Megan, age 17, came to FVLC seeking assistance with an abusive relationship. Her boyfriend, who was five years older, became violent shortly after she started dating him. He quickly escalated his behavior, regularly attacking her and threatening her with further violence. Megan felt trapped and helpless, unsure of how to break the cycle of abuse.

The Family Violence Law Center (FVLC) is a lifeline for individuals facing domestic violence and sexual assault. Located in Alameda County, the center provides legal representation and support services to help survivors navigate their situations safely and successfully. Megan quickly realized FVLC was the right choice, and she began the restraining order process with the firm support of FVLC's legal team.

With the help of FVLC, Megan and her family began the process of obtaining a restraining order. Our case manager worked closely with Megan to help her understand the legal requirements and develop a safety plan. The legal team filled out the restraining order paperwork, provided court preparation, and represented Megan in court, where she successfully obtained a five-year restraining order protecting herself.

During the months that followed, Megan continued her work with FVLC. The center provided her with ongoing emotional support during her detective interview and accompanied her to court and other appointments. Megan's family was also affected by the abuse and required assistance, which FVLC provided. Megan was able to return to school and get her job back, feeling much safer with a restraining order in place.

The center's support did not end there. FVLC continued to monitor the situation, help with any further legal issues, and offer emotional support as needed. Megan's story is a testament to FVLC's commitment to helping individuals heal from domestic violence and secure a safer future. As our center celebrates our 40th anniversary, we are proud to continue our mission of providing hope and healing to those in need.