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Avon Foundation Awards More Than \$2 Million in October to Fund Nearly 90 U.S. Domestic Violence Organizations

(NEW YORK, NY /October 5, 2013) – The Avon Foundation for Women has awarded nearly 90 new grants to domestic violence organizations across the United States in October, including

- **\$1,278,752 to 20** agencies across the U.S. in support of the **2013 Avon Domestic Violence Survivor Empowerment Program**. The Avon Domestic Violence Survivor Empowerment Program is part of the [Avon Speak Out Against Domestic Violence initiative](#), which launched in 2004 to help end the cycle of domestic violence. The 2013 Avon Domestic Violence Survivor Program funds coordinator positions which will support victims in 13 states by providing critical resources and economic empowerment tools necessary to develop self-sufficiency skills and guide them towards breaking the cycle of abuse, once and for all.
- **\$500,000** to support more than **60** agencies to provide direct services for domestic violence victims. These grants are part of an annual Avon Foundation for Women program that invites Avon regional offices across the United States to nominate local domestic violence non-profits. The 2013 selected domestic violence programs will deliver essential services, including shelter, counseling, educational and professional training, and advocacy and case management.
- **\$157,087 to Futures Without Violence** for the Global Communications X-Change project. The Communications X-Change helps practitioners, advocates, and policy makers around the world identify good practices and materials in an expanding library of materials hosted on a user-friendly site that permits searches and welcomes comments. The X-Change is being developed as an actively managed online hub that is rich with information, examples, and tools to communicate to a variety of audiences on issues related to domestic and sexual violence.

- **\$75,000 for Break the Cycle** to support a 2nd year of activities of the loveisrespect National Youth Advisory Board (NYAB). The board is comprised of 24 members, ages 14-24, which provide young adults' perspective and direction for loveisrespect.org. NYAB members help develop the mission, vision and values, a strategic plan, the look and tone of the website, write op-eds and blogs and conduct public awareness campaigns.
- **\$75,000 for National Network to End Domestic Violence** to conduct the **2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services**, a one-day, unduplicated and non-invasive count of adults and children seeking services from domestic violence programs throughout the United States and U.S. territories. In addition to documenting the number of individuals seeking services during the 24-hour survey period, the Census collects a count of the service requests that go unmet due to a lack of resources in the field; details the various barriers that domestic violence programs face in meeting the growing demand for services from victims; and showcases success stories, survivor quotes and advocates' reflections of providing quality, comprehensive services with limited resources.

From the data collected, NNEDV will produce and distribute its annual **Domestic Violence Counts** report. The report is a critical tool for communicating the experiences and needs of survivors to funders, the media and the general public. The report is used by NNEDV, state and territory coalitions against domestic violence, and local domestic violence programs to raise awareness and educate others about why preventing and ending domestic violence should remain a national priority.

- **\$50,000 for The New York City Healthy Relationship Training Academy**, an initiative of the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence which promotes healthy relationships, seeks to prevent dating violence and family domestic violence among young people, increases awareness of resources and services available to teenagers and the adults in their lives, and offers leadership and other skills development to young people who serve as Peer Educators in New York City. Peer Educators use interactive teaching methods such as brainstorming activities, role-plays, and games to effectively engage participants. During the workshops, Peer Educators highlight real-life experiences, encouraging participants to reflect on their own lives and society in order to recognize both unhealthy and healthy behaviors.

“The Avon Foundation for Women is committed to helping end the cycle of domestic violence and is proud to support nearly 90 organizations that help provide support and resources for domestic violence victims. With the help of these grants, we hope that more women across the U.S. can end the cycle of abuse, once and for all, and ensure safety for themselves and their families,” said Avon Foundation for Women President Carol Kurzig.

The Avon Foundation for Women and Speak Out Against Domestic Violence

The [Avon Foundation for Women](#), an accredited 501(c)(3) public charity, was founded in 1955 to improve the lives of women, and brings this mission to life through focus on two key issues: breast cancer and domestic violence. Avon global philanthropy has donated more than \$910 million in more than 50 countries for causes most important to women. The Avon Foundation's flagship programs include the [Avon Breast Cancer Crusade](#) and the *Speak Out Against Domestic Violence* program, which supports domestic violence awareness, education, direct services and prevention initiatives. The Avon Foundation has donated \$33 million in the United States to support awareness, education, direct service and prevention programs aimed at reducing domestic and gender violence. Globally, Avon supports efforts to end violence against women by raising funds through special product sales and raising awareness through events and with educational information disseminated by 6 million global Avon Representatives.

For more Information

To learn more about the Avon Foundation for Women *Speak Out Against Domestic Violence* program, visit www.avonfoundation.org, where you can also access a free printable *Domestic Violence and Dating Abuse Resource Guide* in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

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