

2020 SESSION

INTRODUCED

20105484D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 214

Offered February 10, 2020

Commending Team Teens See Tomorrow.

Patrons—Delaney, Cole, M.L., Hope and Reid; Senators: Bell and Howell

WHEREAS, Team Teens See Tomorrow, a group of students from Chantilly High School working to bring an end to teen suicide, participated in the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Out of the Darkness Community Walk in Fairfax County in 2018; and

WHEREAS, after their involvement in the 2017 Out of the Darkness Community Walk, students Megan Sweeney and Austin Sponheimer started Team Teens See Tomorrow to support the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's efforts; and

WHEREAS, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) was founded in 1987 with the aim to support scientific research, education initiatives, and public policy advocacy that will combat teen suicide, a leading cause of death among young people that has become an even greater problem in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the Out of the Darkness Community Walks are one of AFSP's major events, annually drawing over 250,000 participants from 400 communities across all 50 states and greatly increasing the visibility of the problem of teen suicide; and

WHEREAS, recruiting several students to participate in and fundraise for the 2018 Out of the Darkness Community Walk, Team Teens See Tomorrow made great strides toward improving community awareness of this public health issue in a county that suffered 19 suicides among its youth in 2014 alone; and

WHEREAS, Team Teens See Tomorrow pursued their fundraising goal of \$2,000 in several ways, including a page on AFSP's donor drive website; a store on the online marketplace Etsy; and an event at the Chipotle in Fair Lakes Center; and

WHEREAS, through their hard work, determination, and passion for their cause, the members of Team Teens See Tomorrow provide hope for countless individuals and are an inspiration to all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Team Teens See Tomorrow, a group of students at Chantilly High School striving to end teen suicide, for supporting the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's 2018 Out of the Darkness Community Walk; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Team Teens See Tomorrow as an expression of the General Assembly's heartfelt admiration for their efforts and best wishes for their success.

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