"Stop Family Violence" Fundraising Stamp Unveiled

The Stop Family Violence semipostal stamp was unveiled Saturday June 14 in Colorado to raise awareness and generate money for the victims of domestic violence. The price of the stamp will be 45 cents, with the difference between the sales price of the stamp and the underlying postage consisting of a tax-deductible contribution.

"The Stop Family Violence semipostal will allow every American to contribute to a nationwide fight against domestic violence," said Dr. Christina Beato, who unveiled the stamp. "By using this stamp on their cards, letters, and packages, our customers will also have an opportunity to bring before the public eye a problem that is too often ignored."

In addition to Dr. Beato, Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO), Representative Diana DeGette (D-CO), anti-domestic violence advocates and the Denver Postmaster were all present for the unveiling.

The effects of domestic violence are felt regardless of age, race or economic status. According to a report issued in 1999 by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, in more than 790,000 crimes of intimate violence women accounted for 85 percent of the victims. Such cases cost the nation billions of dollars annually in medical expenses, police and court costs, shelters and foster care, sick leave, absenteeism and non-productivity. Studies suggest children who witness domestic violence are more apt to attempt suicide, abuse alcohol or drugs or run away from home.