## **LOUISIANA HISTORIC FLOOD 2016**

## MESSAGE FROM LYNNE MEDLEY-LONG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

First of all, given the recent historic flooding in our area, it is good to know that most of our Louisiana residents are all SAFE and sound. If I could, I would give them all a big hug!

Given what we have been through, it is good to see our community alive and well, working together again. As we travel through our communities and look around, what we see is a true testament of our RESILIENENCE in Louisiana.



For those who may not know, Iris takes its name after the beautiful Iris flowers that are indigenous to Louisiana. Louisiana Irises are known for being strong and resilient. They can grow in any area. They can weather any storm. Yet they remain strong and beautiful. We often see this same resiliency, not only in our communities here in Louisiana, but also in survivors of domestic violence who persevere and thrive despite the abuse and violence which they are subjected to.

It has been my honor to serve as Iris Domestic Violence Center's Executive Director for the past year and a half and as you know we exist to **PROTECT**, **EMPOWER** and **PROMOTE** justice for victims of domestic violence in our communities.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and all of the victims of Domestic Violence served by Iris, I would like to personally thank all of our community partners and distant friends who are collecting or sending donations to Iris during this time. We could not be more grateful for this type of ongoing support that you are demonstrating in our greatest time of need.

We have worked for over 30 years in the Capital Region not only **PROTECTING and EMPOWERING** survivors of domestic but also working to create an environment in which abuse and violence are seen as unacceptable under all circumstances. We have been able to do this only because of the oneness of spirit within our community. Citizens, businesses, local organizations and friends from a distance have all given us their time, their talents and their support. All of you have consistently demonstrated this spirit. A spirit of oneness that promotes resilience.

We thank you sincerely and are genuinely grateful for all your support.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO IRIS AT THIS TIME, CLICK ON THE DONATE NOW LINK

PLEASE EARMARK YOUR DONATION TO ONE OF OUR MOST RECENT NEEDS:

CLIENT EMERGENCY FUND

OR

STAFF EMERGENCY FUND