

Vanessa Bautista – Founding member, Global Survivor Network

Vanessa is a creative and bold advocate for survivors of violence around the world, based in the United States. She grew up in the Philippines and is a survivor of child sexual abuse. At the age of 16 years old, Vanessa served as one of the survivor leaders in an advocacy group in Manila, "Standing Together to Advocate Rights", which is now the Philippine Survivor Network.

Vanessa currently works on the Global Programs team at International Justice Mission (IJM), a global organization working to protect people in poverty from violence. Prior to joining IJM, she worked as an account executive at an IT company based in Washington D.C., where she worked closely with U.S. government offices on technology needs and purchasing efforts. She also previously served at IJM as an Aftercare Fellow helping to build the Global Survivor Network, then worked as a Campaign Coordinator with IJM's U.S. Advocacy & Mobilization and Constituent Experience teams in 2018. She grew up in the Philippines, where she earned her Bachelor's degree and license in social work.

Vanessa is a founding member of the Leadership Council for the Global Survivor Network, an international group of survivor leaders who desire and pursue safe communities through justice systems that protect the most vulnerable. She says, "Survivors' voices need to be an integral part of developing programs and policies. As a part of the Leadership Council of the Global Survivor Network, I hope to continue to serve my fellow survivors and empower them to share their own expertise and talents to impact and unite leaders worldwide to end modern slavery."