



DIGITAL FRONTLINE

An illustration of a young woman with long brown hair, wearing a green t-shirt, blue shorts, and red high-heeled shoes. She is holding a mobile phone to her ear and looking thoughtful.

Greetings from NRS

Dear Friends,

For more than 52 years, the National Runaway Safeline (NRS) has been responding to youth and families in crisis. We've grown from a hotline serving youth in the Chicago area to a national organization that provides critical services to youth and families 24/7 and offers prevention and education programming for service providers, youth and the general public. Throughout the years, our board of directors has helped guide and build the organization.

It is with great pride that I announce our newly elected Board Chair, Melanie Hill. She joined the NRS Board of Directors in 2017, and in 2021 she was appointed to the Executive Committee and served as Secretary. Melanie brings to her new role a passion for helping youth as well as professional expertise in marketing, branding and strategic partnerships. Melanie earned an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and an undergraduate degree from Stanford University and is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, a historically African American sorority dedicated to public service.

Melanie is stepping into the role of Board Chair at an exciting time. We are only days away from launching National Runaway Prevention Month (NRPM) on November 1st. With support from more than 150 partner organizations and nearly 40 Youth Ambassadors, we anticipate this year's campaign will "shine a light" brightly on the issues facing vulnerable youth today.

NRS is planning several activities and events during November, such as panel discussions in Atlanta, Dallas, and Chicago, webinars focused on the how NRPM drives community change and the impact of technology on youth and their mental health and more. Please check out the calendar of [**national events**](#) and join us for any or all of them.

We look forward to seeing your Wear Green Day (Nov. 16) photos on social media and engaging with you during the social media live chat on Nov. 21.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Frankel".

Susan Frankel
Chief Executive Officer

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NRS

National Runaway Prevention Month Is Almost Here! It's Not Too Late to Get Involved, Take Action & Make a Difference



We are truly grateful to the nearly 200 organizations and individuals, including young people, who have committed to spreading awareness during National Runaway Prevention Month (NRPM) by registering as an [NRPM Partner](#) or [Youth Ambassador](#).

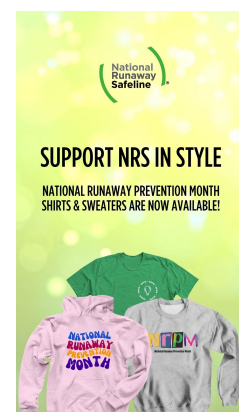
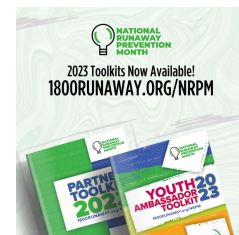
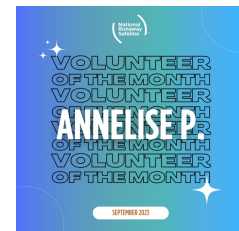
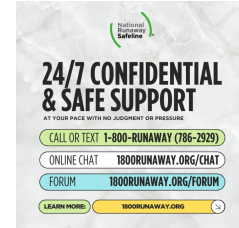
Since August, we have hosted 5 Partner calls, which you can [review here](#), and 3 Youth Ambassador calls, aimed at maximizing engagement and establishing consistent messaging on social media, during NRPM events and through media coverage. Several partners have also successfully secured monuments to be lit in green throughout November, including Nashville's Koreans Veterans Memorial bridge, Niagara Falls, and Chicago's iconic Willis tower!

To make participating in NRPM as easy as possible, we have launched several informative and fun resources, such as toolkits, templates and dozens of social media graphics!

It's not too late to show you support! In fact, the fun is just getting started. Learn more by visit the [NRPM Home page](#).

You can also support NRPM and NRS simultaneously by purchasing official [NRPM 2023 shirts and sweaters](#)! This year's options are less expensive with more options available for

Top Social Media Posts



youth.

Visit the NRPM Home Page

NRS Blog



As a volunteer, it always feel great to know that you're making a positive impact. It feels even greater to participate hands-on in work you feel passionate about. That's why for Annelise, the September Volunteer of the Month, volunteering at NRS swiftly became one of her most anticipated weekly commitments.

Annelise, currently pursuing her master's degree in nursing at Rush University in Chicago, holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Miami. Her initial involvement with the runaway and homeless youth community materialized through her dedicated volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity. Witnessing the profound resource challenges that many individuals face during her undergraduate years in Miami, Annelise also contributed to a head start program, collaborating with educators to establish criteria aimed at promoting effective learning and communication skills.

Let's Talk Podcast



For the final episode of season 5, we are joined by Ajax Nguyen, member of the NRS Youth Advisory Board and student.

Ajax, who is currently 17, was abandoned in his home in his early teen years. While his father still paid the household bills, he would be gone for long stretches of time, including period of 3 years. When his father was around, he was more often than not physically and verbally abusive. With no other family in the country, and because his father was well known and liked in their community, the department of child protective services decided (on multiple occasions) that it was best for Ajax to remain at home.

In this episode, Ajax discusses his experience with with Child Protective Services, finding help through the McKinney-Vento act, and why he didn't want to pass up the opportunity to join our national Youth Advisory Board.

This episode is now live, and you can [listen here](#) or wherever you stream

Learn more about Annelise and the incredible work she's doing on the NRS Blog.

[Read More Here](#)

podcasts!

[Listen Here](#)

YOUTH IN THE NEWS

[WTOC.com](#)

NRPM Partner Park Place Outreach Youth Emergency Shelter on Morning Break in Savanna, Georgia.

SAVANNAH, Ga. (WTOC) - 4.2 million youth and young adults experience homelessness in the U.S. every year - many of those are runaways.

Savannah's Park Place Outreach Youth Emergency Shelter works to address that issue every day and is hoping to raise awareness to it during National Runaway Prevention Month in November.



[Watch Full News Segment](#)

[YouthToday.org](#)

Villainizing and restricting social media will worsen, not help, youth mental



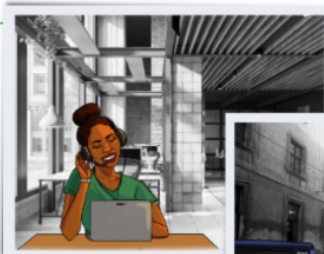
health

The US Surgeon General, along with policymakers around the country, have argued that social media, lacking sufficient safeguards, harms our nation's youth.

In this article, Nia West-Bey, a youth advocate, mom and psychologist, argues that decision-making about social media access must include the voices and leadership of young people, particularly those from marginalized communities.

[Read the Full Article](#)

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