



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Survivors Need More Help as Domestic Violence Danger Continues During COVID

Nicole Kidman joins Futures Without Violence and The Allstate Foundation to support Black, Indigenous survivors and communities of color

SAN FRANCISCO (Dec. 01, 2020) – Millions of domestic violence survivors are still sheltering in place with abusers behind closed doors as result of the global pandemic. This ‘shadow pandemic’ underscores the need to help survivors find a way out. On Giving Tuesday, Nicole Kidman, Futures Without Violence and The Allstate Foundation are announcing a crowdsourced fundraiser to provide much-needed relief, focused on serving Black and Indigenous survivors and communities of color.

The Futures Without Violence [Domestic Violence Response Fund](#), a crowdsourced fundraiser, was created with a \$500,000 donation from The Allstate Foundation, which hopes to inspire others to give generously, as well. The fund aims to raise more than \$1 million by the end of this year to support programs addressing the disproportionate rates of domestic and sexual violence faced by Black, Indigenous and survivors of color both in the US and internationally. Donations will help prevent further abuse by directly supporting survivors with resources, shelters and nearby crisis centers with support from Futures Without Violence and the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women (managed by UN Women).

“Awareness fuels change. Domestic violence usually happens behind closed doors, and we want to do our part to shed more light and hope on the often-invisible issue,” said Francie Schnipke Richards, vice president of The Allstate Foundation. “We hope our donation inspires others to give and help survivors break free, especially in today’s difficult environment.”

The Allstate Foundation has been a leader and advocate to end domestic violence, investing \$70M over the past 15 years. In 2020 alone, The Allstate Foundation provided nearly \$5 million in funding to domestic violence organizations including more than \$1.5 million in emergency grants to help front-line advocates respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

The [#CallForCourage social media campaign](#) will feature stories from survivors, advocates and celebrities to encourage donations now through the end of December. Amy Poehler’s Smart Girls – an award-winning female empowerment organization – is the social partner for the fund. “Futures Without Violence is supporting vital programs to counter the surge in domestic violence linked to the pandemic and directed at women and girls. Together, we can make a difference by spreading awareness and donating to the DVRF,” said Amy Poehler.

“Home is not a safe place for everyone, and for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse, more time at home during the pandemic means more time isolated with an abuser,” said Lauren



Godfrey, Board of Directors, Futures Without Violence. “We continue to see domestic violence increase around the globe due to economic pressure, stress and isolation. Together, we can help strengthen and secure pathways for hope and safety to survivors.”

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ABOUT FUTURES WITHOUT VIOLENCE:

For more than 30 years, [FUTURES](#) has been providing groundbreaking programs, policies and campaigns that empower individuals and organizations working to end violence against women and children around the world. Striving to reach new audiences and transform social norms, FUTURES trains professionals such as doctors, nurses, judges and athletic coaches on improving responses to violence and abuse. FUTURES also works with advocates, policymakers and others to build sustainable community leadership and educate people everywhere about the importance of respect and healthy relationships.

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ABOUT THE ALLSTATE FOUNDATION:

[The Allstate Foundation](#) accelerates positive change by empowering and educating the most vulnerable, inspiring today's visionaries and promoting community leadership. Since 2005, The Allstate Foundation has invested more than \$70 million to help empower nearly 2 million domestic violence survivors with education and tools to achieve financial independence and build a life free from abuse.

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