY

Standing With Survivors Through Action

Say Your Name, Inc. is committed to advocacy at every level—from individual survivor support to systemic change. Our advocacy efforts include:

Intake and Support Services

With office space secured, we are preparing to provide confidential intake and support services in a safe, professional setting. This space will help survivors begin accessing resources, safety planning, and advocacy support with dignity and privacy.

Mobile Advocacy Services

Our advocates meet survivors where they are, providing safety planning, resource navigation, and emotional support in community-based settings. This mobile model helps remove barriers to access and helps ensure that geography is not a limitation to receiving support.

Legislative Awareness

We monitor and educate our community about legislation affecting survivors of intimate partner violence. Through partnerships with local organizations, we help amplify survivor-centered priorities in policy conversations.

Community Education

We provide workshops and training opportunities designed to help community members recognize the signs of intimate partner violence and respond with compassion, safety, and appropriate action.

Our advocacy is rooted in the belief that every survivor deserves to be seen, heard, and supported with dignity.



IMPACT SNAPSHOT

- Operationally recognized in Virginia and Maryland.
 - Office space secured for confidential intake and support services.
 - EmpowerDB client management software being finalized.
 - Website redesigned with survivor safety and accessibility in mind.
 - Five initial community partners identified for outreach.
 - Monthly newsletter and weekly blog launched to strengthen education and engagement.
-

EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Domestic Violence: Understanding the numbers and why they matter

National Context

According to CDC's National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, more than 1 in 3 women and more than 1 in 6 men in the United States have experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Financial abuse is present in many domestic violence situations and can limit a survivor's ability to seek safety, housing, transportation, and long-term stability.

Maryland and Local Context

Maryland advocates, service providers, and community partners continue to emphasize the need for confidential, accessible domestic violence services across the state.

In Southern Maryland, transportation, confidentiality, awareness, and service availability can all affect whether survivors are able to access support safely and quickly.

What this means

Survivors need trusted, local, confidential pathways to support before violence escalates. Community education, referral partnerships, and donor investment help close those gaps.

Sources referenced: CDC National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey; survivor advocacy and economic abuse research resources.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Recognizing Our Founding Supporters

This month, we are honored to recognize **Rev. Dr. Keith Savage** and **First Lady Bonita Savage** as founding monthly donors whose early generosity helped support the vision and growth of Say Your Name, Inc.

Rev. Dr. Savage and First Lady Savage have been faithful monthly donors since November 2024, making them among the first to invest consistently in this mission. Their recurring support helps create a dependable foundation for survivor-centered services, community outreach, and organizational development.

Their partnership reflects a deep belief that justice, healing, and safety require action, consistency, and community commitment. Through their generosity, they remind us that sustained giving can create meaningful impact over time.

Thank you, Rev. Dr. Savage and First Lady Savage, for believing in this mission and helping us build from the beginning.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Common questions about our work

Q: What does Say Your Name, Inc. do?

A: Say Your Name, Inc. provides survivor-centered domestic violence advocacy, education, community engagement, and pathways to support for individuals affected by intimate partner violence.

Q: Why does monthly giving matter?

A: Monthly gifts help us plan responsibly, build sustainable programs, and maintain the infrastructure needed to support survivors with care and consistency.

Q: How can I get involved?

A: You can give, volunteer, partner with us, join event planning, register to walk, or share this newsletter with someone who cares about survivor safety. Visit www.sayyournameinc.org to explore opportunities.

Q: Why does monthly giving matter?

A: Monthly gifts help us plan responsibly, build sustainable programs, and maintain the infrastructure needed to support survivors with care and consistency.

Q: How can I get involved?

A: You can give, volunteer, partner with us, join event planning, register to walk, or share this newsletter with someone who cares about survivor safety. Visit www.sayyournameinc.org to explore opportunities.

A Message From Our Founder

Dr. Sebrenna Whitlock, Founder & CEO



When I founded Say Your Name, Inc., I did so with one conviction: no survivor of intimate partner violence should ever feel invisible. This mission is deeply personal. As a survivor myself, I know what it means to search for consistent support, safety, and understanding.

During those years, I wished for even one steady person I could turn to without fear or shame. That experience shaped my belief that survivors need more than temporary encouragement—they need consistent, trauma-informed support from advocates who understand the complexity of leaving, healing, and being believed.

This newsletter represents a new chapter in our transparency and accountability to you—our supporters, partners, and the communities we serve. Every dollar donated, every hour volunteered, and every word of encouragement carries this mission forward.

We are still in our early stages, but we are no longer only imagining what is possible—we are actively building it. With office space secured and EmpowerDB being finalized, we are putting systems and safeguards in place to serve survivors with consistency, dignity, and care.

To our founding donors, board members, volunteers, and community partners: thank you for walking this road with us. Together, we will move individuals from invisible to visible.

With purpose and gratitude,
Dr. Sebrenna Whitlock
Founder & CEO, Say Your Name, Inc.

General Inquiries: (301) 751-2748 | www.sayyournameinc.org

Share Our Story

Know someone who would benefit from our work? Share this newsletter and help us grow our community of supporters.