

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Verizon Foundation Awards Violence Intervention Program, Inc. \$25,000 Grant Funding Community Education & Outreach and Hotline Programs**



New York City, NY (December 17, 2012) – The Verizon Foundation has awarded Violence Intervention Program, Inc. (VIP) a one-year grant for \$25,000 in support of the organization's Community Education & Outreach (CEO) and Hotline programs. VIP's CEO component aims to inform and mobilize communities by conducting educational workshops, staging capacity building seminars, and by disseminating much needed information around issues of domestic violence prevention and intervention in a culturally competent and language appropriate manner. On a policy

level, VIP's CEO component raises advocacy efforts against domestic violence by participating in a wide variety of community based coalitions and national task forces including the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the National Latin@ Network, STEPS to End Family Violence, the Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation (NMIC), the New York Women's Agenda, and the End DV Coalition. VIP's 24-hour bilingual (English/Spanish) hotline is the only "live" operating hotline of its kind in NYC and imparts an array of emergency information to callers including crisis intervention counseling, safety planning, shelter information, and referrals. Through these efforts, VIP continually takes an innovative approach to domestic violence intervention, and like Verizon Foundation, is dedicated to empowering others to live healthy, safe, and productive lives.

### **En Español**

#### **Violence Intervention Program, Inc.**

Violence Intervention Program, Inc. (VIP) is a community based non-profit organization dedicated to the eradication of domestic and intimate partner violence. Established in 1984 as an East Harlem initiative, VIP fills a gap in services to Latina survivors and their children in a culturally competent environment that is supportive, non-judgmental, and respects each woman's right to self-determination. As a domestic violence agency, VIP offers an array of services to help survivors lead healthy, safe, and productive lives including emergency and supportive housing, case management, advocacy, community education & outreach, children & youth services, financial literacy & economic empowerment skills building, a 24-hour bilingual hotline (English/Spanish), and crime victim's services.

#### **The Verizon Foundation**

Since 2000, the Verizon Foundation has dedicated technical, financial and human resources to help people in communities across the country live healthy, productive lives. This is our passion as well as our responsibility. We focus our efforts on two primary areas - education and literacy,

and safety and health. We participate in innovative programs to improve literacy and strengthen education achievement for children and adults. We support initiatives that help prevent domestic violence and improve access to healthcare information and services. Our employees are extremely generous with their time and talents, and we encourage their volunteer efforts with incentive and matching gift programs. We also partner with many creative national and community-based nonprofit organizations. At the Verizon Foundation, we believe that with every gift of time and resources, we contribute to a better present and future environment for our employees, customers and communities.

**For more Information**

For more information about Violence Intervention Program's Community Education & Outreach or Hotline programs, please contact Valerie Leon at (718) 402-0961, or visit us online at [www.vipmujeres.org](http://www.vipmujeres.org). For more information on the Verizon Foundation please visit their website at [www.verizonfoundation.org](http://www.verizonfoundation.org).

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