

Violence Intervention Program, Inc. Awarded The Avon Foundation for Women Speak Out Against Domestic Violence Grant For Avon Domestic Violence Survivor Empowerment Program



[New York, N.Y. – November 6, 2013] – The Avon Foundation for Women has awarded a \$65,000 one-year grant to Violence Intervention Program, Inc. (VIP) in support of its [Avon Domestic Violence Survivor Empowerment Program](#), which provides annual funding for 19 full-time Economic Empowerment Coordinator positions in domestic violence agencies across the U.S. Since the Avon Domestic Violence Survivor Empowerment Program launched, the Avon Foundation has supported 85 coordinator positions throughout the U.S. by providing nearly \$5 million in grants.

The 2013 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 Avon Foundation for Women has donated nearly \$38 million for domestic and gender violence programs in the United States, including support for awareness, education, direct service and prevention.

The critical funds awarded to Violence Intervention Program, Inc. will make an immediate difference to domestic violence survivors in New York City. Coordinators help provide domestic violence survivors with vital resources and economic empowerment tools necessary to develop self-sufficiency, so that they are able to lead independent, violence-free lives.

"We are proud and truly grateful to the Avon Foundation for Women for supporting our mission to end domestic abuse. This funding not only supports our Economic Empowerment Services Coordinator position, it enables us to continue building capacity around our Economic Empowerment Services program as a whole; thus ensuring that survivors have the necessary tools and support to gain control and financial independence," said Cecilia M. Gastón.

"The Avon Foundation for Women is committed to breaking the cycle of domestic violence and is proud to support VIP, Inc.," said Avon Foundation for Women President Carol Kurzig. "Research illustrates that domestic violence victims are less likely to leave an abusive relationship – and stay away from their abusers – if they have limited hope of achieving independent economic stability. With the help of these hands-on coordinators, we hope that more women in New York City can end the cycle of abuse and ensure safety for themselves and their families."

Since June 2010, the Economic Empowerment Services Program at Violence Intervention Program, Inc. has provided services and support to more than 1,800 domestic violence victims. Through our Economic Empowerment Services component, financial development services are rendered to over 1,200 survivors of domestic abuse annually. These services help families devise strategies and access resources to increase assets, develop and achieve financial goals, reduce debt, develop businesses, and obtain or maintain permanent, stable housing.

Violence Intervention Program, Inc.

Violence Intervention Program, Inc. (VIP) was founded in 1984 as a grassroots East Harlem Initiative to address the growing prevalence of domestic violence within the Latino community. VIP provides services to over 1,000 survivors of domestic violence and over 500 victims of other crimes annually and our hotlines respond to over 10,000 calls for help each year. All services are free, confidential, and designed to help survivors lead healthy, safe, and productive lives. Our continuum of care includes

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. Although we provide crisis intervention and stabilization services to New York City residents, our influence radiates globally. Working with other domestic violence agencies, VIP has played an instrumental role in raising the general public's consciousness about this critical social issue – one which crosses all class and economic thresholds.

Avon Foundation for Women

The [Avon Foundation for Women](http://www.avonfoundation.org), the world's largest corporate-affiliated philanthropy focused on issues that matter most to women, was founded in 1955 to improve the lives of women. Through 2012, Avon global philanthropy, led by the Avon Foundation, has donated more than \$910 million in more than 50 countries for causes most important to women. Today, Avon philanthropy focuses on funding breast cancer research and access to care through the [Avon Breast Cancer Crusade](http://www.avonfoundation.org), and efforts to reduce domestic and gender violence through its [Speak Out Against Domestic Violence](http://www.avonfoundation.org) program. Visit www.avonfoundation.org for more information.

Avon Speak Out Against Domestic Violence

The Avon Foundation for Women launched [Speak Out Against Domestic Violence](http://www.avonfoundation.org) in 2004 to support domestic violence awareness, education and prevention programs aimed at reducing domestic and gender violence, as well as direct services for victims and their families. Through 2013, the Avon Foundation for Women has donated nearly \$38 million in the United States to support domestic violence programs, services and education. Globally, Avon supports efforts to end violence against women in nearly 50 countries by raising funds through [special product sales](http://www.avonfoundation.org) and raising awareness through events and with educational information disseminated by more than 6 million global Avon Representatives. Visit www.avonfoundation.org for more information.

For more Information

For more information on Economic Empowerment Services at Violence Intervention Program, Inc., please call **1-800-664-5880** or visit us online at www.vipmujeres.org.

For more information about domestic violence services, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at **1-800-799-SAFE (7233)** or online at www.ndvh.org.

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](#).