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VERIZON FOUNDATION GIVES \$25,000 TO UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

LEXINGTON, Ky.—A \$25,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation, matched by the University of Kentucky Center for Research on Violence Against Women, will help secure the long-term future of the Center’s Women’s Social Justice Initiative and improve how race, ethnicity, poverty and culture are addressed in the study of violence against women, the Verizon Foundation announced today.

The grant will be added to the Center’s endowment, interest from which will help fund the final two of five endowed faculty positions, one on the multicultural study of violence against women and one on the study of sexual violence. It also will fund the participation of two minority undergraduate students in the Initiative’s summer research program.

“Violence touches the lives of women throughout the United States and around the globe, crossing boundaries of race, ethnicity, class, caste, and age – crossing county, region, state and nation. The Center’s Social Justice Initiative speaks to the importance of including the experiences of all women when we tell the story of violence,” said Carol Jordan, assistant provost and director of the UK Center for Research on Violence Against Women. “The generosity of the Verizon Foundation is helping us ensure that we can meet that critical goal.”

“Programs such as UK’s Women’s Social Justice Initiative conduct critically-needed research to help the front-line advocates who work with survivors and their children,” said Greg Haller, president–Kentucky/Indiana/Michigan Region, Verizon Wireless. “We’re particularly gratified to assist with this initiative, which focuses on the plight of women from

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all corners of the globe whose lives are touched by sexual exploitation and other forms of violence.”

Verizon Wireless is a recognized corporate leader for its commitment to preventing domestic violence and raising awareness of the issue. The company’s HopeLine[®] program turns no-longer-used wireless phones into support for survivors of domestic violence. In the past two years, Verizon Wireless—along with the Verizon Foundation—have donated more than \$300,000 in cash grants, phones and airtime to shelters and other organizations in Kentucky working to support victims of domestic violence and their families.

Anyone can donate wireless phones they’re no longer using to Verizon Wireless’ HopeLine program, even if their phones are from another wireless provider. Wireless phones, batteries and other accessories are collected at Verizon Wireless Communications Stores nationwide and in special collections throughout the year. The phones are either refurbished for reuse or recycled in an environmentally sound way.

Since October 2001, when Verizon Wireless launched its national recycling program, HopeLine has collected nearly 6 million phones. The program has disposed of more than one million phones in an environmentally sound way and refurbished the remaining phones for resale and reuse. HopeLine has also awarded more than \$6 million in cash grants to domestic violence agencies and organizations throughout the country.

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