

New Web Site Provides Financial Empowerment Resources to Support Domestic Violence Survivors

The Allstate Foundation Domestic Violence Program Launches
www.EconEmpowerment.org

NORTHBROOK, Ill., Oct. 16, 2007 – The Allstate Foundation today launched a new Web site, www.EconEmpowerment.org, providing information and resources to support survivors of domestic violence. The site is just one component of The Allstate Foundation Domestic Violence Program, which provides comprehensive programming to energize, empower and equip domestic violence survivors with the resources, knowledge and skills they need to achieve safer and more financially secure lives.

“Financial control is an aspect of domestic violence that is frequently overlooked,” said Jennifer Kuhn, program manager for The Allstate Foundation Domestic Violence Program. “Abusers frequently isolate their victims by controlling access to money and financial resources. Financial abuse can be more devastating than physical abuse in some situations. With our new Web site, www.EconEmpowerment.org, we provide critical resources and information to help survivors find financial independence free from abuse

www.EconEmpowerment.org provides information on resources available to survivors, including:

- *Moving Ahead Through Money Management* – The Allstate Foundation Domestic Violence Program's financial empowerment curriculum – which includes financial tools and information that enable survivors of domestic abuse to (1) fully understand their financial circumstances, and (2) engage in short- and long-term planning to accomplish their personal goals. The curriculum provides:
 - ◇ Ways to locate and access local, state and national personal safety and financial resources;
 - ◇ Information on how to protect personal and financial safety in-crisis and post-crisis;
 - ◇ Strategies for dealing with the misuse of financial records; and
 - ◇ Tools to help people of all incomes and earning power work toward long-term economic empowerment.
- *The Allstate Foundation Education and Job Training Fund* – A fund that channels small grants to adult domestic violence survivors to help them achieve their educational and professional goals. This covers education, training and job-related expenses including:
 - ◇ Books and supplies for school;
 - ◇ Job skills training;
 - ◇ Certification and registration fees;
 - ◇ Tuition;

- ◇ Requirements for jobs, such as uniforms;
 - ◇ Child care; and
 - ◇ Public transportation.
- *Links to national and state-based domestic violence organizations* – Each U.S. state & territory has a domestic violence state coalition that connects survivors and interested members of the public to resources, including shelters and emergency funding, in their local communities. Both national and state-based organizations also provide a wealth of information and tips for both survivors and others who wish to help. www.EconEmpowerment.org contains links and key contact information for state and national organizations.

The Web site also contains information for service providers, such as ways to enhance their organization’s financial empowerment services, and information on applying for grants. In addition, it offers information on volunteer opportunities through both local and national programs and organizations.

“The Allstate Foundation’s new site contains critical information for domestic violence survivors, their advocates, and others who are interested in joining the fight to end domestic violence,” said Sue Else, President of the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) Fund, which works in partnership with The Allstate Foundation to provide support to victims of domestic violence. “Survivors need targeted tools and strategies to help them overcome financial obstacles and plan for safe, secure futures. The Web site provides this targeted information to both survivors and those wishing to help them on their road to financial and physical security.”

About The Allstate Foundation

Established in 1952, The Allstate Foundation is an independent, charitable organization made possible by subsidiaries of The Allstate Corporation. Allstate and The Allstate Foundation sponsor community initiatives to promote “safe and vital communities”; “tolerance, inclusion, and diversity”; and “economic empowerment.” The Allstate Foundation believes in the financial potential of every individual and in helping America's families achieve their American dream. For additional information, visit www.allstate.com/foundation.

About the National Network to End Domestic Violence Fund

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) Fund is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt social change organization representing state domestic violence coalitions. The NNEDV Fund is dedicated to creating a social, political, and economic environment in which violence against women no longer exists. The NNEDV Fund accomplishes these goals through capacity building for coalitions, public education, training, and technical assistance to maintain and develop the professional expertise of advocates. The NNEDV Fund strives to strengthen advocates as organizers and activists in the tradition of social change movements. For more information about the NNEDV Fund, visit www.nnedv.org

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