

## Safe Place® Makes a Difference

After running away from home, Jordan was quickly taken by traffickers to another state. When the traffickers stopped, she recognized a Safe Place sign and was able to ask for help. She was provided a safe location until help arrived. She was taken to the local youth shelter. The police and her parents were contacted. Jordan's parents cried with relief and drove immediately from their home state to pick her up. The youth and parents were grateful to be reunited. The thought of what could have happened to Jordan without Safe Place is terrifying.

Safe Place is a national youth outreach and prevention program for young people under the age of 18 in need of immediate help and safety. During a crisis, youth can enter a Safe Place location with the designated symbol of safety or use TXT 4 HELP. TXT 4 HELP connects youth immediately to a mental health professional via text. Having a safe place for youth to go the first time they leave home or when in crisis prevents the likelihood they will end up "on the streets" or homeless for longer periods of time. A safety net for reaching and connecting to youth in crisis has always been a vital need and it is even more critical now.



## **Youth Served by Safe Place**



Riley (15) met a boy online who told her he would love her and protect her from the family violence in her home. He sold her for money.



Tony (16) shared with his family that he is gay. His father kicked him out of the house and told him not to return.



Rachel (15) was being sexually abused by mom's boyfriend who recently moved into the home. She was scared, depressed, alone, and her grades at school began to decline.



Liam's (14) mom decided to discontinue taking her mental health medication and was making threats to "take care of him". She chased him with a knife until he ran out the door.

## You Make a Difference

The following are just a few ways your gift makes a difference:

- Allows youth who are being trafficked to walk into a Safe Place site and escape their traffickers, receive services, and be connected with family and a safe living environment
- Provides a safe place where youth kicked out of their home can go to access shelter so they do not have to stay on the street or engage in unhealthy behaviors for survival
- Connects a young person hiding at home following an abusive situation to text for immediate help
- Gives a child being bullied on the way home from school a sanctuary and a connection to assistance
- Provides youth in emotional or mental health crisis an immediate, confidential way to connect with a mental health professional without the need for an appointment or insurance by using TXT 4 HELP
- Ensures all youth in crisis have somewhere to go and someone to help

## Give today at www.nationalsafeplace.org/give.

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Learn more about Safe Place and access additional impact stories at www.nationalsafeplace.org/journey-to-safety.