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Child Abuse Prevention Services Receives \$20,000 Grant from Verizon to Support Internet Safety Education Programs on Long Island

ROSLYN, NY: Child Abuse Prevention Services (CAPS), Long Island's leading violence prevention and child safety education not-for-profit was recently awarded a \$20,000 grant from Verizon Foundation to support CAPS' Internet safety programs that are offered to Nassau and Suffolk county students at no cost to their schools. *SurfSafe!* for grades 6 through 9, and CAPS' new program *CyberSmartz* for 5th grade students teach students the skills they need to stay safe online.

"One of Verizon Foundation's primary areas of focus is Internet safety, as is CAPS', and we applaud them for recognizing the need to help children and adults understand how to use the technology of the Internet safely," said Alane Fagin, Executive Director.

SurfSafe! focuses on cyber-bullying, online sexual exploitation and other Web-based threats to children. *CyberSmartz*, a new program for 5th grade students, focuses on cyber-bullying and fostering safe, responsible behavior while managing the Internet and other digital technologies. Both are among the many prevention-through-education workshops developed by CAPS that teach school-age children awareness and strategies to keep them safe from harm both in and out of school.

In addition to Internet safety, CAPS developmentally-appropriate prevention workshops, for grades kindergarten through 12, deal with bullying, child abuse and neglect, relational aggression, sexual harassment and date/acquaintance rape prevention. These student programs come at no cost to schools and are presented in small classroom settings and facilitated by CAPS professionally-trained volunteers.

The Verizon Foundation focuses their philanthropic efforts on education, family safety and healthcare, and employee volunteerism, and dedicates their technical, financial and human resources to Long Islanders toward healthier, safer and more productive lives. Since 2000, the Verizon Foundation has invested more than \$400 million in the United States and around the world to help others.

Founded in 1982, the Roslyn-based Child Abuse Prevention Services is Long Island's comprehensive resource center for the prevention of child abuse and neglect, bullying and peer harassment. CAPS is a non-profit organization underwritten by private donations, grants and legislative appropriations. Information about programs, educational materials and volunteer opportunities is available at www.capsli.org, or by calling 516-621-0552 or 631-289-3240.

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PHOTO CAPTION: (l to r) Susan Hayes, Director of Government and External Affairs, Verizon presents Alane Fagin, Executive Director of Child Abuse Prevention Services with a check for \$20,000 to support the non-profit's Internet safety programs for grades 5 through 9.

Working together to keep every child safe from harm.™

Child Abuse Prevention Services (CAPS)

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CAPS is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.