



Safe Place, Safe Kids, Safe Community



Spring 2007

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Youth In Need is proud to announce its newest Safe Place sites!

- Lindenwood Campus YMCA
- Pattonville Fire Dept. (3 locations)
- Matthias' Lot
- Elm Point Early Childhood Center
- New Frontier Bank (3 locations)
- Commerce Bank – St. Charles
- Sk8 Galaxy
- Burns Family Dentistry
- Delta Center for Independent Living
- South City YMCA
- Carondelet YMCA
- Downtown YMCA
- Monsanto YMCA
- Crider Health Center
- St. Cletus Catholic Church
- Harvester Animal Clinic
- Community Living, Inc.

*Thank you for your commitment to keep
children and teens safe in St. Louis and
St. Charles Counties!*

**If you know of a local business that may
be interested in participating in Project
Safe Place, please contact Jayna Cardetti.**

Contact Information:

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Sk8 Galaxy, one of many new sites in St. Charles, displays its Safe Place sign proudly at the rink's entrance.

**Do you know of any
children or teen groups
that would benefit from
learning about Safe
Place?**

With summer quickly approaching, Youth In Need is trying to spread the word about Safe Place to young people through venues outside of school. **Please contact Jayna Cardetti if you know of any summer programs, camps, organizations or groups** that may benefit from Safe Place information. A Safe Place presentation includes:

- A video
- Age-appropriate activities
- Safe Place promotional items
- Discussion of Safe Place and why a young person may need it.



RECYCLING UPDATE

With your help, Youth In Need has raised \$234.00 for Project Safe Place through recycling empty ink-jet and toner cartridges. **Thank you** to the 19 businesses who have agreed to recycle on behalf of Safe Place. If you are interested in participating in Safe Place ink cartridge recycling, please contact Jayna Cardetti to receive your **postage-paid** recycling boxes.

Turn YOUR trash into OUR treasure!

National Safe Place statistics as of April 1, 2007

98,181 youth have been connected to immediate help and safety at Safe Place locations.

15,694 Safe Place sites are available across the country.

104,609 youth have received counseling by phone as a result of Safe Place school outreach.

141 Safe Place programs are operated by youth service agencies.

There are **40** Safe Place states.

714 communities are served by Safe Place.

4,561,244 students learned about Safe Place through classroom presentations.

FAST FACTS:

- 1.35 million U.S. children are homeless on any given night.
- It is estimated that 29,000 people in St. Louis experience homelessness during a calendar year.
- The average homeless person is 9-years-old.
- From 1998-2001, homelessness in Missouri increased by 42%.

Tips for Parents and Caring Adults:

- The best way to prevent a youth from feeling alone, isolated and insecure is to spend time with your youth and listen.
- Give your children your full attention when they need to talk. Put down the paper, turn off the TV and let dinner wait. Make your responsiveness a top priority.
- Take your children seriously. Don't dismiss their worries or fears.
- Model a respectful way of communicating that you would like for your teen to use with you.
- When discussing touchy issues (dating, driving, curfews), try to remain calm.
- Confront trouble directly, firmly and calmly. Remain firm on central values (such as no drug use) while bending on less critical issues (hair or clothing). Your teen will stop confiding in you if you are constantly judging his or her behavior.
- Permit expressions of ideas even if they are different from your own.
- Try not to take your teen's mood swings too personally.
- If you are worried about something you think or feel may be going on with your youth, talk with teachers and parents of their friends. They may have helpful observations and insights.