

FROM ALEXANDRA MITCHELL:

Hello,

Yes, I was board chair from July of last year until May 10th of this year. I resigned because I discovered this information, was bullied in an attempt to stay silent, and treated like a criminal for trying to bring the information into the light for all staff.

I dedicated two years to volunteering there and would never had dreamed of leaving had it not been for my treatment. I am a survivor and unknowingly shared a shift with an offender. I felt disgusted and no shower could clean that away. After my friend shared the information with me (he also resigned) we spoke to the board. They attempted to downplay the information to staff and cover it up. They are now speaking about policy to do background checks and let the offenders go from the organization, but it is because the community has backed them into a corner and not because they believe it is the right thing to do.

My friend Andrew has taken it to politics and they are already working on drafting a bill to forbid agencies serving sexual assault clients from having offenders on staff.