

# I know why she stayed

I N I T I A T I V E

Press/Media Kit

## MEET THE TEAM

### **Kasey Rogers**

Co-Founder / Chief Executive Officer

Great Barrington, MA Office

Kasey Rogers spent much of her earlier career working in the commercial film industry in New York City by day and writing a musical in-between film projects. After the birth of her twins, she switched gears to pursue another passion, cooking. That passion led her and her late husband to turn a vacation property in Alexandria, Ontario, into a restaurant. For several years she owned and operated The 2Beans Café and Tearoom in Ontario before moving back to the U.S. Since then, she has written the memoir *Our Better Selves: From Secrets and Lies to Healing and Forgiveness*, along with a work of literary fiction, *The Color of Frost*. Along with writing, Kasey is an outspoken advocate for women and speaks about the connection between domestic and financial abuse. Learn more about the I Know Why She Stayed Initiative at: [www.iknowwhyshestayed.org](http://www.iknowwhyshestayed.org)

Visit Kasey's website: <https://kaseyrogers.com>

Sign up for her newsletter: <https://kaseyrogers.com/#footer>

**K. J. Harrowick**

Co-Founder / Chief Technical Officer

Austin, TX Office

K. J. Harrowick is a fantasy and science fiction author with a strong passion for twisted stories that blend grimdark worlds and futuristic technology. She is the co-founder of the *I Know Why She Stayed Initiative*, co-founder of Writer In Motion, a repeat panelist for the WriteHive Annual Convention and the Weeknight Writers Convention, and she's also been a contestant on the gameshow Wordcrash!

Her novel *Bloodflower* has captured readers' hearts by casting a grimdark lens on a colony moon inside a starship, and her co-authored memoir *I Know Why She Stayed*, along with initiative, is helping survivors of financial and domestic abuse regain their independence. With an unhealthy obsession for tacos, cheese, and beer, K. J. also works as a freelance web developer and graphic designer on a broad range of client projects. She is currently writing on a science fiction thriller, *The Shadows Beneath*, and a science fantasy romance, *The Mountain and the Moon*, both of which she hopes to release before 2042.

Visit K. J.'s website: <https://kjharrowick.com>

Sign up for her newsletter: <https://kjharrowick.com/newsletter/>

**Justine Manzano**

Director of Operations

Bronx, NY Office

Justine Manzano is the geeky author of geeky YA novels. Her fiction is tough on the outside and sweet on the inside, like a hard candy with a gooey center, delivered with sass and snark. A freelance editor, she also serves as an Editor-in-Residence at WriteHive. A proud Bronxite, born and raised, Justine lives there with her writer/editor husband, Ismael, her amazing son,

and a troublemaking puppy named Trooper. When she's not flailing about her favorite characters and actors, Justine struggles to create her own characters with the hopes someone will flail about them one day. Her award-winning debut novel, *The Order of the Key*, a Young Adult Urban Fantasy, has been called "Season 5 of Buffy meets the X-Men," and Justine will likely live happily off of that description alone for the rest of her days.

Visit Justine's website: <https://justinemanzano.com>

Sign up for her newsletter: <https://shorturl.at/w9Uxw>

## **LaShante Boyd**

Fund Developer

Berkeley, CA Office

### **Fund Developer, Advocate, and Tech Enthusiast**

LaShante Boyd is the passionate and driven Fund Developer at I Know Why She Stayed, where she dedicates her expertise to creating opportunities for growth and impact. A former rebel turned advocate, LaShante's journey has taken her from doing whatever it took to leave her hometown to falling in love with Oakland, CA—a small city with a big heart. She realized that Oakland's charm is in its resilience, diversity, and the community that makes it shine. Motivated by the possibilities that lie ahead, LaShante is a firm believer in the power of transformation. "What I am not today, I could be tomorrow," she often says, embracing the beauty of growth and the freedom to dream. Her imagination continues to fuel her ambition and drive to make a difference.

An unapologetic tech geek, LaShante takes pride in her love for all things digital—a passion that wasn't always celebrated but one she wears proudly today. She strives to inspire young people to discover who they truly are, beyond the expectations the world places on them.

LaShante's love language is giving—especially the gift of time. She believes time is the most valuable currency we have, and it's something we can never be certain is limitless.

## FIGHTING DOMESTIC AND FINANCIAL ABUSE



[www.iknowwhyshestayd.org](http://www.iknowwhyshestayd.org)



[www.authorsagainstabuse.org](http://www.authorsagainstabuse.org)