

WHEREAS, the youth of Stillwater will determine the future strength of our country and be the bearers of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, youth need a safe haven from various negative influences such as child abuse, substance abuse, depression, and crime, and youth need readily available resources to assist them when faced with circumstances that compromise their safety; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Place program must meet performance standards, relative to outreach and community relations, to receive direct federal assistance as set forth in the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the Safe Place program at Payne County Youth Services is committed to protecting the youth of Stillwater by offering short-term houses at neighborhood locations where trained volunteers are available to counsel and advise young people seeking assistance and guidance; and

WHEREAS, designated locations where youth can get information and immediate care, Safe Place is found at businesses such as restaurants, convenience stores, movie theaters, and community buildings such as fire stations, libraries and community centers; and

WHEREAS, the success of Safe Place is based on public/private collaborations between businesses, school systems, fire departments, law enforcement, and a network of volunteers ;and Stillwater needs increased numbers of community volunteers serving as mentors and positive influences on young people.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the week of March 19-25, 2017 is officially proclaimed as:

“NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK”

in the City of Stillwater, and citizens and interested groups are encouraged to promote awareness of, and volunteer involvement in the Safe Place program to establish locations where youth can readily access the help they need and observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Stillwater to be affixed this 20th day of March, 2017.

GINA J. NOBLE, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
ELIZABETH CHRZ, CITY CLERK