

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From: Gang Alternatives Program (GAP)
Public & Governmental Affairs
309 W. Opp Street
Wilmington, CA 90744
Contact: SueAnn Ballat
Tel: (310) 519-7233
Email: sueannballat@gangfree.org



Gang Alternatives Program (GAP)

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

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (December 26, 2013) – The Gang Alternatives Program (GAP) has been selected as one of the fourteen Los Angeles Harbor Area organizations to receive proceeds from the successful 2013 Valero Texas Open and Benefit for Children Golf Classic, and GAP is a proud recipient of \$20,000.00 of the **\$250,000** total proceeds. Funds GAP has received will go towards my Gangfree Life® programs and our upcoming Gangfree Life® Academy, which is a 3-day, all day training scheduled to be held on January 29th through January 31st. The Gangfree Life® Academy is the first of its kind to provide specialized certification and training in gang prevention for local and national community liaisons whose roles serves as advocates, educators, mentors, outreach workers, and role models in their communities, and who understand the need of having successful violence prevention programs. Valero Refinery has been a front runner in GAP’s innovative Gangfree Life® programs such as the Students With Accessible Training, Mobile Learning Vehicle (SWAT-MLV), and we are happy that Valero has stepped up to the plate once again as an Academy Founder for our upcoming Gangfree Life® Academy. 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.

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 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, or contact (310) 519-7233.

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