



# PRESS RELEASE

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Parks & Recreation

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Columbia to Host National Youth Violence Prevention Week Youth Symposium**

In recognition of National Youth Violence Prevention Week, the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and the Columbia Police Department will host a Youth Symposium to bring the community together in the fight against youth violence.

National Youth Violence Prevention Week, which is recognized as April 8-12, 2019, was created to raise awareness and educate students, teachers, school administrators and staff, school resource officers, parents and the public about effective ways to prevent and reduce youth violence.

The following event is free and open to the public:

#### **Schedule of Events**

##### **Wednesday, April 10, 2019**

##### **Youth Symposium: "What I Want to Say Is.."**

6-8 p.m. | Busby Street Community Center, 1735 Busby Street

Join us for an informative night focusing on the dangers of social media, depression, bullying and sex trafficking.

#### **Youth Symposium Sessions**

- Adult Session: This session will focus on how parents or guardians can handle issues of bullying, discipline, a child's mental health and more.

- Youth Session: This session is an opportunity for youth to have an honest discussion on bullying, the dangers of social media or any issue they are experiencing.

Youth, adults, parents, mentors and youth leaders are encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.

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