

Dear Friends,

Thank you, the National Safe Place Network and colleagues for the great honor of being recognized for lifetime achievement. Coming from you makes this especially meaningful and humbling, and I am proud to be a member of the RHY field.

When I was starting out in social work and considering a direction for my career, I never thought I would be working with adolescents, but God had other plans for me. I know I was guided to where exactly I needed to be in the world.

As I think back on my career, it is all the people I have met, worked with and served that made it special. I will always remember with fondness and appreciation the youth, families, colleagues and community members I had the good fortune to know and work with. I have always been amazed and inspired with the level of ability, dedication, generosity, and caring shown by those in the RHY field.

I would like to acknowledge two people who were especially influential and supportive of my career. First, Tammy Hopper has been my student, teacher, sounding board, colleague and friend for over 30 years, has inspired me, and has always had my back. The other person I could not have done without, is my wife, Diane. Her unswerving support, patience, sacrifice and love over these 40 plus years has sustained and enriched me.

I move on to the my next chapter in life with confidence the field is in good hands. Thank you all for your continued dedication and care for others. And thank you again for this honor.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Wolf