

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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From: Gang Alternatives Program (GAP)  
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**Gang Alternatives Program (GAP)**

*Valero Donates \$20,000.00 to My Gangfree Life® Programs and Academy*

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (November 3, 2014) – Once again, Valero Refinery has stepped up to the plate to continue to support GAP and its Gangfree Life® Programs and Academy! The Gang Alternatives Program (GAP) has been selected as one of the sixteen Los Angeles Harbor Area organizations to receive proceeds from the successful 2014 Valero Texas Open and Benefit for Children Golf Classic, and GAP is a proud recipient of \$20,000.00 of the **\$220,000** total proceeds. Valero is the founder donor of our Gangfree Life® Academy and funds GAP has received will go towards the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gangfree Life® Academy, which is a 3-day, all day training scheduled to be held on January 21<sup>st</sup> through January 23<sup>rd</sup>, our Students With Accessible Training, Mobile Learning Vehicle (SWAT-MLV) and STEP UP! After School Program in Wilmington Park Elementary School.

Valero Refinery has been a front runner in supporting GAP's innovative Gangfree Life® programs and GAP is proud of our partnership with Valero to help keep the GAP *vision* alive by preventing our young people from joining gangs. GAP provides a multi-service programs adopting the "Social-Ecological Model" which is based on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) four-level framework for designing prevention strategies. The Gang Alternatives Program has championed the advancement of over 6,000 children and 25,000 families per year in Los Angeles County by providing them with "best practice" approaches to violence prevention and reducing crime by changing the individual, the family, the community, and the cultural influences to eliminate the base of gang membership by having a generation of young people say "no" to gangs and "yes" to a positive lifestyle. With a presence in nearly one-fourth of the elementary schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District, GAP provides a school-based gang prevention curriculum for 2nd, 4th, and 6th grades. STEP UP! Afterschool Program, a proven effective parent project® and teen education program, and a Summer Youth Employment program. In addition, GAP provides a graffiti abatement program in Los Angeles City and County, bulky item pick up services, and community clean up services and My Gangfree Life® Training and Certification Program.

**About Valero Company**

Valero Energy Corporation is an international manufacturer and marketer of transportations fuels, other petrochemical products and power. Valero operates 15 refineries, 10 ethanol plants, a 50-megawatt wind farm and is one of the largest retail operators with over 6,000 retail and branded wholesale outlets. Valero markets products in 44 U.S. states, Canada, United Kingdom, Ireland and the Caribbean region.

**About The Gang Alternatives Program**

GAP, a 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation, provides services and programs to promote a gangfree lifestyle to young people and their families. Since 1986, GAP's leadership in primary prevention in anti-gang strategy has been instrumental in violence reduction and community rebuilding. Headquartered in Wilmington, California, GAP, the only gang prevention program in Los Angeles focused on keeping elementary school children out of gangs. For more information about Gang Alternatives Program (GAP) events, activities, services, programs, and facilities, go to [www.gangfree.org](http://www.gangfree.org), or contact (310) 519-7233.

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