

Fabiola Martinez

SARAH'S INN

Time at Agency: 7 Years

Position: Legal Advocate

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Commitment to advocacy on behalf of those affected by DV: *Fabiola has shown her commitment by dedicating herself to improving the court system's response to victims of domestic violence. She has built partnerships and relationships with court staff, the State's Attorney's Office, and law enforcement in order to be able to be heard when advocating for victims. She takes the lead among our staff and partners in approaching and problem-solving. Additionally, during the pandemic, Fabiola went in-person to court to still provide services to victims because the suburban courts were slower in figuring out a process and were never fully remote.*

- Personal qualities that reflect in their ongoing commitment to ethical, peaceful and respectful work with others: *Fabiola is smart, respectful, non-judgmental, informed, solution-based, and very mission-driven. She aims to resolve problems and will come to the table open to discussion.*

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Ways in which they instill a spirit of advocacy in others: *Fabiola is a role model for new advocates and helps to support them in their roles. She will also work her way through conflict by remaining mission-driven and aware of the big picture-advocating for survivors and their children.*

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Experience that demonstrates a broad commitment to social justice: *Fabiola's entire career has been focused on ending violence against women. Her first internship and her first salaried job were both with Sarah's Inn. She is committed to advocating for survivors and working to ensure the legal system has a better response to victims and their families.*

- Creativity in building the domestic violence movement within a social framework: *Fabiola does not just walk away from an advocacy opportunity. Every “issue” she sees as an opportunity to build relationships and increase understanding of survivors. When issues present themselves at court (which is frequent) she approaches the problem/barrier and works with the partners in order to break down any miscommunication and work towards nursing positive outcomes for survivors seeking legal remedies.*