



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
EDMUND G BROWN JR., Governor

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Responding to Teen Dating Violence

Sacramento, CA – The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) would like to remind everyone that February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Across this nation, nearly 1.5 million high school students experience physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year, demonstrating that this is a significant issue that we must all pay close attention to. Teen dating violence is similar to intimate partner violence between two adults and may include: physical abuse, psychological/emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and stalking.

Unfortunately, most teens do not report the crime to an adult such as a parent, teacher or law enforcement officer because of fear or a misconception by teens that it is normal behavior. “Parents play a vital role in the prevention of teen dating violence by modeling a positive relationship,” says Dr. James Kent, CalVCP Departmental Staff Psychologist. “Their children are more likely to engage in healthy relationships as teenagers. Conversely, unhealthy relationships between parents often cultivate an impression with children that it is ‘normal’ to be abusive or stay in a violent relationship.”

If you or someone you know is experiencing teen dating violence, [the California Victim Compensation Program \(CalVCP\)](#) may them pay for expenses such as medical and dental treatments, mental health services, relocation, and income loss, as well as other qualifying expenses.

For more information about Teen Dating Violence and resources, please visit:

- [Love is Respect](#)
- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [La Casa De Las Madres](#)

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The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) provides compensation for victims of violent crime who are injured or threatened with injury. Among the crimes covered are domestic violence, child abuse, sexual and physical assault, homicide, robbery, and vehicular manslaughter. Last fiscal year, the program assisted more than 600 individuals each week, and provided nearly \$62 million in compensation to crime victims.

If a person meets eligibility criteria, CalVCP will compensate many types of services when the costs are not covered by other sources. Eligible services include medical and dental care, mental health services, income loss, funeral

expenses, rehabilitation and relocation. Funding for CalVCP comes from restitution fines and orders, penalty assessments levied on persons convicted of crimes and traffic offenses, and matching federal funds.

For more information about victims' rights and services, visit CalVCP at calvcp.ca.gov.