

**SNAP**Survivors Network of those  
Abused by Priests

---

## 2019 I Made a Difference Award

*presented to*

### **Bob Hoatson**

The "I Made a Difference Award" is a recognition that we have given away at SNAP conferences since the very beginning. With this award, we look to honor a person who has done great things for survivors – not just once or twice, but every day. Bob Hoatson is a shining example of one such person.

Bob is a New Jersey native, educator, and former priest who founded the organization Road to Recovery in 2003 to support and advocate for survivors of abuse. Bob believed that working to support survivors and prevent future cases of abuse was an integral part of his priestly ministry. And despite opposition to his advocacy work from his superiors, Bob persisted in his efforts to bring justice and healing to survivors. Ultimately, Bob was suspended from priestly ministry as a result of his work.

Yet today, 16 years after founding Road to Recovery, Bob may no longer be a priest, but he is still carrying on his ministry of support and healing for survivors. On a personal note, I have known and worked with Bob since 2008 as founding members of the National Survivor Advocates Coalition (NSAC) and on numerous projects over the years. We have always been able to count on support from Bob and his dedicated efforts in calling for change at the highest levels of the church. Whether it is standing on the sidewalk outside of USCCB meetings, holding individual events demanding accountability and justice, or taking calls from survivors from all over the country at any time, day or night, Bob is a true friend to survivors and a real leader in our movement. There is no doubt in our minds that Bob has truly made a difference. Please join me in recognizing my dear friend, Bob Hoatson.

*Alexandria, VA | 2019 SNAP Conference | July 28, 2019*