

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Local Agency to Launch Campaign to Raise Awareness of Teen Dating Violence**

### ***Teen Dating Violence Prevention Program Supported Through Grant by Verizon***

**FREMONT, CA** - As part of their ongoing commitment to domestic violence prevention and awareness, Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments (SAVE), a non-profit organization based in Southern Alameda County, was awarded a \$22,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Verizon. The grant will support the Teen Dating Violence Prevention Program, an effort to continue outreach services to teens to prevent their becoming victims/survivors of domestic violence.

“Teenagers are especially susceptible to domestic violence. Their lack of life experience makes it more difficult to determine if, for example, the fifteen texts that they receive from their boyfriend every hour is love or controlling behavior,” said Rodney Clark, SAVE executive director. “I commend Verizon for their commitment to this issue and for their partnership.”

Participants will learn about the characteristics of both healthy and abusive relationships, tools for healthy conflict resolution, the cycle of violence and where to turn if they need help or find themselves in an unsafe, abusive relationship.

The Verizon Foundation’s generous donation will help SAVE stop the violence before it begins.

“The impact that SAVE’s Teen Dating Violence Prevention Program will have on our youth is tremendous and goes a long way to keeping them safe,” said Holly Cole, Verizon’s director of government and external affairs. “Verizon has a high-level of commitment to eradicating violence and is proud to partner with SAVE in this prevention effort.”

**About SAVE**

SAVE is a non-profit community-based organization founded in 1976 to address the needs of people experiencing intimate partner violence. SAVE offers complete services from crisis to the establishment of a violence-free, self-sufficient life. Its services include: an emergency shelter and transitional housing for abused women and their children; a 24-hour crisis hotline; legal, medical, employment, and housing assistance; outreach and community education; crisis intervention at local police departments; and individual and group counseling. More information about SAVE can be found at [www.save-dv.org](http://www.save-dv.org)