

LOS ANGELES URBAN LEAGUE'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

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Los Angeles Domestic Violence Prevention Collaborative

The Los Angeles Urban League (LAUL), the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF), and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC) are collaborating to undertake a comprehensive campaign aimed at improving education and awareness of domestic violence prevention in the African American, Latino, and Asian communities.

Funded by Verizon, the main goal of the collaborative is to increase awareness of domestic violence in ethnic communities and about resources available to victims. LAUL, MALDEF, and APALC will target audiences including service providers, youth, and parents through large events – health fairs, community festivals, and the LAUL's Neighborhoods@Work community meetings.

HELPFUL RESOURCE HOTLINES	L.A. Domestic Violence Safety Plan Hotline 1-800-978-3600	L.A. County Victim Assistance 1-213-974-7499
	TDD - Deaf Victims 1-800-660-4026 1-800-787-3224	Info Line - Assistance & Food Programs 1-800-339-6993
	Break the Cycle 1-888-988-TEEN (8336)	The National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) 1-800-787-3224 (TTY)

PARENT'S INFORMATION ON TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that more than 90% of all relationship abuse victims are female and most abusers are male. For this reason, we have used "she" when referring to victims, and "he" when referring to abusers. Whether the victim is male or female, violence of any kind is unacceptable.

It is not always easy to recognize if a teen is in a violent relationship. Surprisingly, abusers are often charming in public, especially to parents - so pay more attention to how he treats your daughter and less of how he may treat you.

Here are some warning signs to look for:

- She apologizes for his behavior and makes excuses for him.
- She loses interest in activities that she used to enjoy.
- She stops seeing friends and family members and becomes more and more isolated.
- When your daughter and her boyfriend are together, he calls her names and puts her down in front of other people.
- He acts extremely jealous of others who pay attention to her, especially other guys.
- He thinks or tells your daughter that you (her parents) don't like him.
- He controls her behavior, checking up on her constantly, calling and texting her, demanding to know who she has been with.
- She casually mentions his violent behavior, but laughs it off as a joke.
- You see him violently lose his temper, striking or breaking objects.
- She often has unexplained injuries, or the explanations she offers don't make sense.

(Adapted from the Liz Claiborne Inc.'s Women's Work "A Parent's Guide to Teen Dating Violence")

Hopeline

Verizon Wireless is a recognized corporate leader for its commitment to preventing domestic violence and raising awareness of the issue.

Verizon Wireless' HopeLine program puts the nation's most reliable wireless network to work in our communities by turning unused wireless phones into support for victims of domestic violence.

Verizon Wireless collects no-longer-used wireless phones, batteries and accessories in any condition from any wireless service provider at our Communications Stores nationwide. Proceeds from the HopeLine program are used to provide wireless phones and cash grants to local shelters and non-profit organizations that focus on domestic violence prevention and awareness.

The following Urban League locations serve as drop off centers:

Los Angeles Urban League, Headquarters
3450 Mount Vernon Drive; Los Angeles, CA 90043

Milken Family Literacy and Youth Training Center
5414 S. Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90043

If you need help or resources concerning domestic violence dial #HOPE (#4673) from any Verizon wireless phone and you will be directly connected to the National Domestic Violence Hotline.

October is National Domestic Violence Month. Here are some local events you can attend.

City of Los Angeles
Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Resource Fair
Friday, October 19, 2007
9am - 12pm

L.A. Urban League and Crenshaw High School
Present
The Community Health and Wellness Fair
Thursday October 4, 2007
3:30-7pm
Domestic Violence Awareness Workshops held
at 3:30 and 6pm

Californians Uniting to End Domestic Violence
2nd Annual Statewide Day of Awareness
West steps of the State Capitol building,
Sacramento, CA
October 2, 2007, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Myths and Facts

Myth: Domestic violence is a private family matter.

Fact: Domestic violence - also called spouse abuse, battering, family violence, abuse, and wife beating - is not just a family problem. It is a crime with serious repercussions.

Myth: All domestic violence is physical.

Fact: Being abused may not ever include physical violence, but a victim may be abused verbally, emotionally, and/or psychologically. These forms of abuse can be just as terrifying and debilitating and often result in feelings of low self-esteem, depression, and loneliness for the victim.

Myth: Victims provoke their partner's violence.

Fact: Victims never control a batterer's use of violence. Victims are not to blame nor do they ever deserve such abuse. Whatever problems exist in a relationship, the use of violence is never justified or acceptable.

Myth: No one would beat their pregnant wife or girlfriend.

Fact: Domestic violence often begins or escalates during

pregnancy. Testimony before Congress indicated that 50% of abusive husbands batter their pregnant wives. Other statistics show that between 25% and 40% of battered women were assaulted while pregnant.

Myth: Batterers are mentally ill.

Fact: Battering is a learned behavior, not a mental illness. Abusers' experiences as children and the messages they get from society in general tell them that violence is an effective means to achieve power and control over their partners. Batterers are accountable for their actions.

Myth: Drug and alcohol abuse causes domestic violence.

Fact: Batterers frequently make excuses for their violence, claiming loss of control due to alcohol

or drug use, or extreme stress. Although drug and alcohol abuse may intensify existing violent behavior, it does not cause domestic violence.

(Provided by the Birmingham Group, Health Services, Inc.)

Introducing our Partners



The Asian Pacific American Legal Center

The Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (APALC) is the nation's largest legal organization serving the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities. Founded in

1983, APALC is a unique organization that combines traditional legal services with civil rights advocacy and leadership development. The mission of APALC is to advocate for civil rights, provide legal services, education, and build coalitions to positively influence and impact Asian Pacific Americans and to create a more equitable and harmonious society.

For the past 20 years, APALC has provided domestic violence services to the low-income, immigrant community in the areas of family law and immigration. Currently, APALC provides direct legal services to low-income immigrant clients who are victims of domestic violence. Our focus is on the low-income, monolingual immigrant communities. Our services include helping victims apply for restraining orders, file for divorce or otherwise assist in child custody and child visitation issues. Since many immigrant victims of domestic violence also have immigration problems, APALC has helped qualified clients apply for legal status through such remedies as the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Immigration and Marriage Fraud Act (IMFA) and the U-Visa for victims of crime. Additionally, APALC provides domestic violence prevention trainings to community based organizations.

If you or someone you know is in need of legal assistance, please call: (213) 977-7500 and ask for Legal Services, or extension 224. We do not take walk-ins. If you speak any of the following languages, please call the toll free number below to speak with an advocate in your native language:

Chinese: (800) 520-2356

Khmer (Cambodian): (800) 867-3126

Korean: (800) 867-3640

Vietnamese: (800) 267-7395



The Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund

Founded in 1968, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), the nation's premier Latino civil rights organization, promotes and protects the rights of Latinos through advocacy, community education and outreach, leadership development, higher education scholarships and litigation.



The Domestic Violence Prevention Program, MALDEF's component to the LADV Collaborative, provides culturally and linguistically sensitive education and outreach information on domestic violence to Latino parents and youths as part of MALDEF's existing Parent School Partnership and Youth Leadership Program curriculum. The program conducts education and outreach presentations to grassroots organizations as well as service providers regarding domestic violence and available aid resources.

It also provides referral information through a domestic violence resource guide, education brochures in Spanish, and wallet-sized cards containing emergency services and shelter information. MALDEF is launching a 24-hour bilingual (English-Spanish) Information Line that will provide referral information about support services for victims of domestic violence.



Verizon

Verizon Communications Inc. (NYSE:VZ), headquartered in New York, is a leader in delivering broadband and other wireline and wireless communication innovations to mass market, business, government and wholesale customers.

Verizon Wireless serves more than 62 million customers nationwide. Verizon's Wireline operations include Verizon Business, which delivers innovative and seamless business solutions to customers around the world, and Verizon Telecom, which brings customers the benefits of converged communications, information and entertainment services over the nation's most advanced fiber-optic network. A Dow 30 company, Verizon has a diverse workforce of more than 238,000 and last year generated consolidated operating revenues of more than \$88 billion.

The Verizon Foundation funds programs that address the heart of social issues such as domestic violence. They build partnerships to replicate their most successful programs in communities across the country. Since 2000, the Verizon Foundation has invested more than \$400 million in the United States and around the world to help others. In 2006, they awarded more than \$69.4 million in grants to charitable and nonprofit agencies serving the needs of diverse communities. Their goal is to raise public awareness about the quiet epidemic; working in partnership with nonprofits to help prevent domestic violence and help victims. Through grants, volunteerism and innovative applications of technology, Verizon Foundation supports initiatives that contribute to the safety and well being of families. They engage in active collaboration with program partners to define and achieve measurable progress.