

RESEARCH

"Without 'seeing' the invisible cage of control a woman is living in, justice system actors are unable to understand why women do not leave their abusers, or why abuse continues even after the relationship is over, or how abusers manipulate children, family, and others in the community against women as a means of setting up a web of hurt and control over their lives. However, when the invisible network of control over a woman's life comes into view, the missing puzzle pieces fall into place."

—ALLANA HAIST, STOPPING COERCIVE CONTROL BY CRIMINALIZATION: THE IMPLICATIONS FOR FAMILY LAW

KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION

"The Annual Gathering gives a collective experience that provides validation as to the struggles that we all face when trying to advocate for women. It helps to frame that our work and efforts are not the issue – rather, there are systemic barriers we face."

—ONTARIO FAMILY COURT SUPPORT WORKER

BUILDING A CULTURE OF

SAFETY

DIRECT SERVICE

"I can't tell you how grateful I am that the Luke's Place Legal Support Worker helped me prepare for my court date. I was able to stand up for myself, even when my lawyer didn't. The bully did not win. I feel so empowered by how I handled it in the end."

—WOMAN SUPPORTED BY LUKE'S PLACE

ADVOCACY

"Increased access to justice for survivors is essential. This includes, but is not limited to, access to effective legal representation regardless of the survivor's ability to pay, expansion across the country of programs such as Ontario's family court support workers program, and a big rethink of criminal law responses, including present approaches to bail, mandatory charging and vigorous prosecution policies."

—PAMELA CROSS, LUKE'S PLACE LEGAL DIRECTOR
ADDRESSING THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS
OF WOMEN, MARCH 25, 2022