

Breaking News



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BREAK THE CYCLE USES TECHNOLOGY TO CONNECT, COMMUNICATE AND INFORM

As the number of calls to Break the Cycle's helpline continues to grow, there has been a marked increase in the number of emails we receive—accounting for nearly 20% of all contacts for help in 2006.

In January, Break the Cycle launched phase one of **TheSafeSpace.org**, a one-of-a-kind online community that offers a safe, confidential place for those seeking answers about teen dating violence. Much more than a traditional crisis hotline, **TheSafeSpace.org** will better address the reality of the cycle of violence for youth by providing information and tools relevant at any stage of a relationship. **TheSafeSpace.org** has the power to work for both prevention and intervention.

With the generous support of Verizon Wireless Hopeline and the Avon Foundation, Break the Cycle created **TheSafeSpace.org** for teens nationwide. The site allows young people to access the information and resources they need to understand and develop healthy relationships. It also offers an interactive, web-based environment for youth currently experiencing abuse and others concerned about a young person's safety.

TheSafeSpace.org responds to trends in youth culture; reconnects isolated young victims to a support network; and brings resources and information directly to teens in their homes, schools and libraries regardless of where they are located.

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Break the Cycle launches interactive website, TheSafeSpace.org

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Our tenth year has been an exciting one so far. Advances in our programs and operations are beginning to take shape in ways we never before believed possible. Looking ahead, I am excited by all the opportunities.

I am inspired by the generosity of Break the Cycle's supporters who are finding creative, new, meaningful ways to contribute. Celebrating a milestone birthday, one longtime friend and supporter invited her friends and loved ones to make contributions to Break the Cycle in lieu of gifts. A newer friend and her husband invited guests to donate to Break the Cycle in honor of their wedding. I am thrilled that new and old supporters are helping us find opportunities to spread our important message and bring help and hope to thousands.

And the new opportunities extend beyond the "walls" of Break the Cycle. This year for the first time ever and thanks to Break the Cycle's public policy efforts, the Violence Against Women Act authorizes federal funding to protect teens and young adults from domestic and dating violence. The potential impact is virtually immeasurable.

These positive changes are inspiring our staff to continue to do what we do best—protecting the rights and promoting the health of young people. I look forward to sharing more good news with each of you. Wishing you a healthy and happy New Year!



*Jessica Aronoff,
Executive Director*

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DID YOU KNOW?

Twenty-one million teens use the internet each day, according to a recent study by the Pew Charitable Trust. More than 75% of teens get their news online and more than 30% of them rely on the internet for information about health and health-related topics.

— *Teens and Technology: Youth are Leading the Transformation to a Fully Wired and Mobile Nation*, Amanda Lenhart, Mary Madden, Paul Hitlin for Pew Internet & American Life Project, 7/27/05.

BREAK THE CYCLE USES TECHNOLOGY TO CONNECT, COMMUNICATE AND INFORM

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Phase two of **TheSafeSpace.org** will offer expanded interactivity including: live, confidential webchat; a searchable database with information about local resources; and detailed information explaining how domestic violence law applies to youth in each state.

For more information about how you can get involved and help us launch phase two of **TheSafeSpace.org**, please contact Liza Lorenz, 310.286.3383 or liza.lorenz@breakthecycle.org.

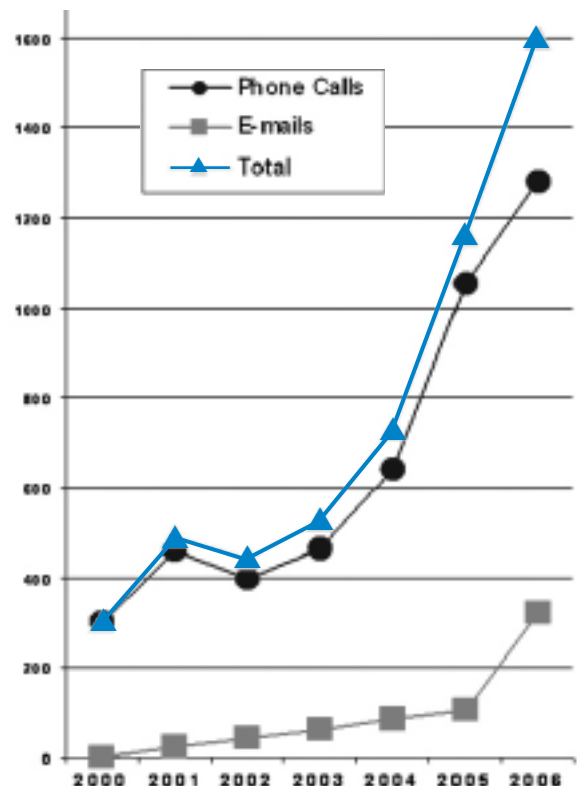
NATIONAL TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WEEK

In February of 2006, the United States Congress established the first-ever National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week. The week presents a unique opportunity for communities and schools to talk openly about teen dating violence and how to prevent it. This year, Break the Cycle is thrilled to work alongside national and community leaders for the Second Annual Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week, February 5-9, 2007. Break the Cycle will help organize media coverage, sponsor awareness activities and host school workshops throughout the week. Join us in discussing this important issue.

**National Teen Dating Violence
Awareness and Prevention Week
February 5–9, 2007**

Visit www.breakthecycle.org to learn how you can help!

Break the Cycle Helpline Contacts



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Break the Cycle is honored by the dedication of our volunteers. Across the country, talented, socially-conscious people find their way to us—and we are thankful.



Volunteer, Mike Catalano

In Los Angeles, volunteer Mike Catalano has been an invaluable asset in helping us reach local youth. After extensive training, Mike began teaching our Domestic Violence 101 curriculum earlier this year. Despite his busy workload and the demands of his five children, Mike has already spent more than ten hours teaching youth about dating violence. We thank you, Mike,

for your hard work and dedication.

In Washington DC, last spring, five 10th grade students worked in our office every Friday to help raise awareness about dating violence. As part of their volunteer efforts, the teens demonstrated their courage and commitment by testifying about the issue before the DC City Council. Tywan Easter and Raquel Fernandez provided written testimony while Bianca Avila, Nathaniel Duran, Simone Wainwright gave powerful oral presentations. We applaud each of them for their determination to bring change.

WISH LIST:

We rely on our contributors to help cover the costs of our programs, but often the day-to-day operating costs get overlooked. You can help make a difference by donating items from our wish list.

We ask that donations be in good, clean, working condition.

Office Furniture

Desks, chairs, file and storage cabinets

Supplies

Postage stamps, paper, pens, markers, pencils, desk calculators, batteries (especially AA), plastic forks, staplers, staple removers

In-Kind Services

Printing & copying, public relations, marketing, network & system support, database management, trouble-shooting IT

Electronics

Computer monitors, color scanner, digital camera, computer mice, keyboard rests, computer memory, other computer accessories

Volunteer

Administrative support, outreach efforts, special events

To donate items on this list or make a financial contribution, contact Break the Cycle via email: donate@breakthecycle.org

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Run or walk to help raise funds for Break the Cycle.

APRIL 2007

Log on to www.breakthecycle.org or call 310.286.3366 for information.

RUN FOR VICTIMS' RIGHTS

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Long-time volunteer Rachel Wilkes and friends at a Break the Cycle Young Professionals event

Break the Cycle is pleased to announce the following funding partnerships:

Blue Shield of California Foundation awarded \$210,000 over two years to help produce and distribute our *Ending Violence* interactive DVD. This vital support will expand the reach of our preventive curriculum to thousands more youth.

Break the Cycle received \$44,000 from the **DC Office of Victim Services** to support our legal services and advocacy for young victims in Washington, DC. Additionally, the **DC Department of Human Services** awarded more than \$17,000 to expand our existing outreach and education efforts to the Latino and LGBTQ communities.

Break the Cycle thanks **Liz Claiborne Foundation** for their support and award of \$15,000 for our Los Angeles programs. We are proud to continue our long-standing partnership with Liz Claiborne to prevent domestic and dating violence.

NEW PROGRAM STEERS TOWARD GREATER IMPACT

For over 10 years, Break the Cycle has helped thousands of youth experiencing domestic violence. Addressing their legal needs, our work emphasized obtaining restraining, custody and visitation orders.

Now, Break the Cycle is expanding the scope of our legal services. Beginning in 2007, Break the Cycle's Los Angeles office will spearhead a new legal program to promote nationwide change. The program will protect the rights of teens in court, at school, and in the larger community through impact litigation. With the help of community partnerships, we will identify and combat systemic barriers that teen victims face. We anticipate these efforts will make a significant difference in the lives of youth across the country.

For more information about Break the Cycle's new impact litigation program, contact Brandy Davis at 310.286.3383 or brandy.davis@breakthecycle.org.

YOUTH LEADERS TAKE ACTION



Youth volunteers, from Washington DC, Simone, Nathaniel, Tywan, Raquel and Bianca

The Peer Helping program at the Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies (LACES) is taking on a new challenge. In addition to the mentoring they provide their fellow LACES students, the peer helpers are planning a public awareness campaign about dating violence.

In their own words:

“ We are doing this project because we believe it is vital to address the issue of teen dating violence - which is often swept under the rug or not discussed at all... It affects one in every three teens, and as Peer Helpers, we believe it is our duty to address this pressing issue. We believe that through a campaign that supports the victims of domestic abuse and also raises awareness of it, we can initiate change. ”

Break the Cycle is proud to partner with the Peer Helpers and showcase the difference they are making in their community. Look for samples from their campaign on www.breakthecycle.org or visit www.unmaskthetruth.com to watch their progress.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Break the Cycle gratefully acknowledges our generous donors across the nation. The listing below reflects donors with cash contributions over \$100 in 2006.

25,000+

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Break the Cycle attorney Jimena Vasquez with client honorees Laura Garcia & Monica Garcia at Savor the Season 2006

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250 - 499

ABA Commission on Domestic Violence
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100 - 249

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Gifts were made to Break the Cycle in tribute to:

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 Max Aronoff-Sher
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 Joseph Lane & the Clerks of California
 Allison Mellon
 Hailey & Stephanie Nilva
 Liz Spander
 Jack Waldman
 Fredda Weiss
 Kimberly & Gary Weiss
 Joanne Zaccaro

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. Please accept our apologies if there are any errors or omissions, and contact our office with corrections. Thank you.



Savor the Season chefs Frank Fronda, Josie Le Balch and Neal Fraser with host Mario Martinoli

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