

Need A Reason To Clean Out Your Closet? Recycling Programs Can Add Incentive

(NAPSA)—Cleaning out a closet takes a lot of work and is often the last way you'd want to spend an afternoon. However, there are many worthwhile reasons to clean out that closet, storage area or junk drawer that's been plaguing you. Consider this: each unneeded item in that closet could potentially help the needy, protect the environment and even save a life.

For example, one item commonly found in a closet is an old wireless phone. That trusty phone was at your side for months or years. You laughed and cried on that phone and it may have even saved the day when you had a flat tire or needed directions. You've upgraded, but because of all the good times, it's hard to just throw it away. Luckily, with Verizon Wireless' HopeLineSM program, no-longer-used wireless phones can find another life, helping the community and the environment.

HopeLine collects old wireless phones and accessories—such as the battery and charger—from customers of any carrier and recycles, refurbishes or sells them with all proceeds benefiting victims of domestic violence. Your phone will be even more valuable in the hands of a domestic violence victim, who will be given the phone plus free airtime for use in emergency situations or to help find housing or a job. Or the phone's parts will be sold, generating funds for important programs at local domestic violence shelters or advocacy organizations.

Here's what one HopeLine participant said about the program: "Having phones available for victims offers them a sense of safety and security they might not other-



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wise have. Knowing I can give them a phone when they request one or need one makes me feel they are more protected."

An environmentally friendly bonus of HopeLine is that the old phone will not add to the nation's landfills. In fact, as one of the industry's longest recycling efforts, the program has collected more than two million phones to date—diverting approximately 400 tons of material from landfills.

It's easy to take part in HopeLine. Wireless phones and equipment donations from any wireless carrier can be donated at any Verizon Wireless Communications Store. For additional information on how to donate, you can visit www.verizonwireless.com/hopeline.

The Verizon Wireless HopeLine program is just one example of the social and environmental reasons to get cracking on that closet. It will feel good to get organized, and your community will thank you.