# **Get Help Now**

#### **Txt 4 Help**

Find a place with the Safe Place sign or send a text message:

SAFE PLACE

To: 4HELP (44357) Text: SAFE, your current address, city, and state.

An automated reply system will provide the closest Safe Place location and the option to text interactively with a trained counselor.

For immediate help, you may call: Oʻahu – 808.999.SAFE (7233) Hawai'i - 808.959.5855

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Hale Kipa provides opportunities and environments that strengthen and encourage youth, their families and communities to actualize their potential and social responsibility.

Hale Kipa is a multi-service, fully accredited 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency that specializes in working with youth and their families who often have nowhere else to turn. Hale Kipa has served more than 74,000 youth throughout Hawai'i since its beginning in 1970 as a single shelter on O'ahu.

This includes working in partnership with public agencies and private organizations to provide residential, outreach, and foster care services at no cost. With programs that are flexible and responsive to changing needs, Hale Kipa supports youth involved in juvenile justice, behavioral health, education and child welfare. Program goals include stabilizing young people in crisis and helping youth and families build resiliency to experience success in their lives. Services are flexible, free, creative, and determined by the youth's and family's needs.

All persons are treated equitably and without favoritism, subject to limitations imposed by contractual obligations.



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United Way

Hawaii Island United Way





Aloha United Way Kauai United Way

# Program

Safe Place



#### For Youth ... Someplace To Go Someone To Help

#### What is Safe Place?

Safe Place is a national youth outreach and prevention program for young people in need of immediate help and safety. Hale Kipa's sites are part of more than 22,000 locations across the U.S. displaying the yellow and black Safe Place sign, making help readily available.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

This program is available to youth aged 17 and under.

#### How Safe Place Works

- A young person enters a Safe Place location and asks for help.
- The site employee finds a comfortable place for the youth to wait while they call the local Safe Place agency.
- A Safe Place representative arrives to talk with the youth and, if necessary, provide transportation to the shelter agency.
- Once at the agency, counselors meet with the youth and provide support. Agency staff makes sure the youth and their families receive the help and professional services they need.

## The Need Just a Glimpse

- According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness – Each year, an estimated 4.2 million children and youth experience unstable housing or lack of shelter.
- According to the National Reporting System – On any given night, approximately 41,000 youth between the ages of 13 and 25 have no safe place to sleep.
- According to the Chapin Hall report "Voices of Youth Count" – 1 in 30 adolescents and 1 in 10 older youth will experience homelessness each year.
- According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation – The risk of all forms of exploitation have increased in the last 10 years with specific increases in exploitation, such as sextortion, leading to increases in suicide ideation among adolescents.
- In the most recent published data from Polaris, 42% of individuals brought into trafficking were trafficked by a member of their family.
- Youth who have accessed help via the Safe Place program present with issues of bullying, mental health needs, family problems, homelessness, trafficking, and others.

# Safe Place: Building a Safety Net for Youth

The success of the Safe Place program depends upon support from the community as a whole, from businesses and government leaders to nonprofit organizations and individuals. Get involved and help strengthen the safety net for youth in our community.

#### How to Help

Expand the Safe Place network by supporting the development of Safe Place in your community.

- Designate your business or organization as a Safe Place where youth can get help fast.
- Support Opportunities to educate youth in your community about Safe Place.
- Partner with your local youth service agency that provides Safe Place services.

#### The need exists everywhere – at every moment

For more information on how to become a Safe Place site, call:

Oʻahu – 808.999.SAFE (7233)

Hawaiʻi – 808.959.5855





Pages 1 and 2 of this PDF can be printed on both sides of one 8-1/2" x 11" sheet of paper and folded into thirds to form a brochure.

