



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

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Justice Department Honors Mary Kay Inc. For Helping Domestic Violence Victims

WASHINGTON—The Department of Justice will recognize Mary Kay Inc. with the Allied Professional Award for extraordinary efforts to provide services and support to domestic violence victims, during the National Crime Victims' Rights Service Awards ceremony Tuesday, April 21, in Washington, D.C.

In 1996, knowing some of her independent beauty consultants suffered from domestic abuse, Mary Kay Ash launched the The Mary Kay FoundationSM. The foundation, whose mission includes ending domestic violence, today awards \$3 million in grants each year to women's shelters across the United States.

Through its "Don't Look Away" campaign, Mary Kay Inc. offers domestic violence education and prevention advice to the communities it serves. Mary Kay Inc. is the lead sponsor of the "loveisrespect" text-for-help helpline, which provides support on healthy dating and relationships to young people nationwide. Mary Kay Inc. also built 20 "Nature Explore Classrooms," or healing gardens, at women's shelters across the country. Through a partnership with Alpha Chi Omega, Mary Kay Inc. provides education and prevention tools to campus communities across the U.S.

At the April 21 ceremony the Justice Department will also recognize 11 other individuals and programs for their outstanding efforts on behalf of crime victims. Descriptions of the honorees are available at the Office for Victims of Crime's Gallery:
<https://ovcnvrvw.ncjrs.gov/Awards/AwardGallery/gallerysearch.html>.

The Department's Office for Victims of Crime leads communities across the country in observing National Crime Victims' Rights Week and hosts an award ceremony each year. President Reagan proclaimed the first Victims' Rights Week in 1981, calling for greater sensitivity to the rights and needs of victims. This year's observance takes place April 19-25, with the theme *Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.*

(MORE)

About the Office of Justice Programs (OJP)

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP), headed by Assistant Attorney General Karol V. Mason, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice and assist victims. OJP has six components: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking. More information about OJP can be found at www.ojp.gov.

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