



# KICK AT DARKNESS

501(c)3 Approval | A Look at 2017 | Upcoming Events

## DONOR UPDATES

THANK YOU for your support during the year of KAD's launch. *All end-of-year giving receipts are now in the mail!*

Your gifts – both monetary and in-kind – helped get us on our feet to reach & transform lives of survivors!

## KAD'S LEADERSHIP

### BilliJoy Carson

- Cofounder
- President
- Survivor
- Acting Secretary & Treasurer



### Tracey Breedon

- Cofounder
- Vice President
- Advocate
- Former police officer in sex crimes



## LOOKING FORWARD

We have joined forces with Trauma Healing Services to fundraise for the event they host during *Sexual Assault Awareness* month (April):

[TakeBackTheNightPhx.com](http://TakeBackTheNightPhx.com).

*“Our most beautiful dreams are born from our most unpleasant nightmares.”* — Matshona Dhliwayo

## A Word from Our President:

One year ago, I sat at this very desk with a dream in my heart. The desk was strewn with books, binders, and piles of printed how-tos and chicken-scratch notes. My desk is still reminiscent of that day. Only this time, it is covered with piles of envelopes and printed labels, newsletter how-tos, and tax receipts for donors who stood with us this last year. *I am in awe and deeply thankful for all of you.*

## Where My Dream Started

I am a survivor of sexual assault and childhood sex trafficking. My entire life has felt like a doctorate in survival, and the dissertation has been my healing journey. Financially, I bore the burden to heal my soul.

*Just like other survivors.*

According to RAINN.org, survivors (of sexual assault, domestic violence, sex trafficking, hate crimes, and child abuse) have to pay an average of \$122k in their lifetimes to get healing. I have paid over \$108k just to get help and healing for the trauma I endured.

*Survivors should not have to mortgage their souls to heal.*

That dream beats within my soul and keeps me awake at night. It gives me the strength I need to fight the mountainous terrain of the nonprofit world, and it rises within me when the burden is crushing.





### How Can You Change a Life?

We are always looking for new ways to get the community involved in supporting survivors. Here are a few options available:

#### • **PAYPAL**

- [kickatdarkness.com/donate](http://kickatdarkness.com/donate)
- *Give once or schedule a monthly donation!*

#### • **EBAY**

- [pages.ebay.com/help/sell/selling-nonprofit.html](http://pages.ebay.com/help/sell/selling-nonprofit.html)
- *Set your store to support KAD!*
- *Purchase from sellers who support nonprofits*

#### • **FACEBOOK**

- [facebook.com/KickAtDarkness](https://facebook.com/KickAtDarkness)
- *Easily donate and share with your friends!*

#### • **REPRESENT.COM**

- [Represent.com/store/kick-at-darkness-inc](http://Represent.com/store/kick-at-darkness-inc)
- *Purchase T-shirts or hoodies and support KAD!*

#### • **SQUAREUP.COM**

- [kickatdarkness.com/SquareGiftCard](http://kickatdarkness.com/SquareGiftCard)
- *Easily donate a gift card to sponsor a survivor!*

Know of another way to support KAD? Let us know: [info@kickatdarkness.com](mailto:info@kickatdarkness.com)

## YOU Can Help Us Change the World

By supporting Kick at Darkness, Inc, you are sponsoring the healing journey for survivors so they can live and not be crushed by the financial burden involved in healing their souls.

### Spotlight on a Darkness Kicker: Gracie Jiu-Jitsu Phoenix

#### *Self-Defense | Women Empowered*

The program at #GJJPhx teaches our survivors how to *protect themselves and get away* from an opponent who is bigger and stronger. The survivors learn how to use the strength, energy, and speed of their opponent against them.

#### **SURVIVOR TESTIMONY:**

"I was astonished, not only by the number of survivors that were present and ready to learn new skills in personal safety and self-confidence, but also at the amazing, thoughtful demonstration presented by the Gracie staff. They were so connected to the students and mindful of the sensitivity required while demonstrating triggering scenarios—creating emotional vulnerability."

One class, a survivor was struggling watching a position her abuser had used on her every night while assaulting her: pinning her hands above her head. The weight of the memory was visible as she watched the instructor tell her there was a way for her to *free herself*.

After learning the simple move, and successfully tossing more than one opponent and getting away, she leapt off the mat with power and transformation in her eyes, waving her hands in victory: *"I now know I never have to be a victim again!"*

#### **YOUR support makes this happen.**

— [kickatdarkness.com/donate/sponsor-survivors](http://kickatdarkness.com/donate/sponsor-survivors)



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