



Armondo Pavone Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas, Safe Place is a program that quickly connects runaway and homeless youth ages 12 to 17 to services, either by reuniting them with family or providing emergency shelter; and

Whereas, since the program inception in 1983, it has grown to include nearly 140 programs nationally, including in King County. More than 15 million youth have been educated through National Safe Place Network's outreach efforts, familiarizing them with the Safe Place sign and providing information about how to seek help in order to stay safe; and

Whereas, more than 359,000 youth have been helped at a Safe Place location or received counseling as a result of Safe Place information received at school; and

Whereas, Safe Place maintains a 24-hour hotline, 1-800-422-TEEN, where youth can directly connect with Safe Place staff and, within one hour, a Safe Place coordinator meets with the youth, assesses the situation, and works with the youth to place them at a shelter or reunite them with parents or guardians; and

Whereas, Friends of Youth and YouthCare have worked in partnership since 2012 to provide Safe Place services for youth in crisis across King County; Metro buses, local businesses, and non-profit organizations are among the over 2,100 places in King County that serve as locations where youth can request assistance and where staff members are trained to respond to youth in need and immediately contact Safe Place; and

Whereas, the success of Safe Place is based on public/private collaborations and King County needs increased numbers of volunteers serving as mentors and positive influences on young people; and

Whereas, increased awareness will encourage more communities to establish Safe Place locations where youth can readily access the help they need; and

Now, therefore, I, Armondo Pavone, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim March 15-21, 2020, to be

National Safe Place Week

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all members of the community to join me in this special observation.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 16th day of March, 2020.

Armondo Pavone, Mayor
City of Renton, Washington

