

News Release

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Friends of Youth Reopens its Kenmore Emergency Shelter

Redmond, Wash. – Bradley, 13, is a victim of domestic violence. His mother's boyfriend, Joe, was afflicted with alcoholism and often battered his mother. When Bradley's mother decided to get away from Joe for Bradley's sake, she found that she had little money and very few options for places to go. Bradley's school counselor found out about the problems his family was facing and introduced Friends of Youth to them. Friends of Youth then arranged a placement for Bradley at its confidential shelter called Youth Haven. Through the Youth Haven services, Bradley re-gained confidence in the relationship with his mother and positive attitudes toward life.

To help out more youth like Bradley, Friends of Youth reopened its confidential shelter in Kenmore, Wash., on Jan. 29th. The Youth Haven Kenmore facility, formerly known as Joshua House, provides a temporary living alternative to male youth in times of family crisis. Young men age 11-17 may stay at the shelter for up to 30 days. Youth Haven counselors and case managers assist youth and their families in learning positive family values and working toward family reconciliation. While staying at the shelter, the youth continues to attend school and participate in social activities.

Youth Haven Kenmore was closed for about a year because of relicensing. The site services are free of charge. Male youth seeking an emergency shelter may call the 24-hour intake line at (206) 236-5437. The intake line connects these callers with trained staff who evaluates the callers' eligibilities for shelter placement or makes referrals, when appropriate, to other programs.

About Friends of Youth:

Friends of Youth is a non-profit agency dedicated to supporting youth and their families in King and Snohomish counties. Friends of Youth provides a broad range of services to improve its clients' emotional stability and self-sufficiency, including homeless shelters, transitional housing, outreach, mental health counseling, and substance abuse prevention and treatment. For more information, visit www.friendsofyouth.org, or phone (425) 869-6490.

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