

## Senate Resolution 17

By: Senators Miller of the 49th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Watson of the 1st, Black of the 8th, Kirk of the 13th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Youth Villages Georgia and recognizing January 15, 2019, as Youth Villages  
2 Georgia Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Youth Villages Georgia is a nonprofit organization which provided mental and  
4 behavioral health services to 461 children, families, and young people in 2018; and

5 WHEREAS, nationally, Youth Villages works to better the lives of more than 27,000  
6 children, families, and young people in 16 states through effective, evidence informed  
7 programs; and

8 WHEREAS, Youth Villages began its work in Georgia in 2008, helping children involved  
9 in the *Kenny A* consent decree and working with vulnerable children and youth who often  
10 wind up in state custody; and

11 WHEREAS, the mission of Youth Villages is to help children and families live successfully,  
12 and the organization adheres to its values, which include "kids' needs come first . . . always,"  
13 believing that every child should have a chance to reach his or her full potential; and

14 WHEREAS, this organization adheres to its belief that strengthening and restoring families  
15 helps children grow up in safe, nurturing homes which in turn results in safer neighborhoods  
16 and better communities for everyone; and

17 WHEREAS, Youth Villages serves children and their families through its Inner Harbour  
18 Campus, a psychiatric residential treatment facility in Douglasville, and serves children and  
19 their families in the community through its YVIntercept intensive in-home program in the  
20 metro Atlanta area; and

21 WHEREAS, this organization is also committed to helping transition-age foster youth  
22 become successful, independent adults and offers its YVLifeSet program to help young  
23 people in the metro Atlanta area; and

24 WHEREAS, Youth Villages partners with the Departments of Behavioral Health and  
25 Developmental Disabilities, Community Health, Education, Human Services, and Juvenile  
26 Justice to serve Georgia's children and families; and

27 WHEREAS, Youth Villages' YVIntercept and YVLifeSet programs have become national  
28 models for helping children, families, and young people in the most effective and  
29 cost-efficient way with consistent success rates of more than 80 percent; and

30 WHEREAS, Youth Villages has earned its status as one of the nation's most promising  
31 results oriented nonprofits, as recognized by Harvard Business School, *U.S. News & World*  
32 *Report*, and the White House; and

33 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
34 distinguished organization, its staff, and its volunteers be appropriately recognized for their  
35 dedication and work to better the lives of Georgia's children, youth, and families.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
37 extend a warm greeting to Youth Villages Georgia, its staff, and its volunteers; convey their  
38 heartiest commendation for its past, present, and future work on behalf of children, youth,  
39 and families in this state and throughout our nation; and recognize January 15, 2019, as  
40 Youth Villages Georgia Day at the state capitol.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
42 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Youth Villages  
43 Georgia.