



empowering survivors of domestic violence

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LOCAL WOMEN'S SHELTER RECEIVES \$20,000 GRANT FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS FROM THE MARY KAY FOUNDATION

Brighter Tomorrows Inc. is Part of \$3 Million in Funding During Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Suffolk County, NY November 7, 2016 – As part of The Mary Kay Foundation's annual shelter grants program, local women's shelter Brighter Tomorrows Inc. has received a \$20,000 unrestricted grant to further the organization's efforts to combat domestic violence and provide rehabilitation services throughout **Suffolk County**. The grant awarded to **Brighter Tomorrows, Inc.** is part of \$3 million in funding that the Foundation has awarded this year to 150 domestic violence shelters in 49 states, the District of Columbia and Guam.

Brighter Tomorrows Inc. will use the grant funding to provide critical support for its **bilingual (English/Spanish) counseling and legal advocacy services**. Other recipients use the unrestricted funds for basic operating expenses, hiring much-needed personnel, completing repairs and renovations or adding programs and resources based on the unique needs of their shelter and the clients they serve.

"At Brighter Tomorrows Inc., we are incredibly grateful for support from The Mary Kay Foundation and its continued commitment to break the cycle of domestic violence," said Dolores Kordon, Executive Director. "Now more than ever, those of us sheltering, advocating, and counseling victims of domestic violence need support. We are so grateful to the Mary Kay Foundation for their unwavering commitment to helping ensure a safer future for survivors."

Brighter Tomorrows, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) human service agency dedicated to empowering survivors of domestic violence through the provision of safe housing, supportive counseling, and legal advocacy services on Long Island, NY. Brighter Tomorrows provides services to a vast geographic area encompassing a population of 1,493,350 (2010 Census) over 911 square miles. **In 2015, there were over 1000 calls to our 24-hour hotline. And in New York State, a one day survey revealed that 6000 victims of domestic violence were receiving services statewide, with another 1000 victims waiting for services.**

"The fact that shelters across the country can use these unrestricted funds to best fit their immediate needs has often made the difference between keeping the doors open or closed, maintaining a critical service or providing a life-saving safe place for a family in need," said Anne Crews, board member for The Mary Kay Foundation and Vice President of Public Affairs for Mary Kay Inc. "As the Foundation celebrates 20 years of making a difference in the lives of women and children, we are proud to continue our signature domestic violence program in communities nationwide. We know hundreds of thousands of lives have been impacted, not only today but for generations to come."

Nearly 600 domestic violence shelters applied for The Mary Kay Foundation shelter grants this year. Mary Kay Inc.'s global cause-related program, [Beauty That Counts](#), helps support The Mary Kay Foundation's annual shelter grant program. Mary Kay has a deep commitment to ending abuse and alongside The Mary Kay FoundationSM has given \$53 million to domestic violence prevention and awareness programs.

Please visit marykayfoundation.org for additional information and for the full list of 2016 Shelter Grant Recipients.

About The Mary Kay FoundationSM

The Mary Kay FoundationSM was created in 1996, and its mission is two-fold: to fund research of cancers affecting women and to help prevent domestic violence while raising awareness of the issue. The Mary Kay FoundationSM has awarded \$54 million to shelters and programs addressing domestic violence prevention and cancer researchers and related causes throughout the United States. To learn more about The Mary Kay FoundationSM, please visit www.marykayfoundation.org or call 1-877-MKCARES (652-2737).

About Brighter Tomorrows, Inc.

Founded in 1986, Brighter Tomorrows, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) human service agency serving Suffolk County, NY as well as domestic violence victims from the New York metropolitan area. Brighter Tomorrows' value-driven programs seek to connect adults and children with a nurturing community while enhancing their personal security, independence, and self-esteem. Services include a 24-hour hotline, individual and group counseling, legal advocacy, a 19-bed shelter, nutrition programs, empowerment programs, child witness to domestic violence programs, positive parenting, child care, and transitional housing. These programs aim to provide survivors the opportunity to live independently while gaining job skills, personal strength, self-sufficiency and ultimately economic independence with a life free of violence.