

Domestic Violence Prevention

www.verizonfoundation.org

The Verizon Foundation is committed to increasing the use of safety strategies, preventing domestic violence and improving survivors' quality of life. Verizon has been a corporate leader in the issue of domestic violence prevention for over a decade. We invest in programs that enhance prevention through education and that incorporate online resources for broad outreach to diverse populations. We also provide support for programs and initiatives that deliver effective relief for survivors and assist them in recovery.

We are addressing the root causes of domestic violence through education.

- > *The Penn State Community at Work: Workplace Responses to Domestic Violence* uses an online training package and DVD to enhance student and employee understanding of and response to domestic and relationship violence in the workplace and in their personal lives.

We are advancing best practices to give counselors and advocates effective tools to help survivors.

- > *Rutgers University School of Social Work* offers a first-of-its-kind certification program for social workers and other professionals who assist survivors of domestic violence. This program trains and educates workers in evidence-based, successful practices to best serve those in need.

We are supporting programs that offer safety and relief.

- > The *Verizon Wireless HopeLine™* phone recycling program provides wireless phones with service to nonprofit organizations for use with victims and survivors, giving them an immediate connection to help whenever and wherever they need it.
- > *Margaret's Place*, a comprehensive support and counseling program established by the Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation, provides middle school students with a "saferoom" where they can meet with professional counselors trained in domestic violence intervention and prevention and can openly and safely discuss issues surrounding violence.

We are harnessing the power of technology to educate and protect survivors from violence.

- > *Safety Net*, developed and presented by the National Network to End Domestic Violence, provides training that educates survivors, domestic violence prevention advocates and law enforcement officials about how technology can be used to increase survivors' safety and confidentiality.
- > *The National Family Justice Center Alliance*, through the Family Justice Center Institute (FJCI), focuses on the use of technology to benefit the lives of survivors and their children. The FJCI mission is to increase survivor safety by providing coordinated services and implementing a consistent service delivery model nationally.

These are only a few examples of the innovative programs we support. In the past three years, we've awarded \$15 million, donated countless volunteer hours, shared our expertise in technology solutions and hosted an annual Summit with many leading domestic violence prevention organizations.

Once called the silent epidemic, domestic violence impacts the entire spectrum of society at all educational and socioeconomic levels. The Verizon Foundation wants to help prevent the cycle of violence.

- > One-fifth of all full-time employed adults are or have been victims of domestic violence (65% female, 35% male). (*Corporate Alliance to End Partner Violence*)
- > One in four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime. (*U.S. Department of Justice*)
- > As the most common victims, women lose nearly eight million days of work annually because they have been threatened, stalked or physically assaulted by current or former partners or spouses. (*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*)
- > Less than one-fourth of the largest employers in the private sector provide training for employees to deal with domestic violence, and only four percent of all employers offer such training. (*National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health*)

Find out more about our efforts to prevent domestic violence.

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