



DIGITAL FRONTLINE

An illustration of a young woman with long brown hair, wearing a green t-shirt, blue shorts, and red boots. She is standing and talking on a mobile phone held to her ear.

Greetings from NRS

Dear Friends,

At the National Runaway Safeline (NRS), we are continually enhancing our programs and resources to better meet the needs of the youth and families that we serve. This can be seen in so much of our work, including the ways we've expanded the criteria for our Home Free program, the development and redesign of our outreach and educational materials, the involvement from our Youth Advisory Board and more.

For many years, our crisis services have been available 24/7 through a toll-free hotline, live chat, email and forum posts. We know from our own research that, in 2022, the majority of people contacted NRS for help via the chat service – with the hotline coming in second. It's clear, however, that texting is a go-to form of communication for youth and young adults, as it allows them to communicate privately and discreetly in real-time.

We are excited to share that we have added LIVE TEXTING capabilities to our crisis services offerings and now youth and families can reach our trained staff and volunteers by texting 1-800-RUNAWAY or 1-800-786-2929 (the same number as our hotline). Live texting is available 24/7, and like all of our other crisis communication platforms, provides access to confidential, non-judgemental support, services and resources. To learn more about or to access any of our crisis services platforms, please visit www.1800RUNAWAY.org.

There are so many ways to get involved with NRS in the coming months, and National Runaway Prevention Month (NRPM) offers something for just about anyone. Please continue reading below to learn more about this critical national awareness and engagement campaign and how you can get involved today!

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Frankel".

Susan Frankel
Chief Executive Officer

Take Action during National Runaway Prevention Month (NRPM)



November is National Runaway Prevention Month (NRPM) -- and the time to start planning your campaign is now! NRS is here to support you and your organization to help ensure you're able to execute fun, interesting and effective events and activities!

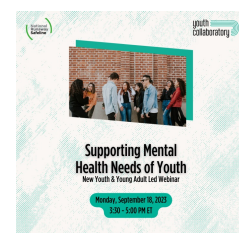
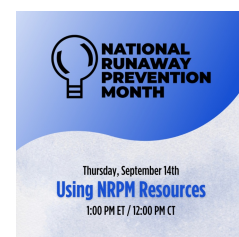
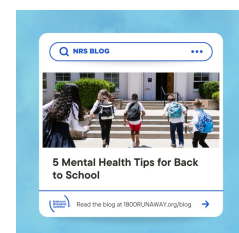
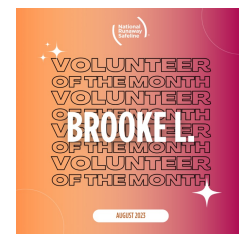
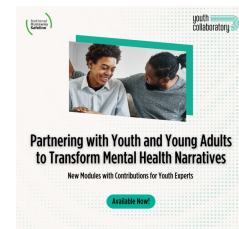
While our NRPM partner and Youth Ambassador program continues to grow, we need more organizations, adults and youth to join together in support of NRPM. Together we can make a bigger impact as we work to increase awareness and educate the public about youth homelessness. Learn more and register as an [NRPM partner here](#) or a [Youth Ambassador here](#).

We have recently uploaded fantastic new resources on the NRPM home page:

- Partner, Youth Ambassador and social media toolkits;
- Sample proclamation request for your city and state officials;
- Sample request for lighting monuments and landmarks in green;
- NRPM themed virtual meeting backgrounds;
- NRPM badges for your website;
- Graphics for the social media blast on November 1st; and
- NRPM Commitment Cards (English and Spanish versions).

Registered NRPM partners and Youth Ambassadors will be the first to know when additional resources are available, such as

Top Social Media Posts



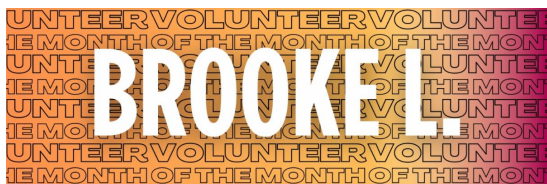
Education Week and National Resource Day graphics.

We look forward to your support this year! Please feel free to contact Christopher Smith, director of marketing and communications, at csmith@1800RUNAWAY.org with questions or for more information.

[Visit the NRPM Home Page](#)



NRS Blog



Volunteering allows individuals to make a positive impact on the lives of others. At the National Runaway Safeline, our volunteers play a crucial role in supporting youth and families in crisis. This month, we are proud to spotlight Brooke, our Volunteer of the Month, who embodies compassion and selflessness.

Brooke says she loves everything about volunteering at NRS; she truly cherishes her interactions with the youth who reach out for help and her fellow volunteers. Her experiences at NRS have taught her that one cannot judge someone based on what they show on the outside. She realizes that empathy is key to understanding the depth of people's experiences and she tries to have an open heart.

[Read More Here](#)

Let's Talk Podcast



EJ Valez and Rachel Litchman, members of the NRS Youth Advisory Board, are both advocates for disabled youth and young people who have experienced homelessness. As changemakers, they often meet with program leaders, policy makers and government officials to facilitate conversations about youth homelessness and how to make meaningful changes. They also contribute to education and training materials, outreach efforts and messaging designed to reach young people who may be experiencing crisis.

In the latest episode of the Let's Talk podcast, which is a second appearance for both EJ and Rachel, they discuss invisible disabilities and struggling to navigate programs and services designed for young people experiencing homelessness. They highlight the unfortunate reality that many of these

services often don't offer equitable access to young people with disabilities.

[Listen Here](#)

YOUTH IN THE NEWS

[PrideSource.com](#)

From Homeless Michigan Teen to City Commission Candidate: Spencer Calhoun's Ultimate Comeback Story

While Calhoun isn't native to Mount Clemens, he is perhaps more passionate about his adopted hometown than most — for good reason. Calhoun was homeless as a teen, and the city welcomed him with open arms. While openly queer politicians are not as rare as they used to be, being out publicly holds particular resonance for Calhoun: He was homeless because he was kicked out for being gay.

At the age of 20, Calhoun would be the youngest member of the current city commission.



[Read the Full Article](#)

[HOUSE.gov](#)
Legislation Introduced to

Foster Success in Education for Youth Experiencing Homelessness and Foster Youth



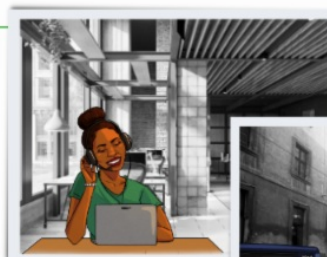
A college degree dramatically increases employment and earnings. Although the vast majority of foster and homeless youth want to attend college, these youth experience multiple challenges (such as financial hardship, housing insecurity, poor academic preparation) that undermine enrollment and completion.

The Fostering Success in Higher Education Act would substantially improve state capacity to assist these students, helping them cover the costs of college and providing robust support and mental health services.

[Read the Full Article](#)

Confidential and judgment-free support, 24/7

1800RUNAWAY.org



If you are in crisis,

Call **1-800-786-2929** | Click 1800RUNAWAY.org

Connect with us



Learn more about us.

Visit NationalRunawaySafeline.org

National Runaway Safeline | 3141B N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, IL 60657

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