

# October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

## *Recycle a Cell Phone and Help a Woman in Need*



### **San Francisco Department on the Status of Women**

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### **San Francisco Department of the Environment**

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## Commonly Asked Questions About Cell Phone Donations

- ***Are there certain kinds of phones that can be donated? Do you accept any brand of cell phone?***  
All cellular phones, with rechargeable batteries, are accepted for recycling. Phones can be any size, brand, make, model, and they can be in working condition or not.
- ***Do I need to have the charger for the phone?***  
No, you do not need to have the charger.
- ***What happens to my personal data on my cell phone? Do I need to erase my phone book or data such as pictures?***  
It is a good idea to erase your data before donating your cell phone, and we encourage you to terminate your service. You should refer to the product manual or seek assistance from your wireless service provider about clearing your phone's stored information.
- ***What happens to my phone?***  
Phones are sent to a recycling facility where reusable materials, nickel, iron, cadmium, lead and cobalt from the batteries, are reclaimed. All unusable phones are disposed of in accordance with all local and national environmental standards. When cell phones and accessories are in good working order, they may be refurbished and donated back to local non-profits and distributed to women escaping domestic violence situations.
- ***Is my donation tax-deductible?***  
No, but you will be serving the dual purpose of decreasing toxic waste in the environment and helping someone in need. Recycling or donating cell phones helps the environment by saving energy and keeping usable materials out of landfills. The phones also help women with few resources find safety and support when they need it most.