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GREETINGS FROM NRS

Dear Friends,

The month of January is designated as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. This is an issue that is critically important, especially given the prevalence of human trafficking among runaway and homeless youth. **Human trafficking refers to the exploitation of individuals through threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud and/or deception.**

Runaway and homeless youth are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking. Youth experiencing homelessness often face difficult decisions in order to meet their most basic needs. Securing food, finding a safe place to sleep and identifying potential sources of income all leave homeless youth vulnerable to exploitation. Once an individual is trafficked, stigma, negative interactions with law enforcement and a fear of re-victimization make it difficult for victims to seek help.

Given the intersection between the youth we serve at the National Runaway Safeline (NRS) and trafficking victims our crisis services team is trained to recognize the signs of trafficking and to provide specialized, trauma-informed assistance and referrals to other local services and resources. Working in partnership with Greyhound Lines, Inc., our Home Free program also provides victims access to free transportation to a safe location.

We encourage you to learn more about human trafficking and its impact on runaway and homeless youth by exploring the following trusted resources:

- **Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB)** - [Human Trafficking Digital Resources and Fact Sheets](#);
- **Polaris** - [Myths, Facts and Statistics](#); and
- **The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)** - [Overview on Child Sex Trafficking](#).

As we continue our work to ensure America's runaway, homeless and at-risk youth are safe and off the streets, we are extremely grateful to have partners and advocates who are equally determined to

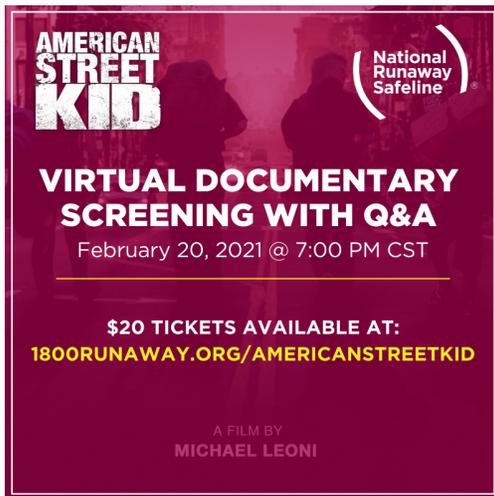
support youth in need throughout the country.

With warm regards,



Susan Frankel
Chief Executive Officer

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NRS?



AMERICAN STREET KID SCREENING AND Q&A February 20, 2021 @ 7:00PM CST

NRS is partnering with the filmmakers of the recently released documentary, [American Street Kid](#), to offer a virtual screening of the film, along with a live, virtual Q&A session with the filmmakers and some of the young people featured in the film.

The critically acclaimed documentary follows homeless youth on the streets of Los Angeles, who converge on the city with the dream of finding a better life. Tickets to watch the film and attend the Q&A session are \$20.

This event is also being offered as part of NRS' "Let's Make a Difference Together" campaign, a series of monthly unique food/drink packages from February to April. To learn more about the this campaign and the specific packages available for purchase, please [click here](#).



HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY Twitter Chat with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

On January 11, the NRS team had the honor of participating in a live Twitter Chat for National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, hosted by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Alongside other organizations working to end trafficking, we were able to share information on how trafficking impacts the youth we serve.

If you missed the live chat, please click on the button below to see the questions posed and our answers. Be sure to follow [@1800RUNAWAY](#) and [@missingkids](#) on Twitter to keep up with us and any future live chats!

[Click Here to Read Our Answers](#)

[Click Here to Purchase Tickets](#)



JOIN THE NRS TEAM

Apply Today!

Are you passionate about the safety of America's youth? NRS is seeking dedicated and qualified candidates to support our mission of keeping runaway, homeless and at-risk youth safe and off the streets.

We currently have openings for the following positions:

- Director of Crisis Services
- Quality Assurance Coordinator
- Prevention & Youth Engagement Coordinator
- Development Coordinator
- Overnight Crisis Services Supervisor

[Click Here to Learn More & Apply](#)



GOOD DAY CHICAGO

INTERVIEW

Earlier this month, CEO Susan Frankel had the opportunity to talk about NRS' services with Fox 32's Brittany Garzillo as part of the morning news program, Good Day Chicago. The interview included a discussion on youth homelessness in Chicago, how the pandemic has impacted youth experiencing homelessness, and how NRS helps youth in need locally and around the country.

Susan was also recently interviewed by WEWS News 5 in Cleveland, and by the 11-year-old YouTube host of the channel, Jalen Says!

We are always grateful for the opportunity to share information about our mission and the work that we do.

[Click Here to Watch the Fox 32 Interview](#)

YOUTH IN THE NEWS



HELPING YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ACCESS STIMULUS PAYMENTS

According to the National Network for Youth and SchoolHouse Connection, cash going directly to youth experiencing homelessness has been shown to significantly help those struggling to stabilize and exit homelessness. One method that has proven effective to get cash directly to young people who need it the most is through Economic Stimulus Payments.

However, there are often barriers facing young people and those helping them access these funds. The tip sheet provided below offers additional information, advice and recommendations for overcoming these barriers and getting needed funds in the hands of youth.

[Download the Tip Sheet](#)



SCHOLARSHIP TO SUPPORT HOMELESS TEENS ATTENDING MASSACHUSETTES COLLEGE

Framingham, MA | "A new government-funded scholarship program will provide dorm beds, meal plans and case management to homeless teens who enroll at Framingham State University or Massachusetts Bay Community College.

This program will target homeless students who have just graduated high school, as opposed to those who've been in college for several years.

'It means struggling students will get a warm hand-off from high school to college,' said MassBay President David Podell."

[Click to Read More](#)

The advertisement features a blue and green background. On the left, the National Runaway Safeline logo is shown, with the text 'Keeping America's runaway, homeless and at-risk youth safe and off the streets.' Below the logo is an illustration of a young man with dark hair, wearing a white shirt and a blue vest, sitting at a desk and working on a laptop. To the right of the illustration, the text 'Here to Listen, Here to Help' is written in a large, white, cursive font. At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a dark blue bar with the text 'If you are in crisis CALL 1-800-786-2929 | CHAT 1800RUNAWAY.org'.

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