

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NEXT DOOR SOLUTIONS TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARDED AVON FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN SPEAK OUT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GRANT FOR AVON EMPOWERMENT SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM.**

SAN JOSE, CA/ OCT. 13, 2010 - The Avon Foundation for Women has awarded a \$50,000 one-year grant to Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence for the creation and funding of the Avon Empowerment Self-Sufficiency Program to make an immediate, tangible difference for domestic violence survivors by providing them with guidance and assistance to create independent, violence-free lives. The Avon Empowerment Self-Sufficiency Program is the focus of the 2010 Avon Foundation for Women's annual awards program under the auspices of the Foundation's Speak Out Against Domestic Violence initiative. Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence is among one of the 32 grant recipients selected from among close to 150 applicants nationwide.

As a grant recipient of the Avon Empowerment Self-Sufficiency Program, Next Door will help domestic violence survivors create better lives for themselves and their families. DV agencies have faced reductions in funds, while the need for services are at unprecedented levels, and the Avon Foundation is proud to support these 32 full-time positions.

Domestic violence victims may be less likely to leave and stay away from abusers if they have limited hope of achieving economic stability on their own. Additionally, this lack of economic stability or programs may increase the likelihood of a return to the abuser or lead to homelessness. This vital program will address these issues and will extend the services that current Self Sufficiency Advocates provide by increasing the response to the needs of domestic violence victims through the hiring and employment of a Self Sufficiency Coordinator.

Carol Kurzig, President, Avon Foundation for Women, noted that "Next Door Solutions is delivering critical services to the domestic violence survivors and their families. We are proud to support their efforts to help end the cycle of violence."

"We are extremely proud that the Avon Foundation for Women shares our mission to help domestic violence survivors and their families in Santa Clara County. With these funds we will be able to continue on our mission of ending domestic in the moment and for all time," says Kathleen Krenek, Executive Director of Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence.

About Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence:

Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence <http://www.nextdoor.org> established the first bilingual English-Spanish domestic violence shelter in the nation toward its mission to end domestic violence in the moment and for all time. Since 1971, Next Door has promoted safe and healthy options for culturally and linguistically diverse, very low to low income victims and their children in Santa Clara County through emergency shelter and transitional housing; multiple points of entry for victims; individuals, system and institutional advocacy; crisis intervention and peer counseling; education for victims and the community; and community norms change through prevention activities. Collectively, its programs reach between 7,500 and 9,000 clients annually.

The Avon Foundation for Women and Speak Out Against Domestic Violence:

The Avon Foundation for Women <<http://www.avonfoundation.org>>, was founded in 1955 to improve the lives of women, and brings this mission to life through focus on domestic violence. Through 2010, Avon global philanthropy has donated more than \$800 million in more than 50 countries for causes most important to women. The Avon Foundation's flagship programs include the Speak Out Against Domestic Violence program, which supports domestic violence awareness, education, direct services and prevention initiatives. Through the end of 2010, in the U.S. alone, the Avon Foundation for Women has provided more than \$23 million for the domestic violence and gender violence cause, including support for awareness, education, direct service and prevention programs.

For more information:

To learn more about the Avon Foundation for Women Speak Out Against Domestic Violence program, visit <[www.avonfoundation.org](http://www.avonfoundation.org)>, where you can also access a free printable Domestic Violence and Dating Abuse Resource Guide in English <<http://www.avonfoundation.org/assets/dv-resource-guide-2010-final.pdf>> and Spanish <<http://www.avonfoundation.org/assets/dvbookspanish.pdf>>.

For more information on Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence, please call Jono Marcus at (408) 504-7744. For more information about Next Door's domestic violence services, please call Next Door's Community Office at (408) 501-7540.