

noteworthy trends

Used Phones Are Helping To Prevent Violence

(NAPSA)—Thanks to a well-known retailer, discarded wireless phones are becoming a lifeline for women at risk.

The Donate a Phone program collects used wireless phones, refurbishes them and gives them to women's shelters, law enforcement agencies and other organizations working to fight domestic violence. The phones are preprogrammed with 911 and other emergency numbers so domestic violence victims can immediately access help through local emergency services and domestic hotline numbers at the touch of a button.

To support this effort, RadioShack, the country's largest consumer electronic retailer, has offered its 7,100 stores nationwide to serve as collection sites for donated wireless phones and accessories from now through July 31.

Serving in the same capacity last year, RadioShack collected 52,000 phones. Any wireless phone in any condition or age will be accepted through the program. Customers can bring their wireless phones to their RadioShack store, and an associate will provide a receipt for a tax-deductible donation to the Wireless Foundation.

"We are thrilled that RadioShack customers are rallying behind this effort to put thousands of wireless phones into the hands of people in need," said Laura Moore, senior vice president of public rela-



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During 2000 more than 150,000 wireless phones were donated to help prevent domestic violence.

tions and corporate communications. "These phones will provide a lifeline for victims of domestic violence across the country. I can think of no better way to take advantage of our stores' presence in every neighborhood in America and no better way to serve our communities."

Sponsored by the Wireless Foundation, Motorola and the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Donate a Phone campaign was launched to collect and refurbish a portion of the estimated 24 million phones that are no longer being used. During the past two years, individuals and organizations donated more than 300,000 wireless phones to the program.

To learn more, visit the site at www.donateaphone.com.