



Jason, age 14, saw a Safe Place sign in the window of his neighborhood community center. Jason and his mother had recently rejoined his father after years of living apart. Instead of a loving family environment, there were numerous arguments and threats of violence as formerly independent lives came together. Jason didn't want to be at home anymore, yet he didn't want to leave his mother. Once he entered the Safe Place, staff called Kids in Crisis to help Jason.

Believing that education and prevention can help avert a crisis, Kids in Crisis launched its first prevention program 10 years ago with the introduction of the SafeTalk program for school age children. An anti-bullying, anti-violence program that brings together parents, educators and trained volunteers, SafeTalk teaches youngsters how to recognize dangerous behaviors, including physical, verbal and sexual abuse, bullying, and “stranger danger.” Based on a program developed by the National Center for Abuse and Prevention, the Kids in Crisis SafeTalk program has been presented to more than 47,600 students in grades K-5.

For older children, Kids in Crisis provides Safe Place, a national program that reaches out to youth who find themselves in the community when a crisis develops. A unique combination of municipal departments, local businesses, public safety locations and neighborhood centers currently serve as Safe Place sites, affording children safety and help right around the corner. ■



There are currently more than 16,700 Safe Place venues nationwide, including 208 Safe Place sites operated in conjunction with Kids in Crisis.

