

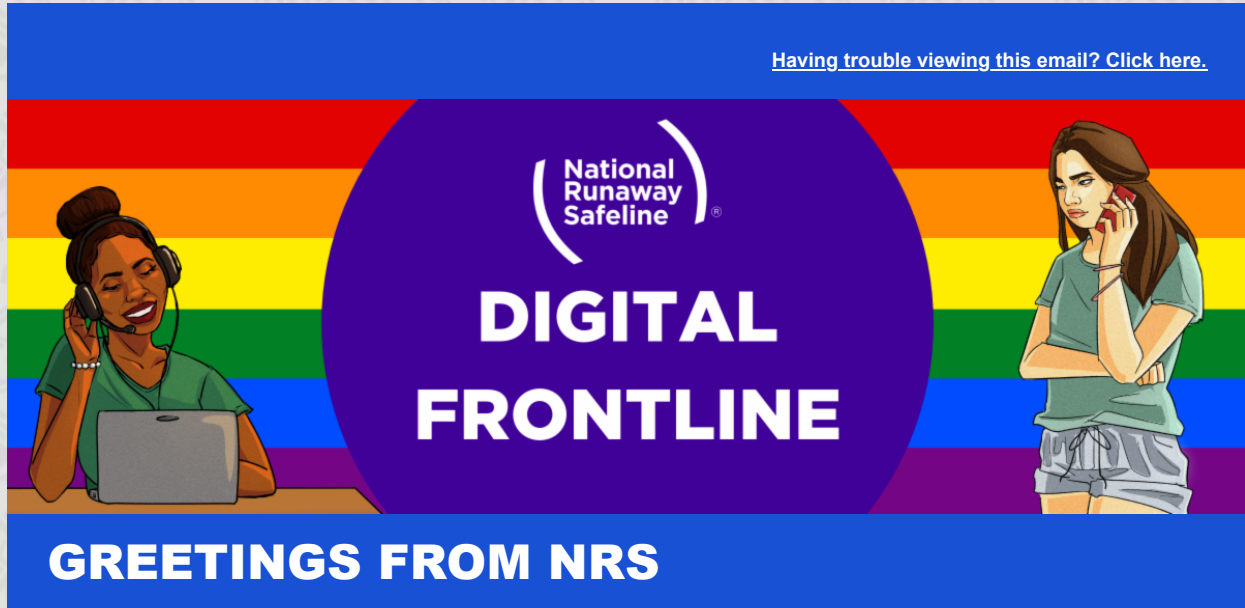
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Dear Friends,

June is Pride Month, an extremely important time for NRS and our mission. A large part of the work we do to end youth homelessness is related to supporting and uplifting LGBTQ+ youth - many young people who reach out to us identify as LGBTQ+, with their reasons for connecting often being related to that identity. While as a society, we have made great strides in fighting discrimination and achieving equality, there remains so much work to be done.

Notably, LGBTQ+ young people experience homelessness at a higher rate and with higher risks than their peers. According to the Chapin Hall brief, [\*Missed Opportunities: LGBTQ Youth Homelessness in America\*](#), LGBTQ+ youth have more than double the risk of becoming homeless compared to non-LGBTQ+ youth. Perhaps even more troubling, LGBTQ+ youth have over twice the rate of early death among youth experiencing homelessness.

While gender and sexuality are not choices that people make, youth often reach out to us at NRS facing issues including housing insecurity, lack of access to food and/or education, and even familial rejection when their identity does not match the vision and expectations of family members.

We must continue to advocate for the basic human rights of, and fight discrimination against, the LGBTQ+ community. It is an essential part of the fight to end youth homelessness.

With warm regards,

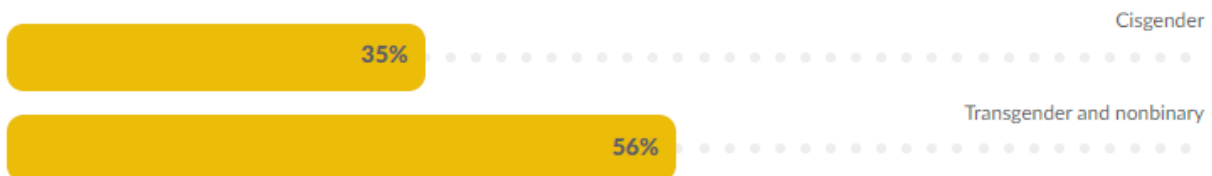
Susan Frankel

Percentage of LGBTQ youth who reported that they were kicked out or ran away due to their LGBTQ identity:

Among kicked out



Among ran away



(Above: from the [2021 Trevor Project National Survey on LGBTQ Mental Health](#))

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NRS?

### PRONOUNS WHY DO THEY MATTER?

(NRS)

### PRONOUNS: WHY DO THEY MATTER?

Last year, over 7% of our crisis calls voluntarily identified themselves as transgender and/or non-binary. In addition, LGBTQ+ issues including discrimination, coming out, being kicked out, etc., were cited over 2,000 times as a reason young people reached out to us. Our services are important to LGBTQ+ young



"I am consistently impressed with the politeness of the majority of the chatters I have connected with. Every 'thank you' or 'have a great day' as a chat is ending leaves me with the sense that they feel like they can move forward with a clearer head. Seems like chatters often just want someone to talk to about what's going on in their life, to be heard."

*Peggy, Volunteer of the Month - June 2021*

### VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

With the NRS volunteer corps back in full force in recent months, we are excited to restart our Volunteer of the Month award. This month, we are so pleased to recognize Peggy for the time and talents she offers our organization and the youth we serve! Peggy is one of our most dedicated volunteers and provides incredible support to young people and their families who

people, and we work 24/7 to provide relevant support and validation.

One important way to empower young people is to respect and use their chosen pronouns. Research shows that when young people feel validated and heard, it can improve mental health outcomes and self-esteem. Read the rest of this blog post to learn why respecting pronouns is so critical and for tips on how to effectively use unfamiliar pronouns.

[Click Here to Read the Full Post](#)

reach out over chat. When asked why she keeps on coming back, Peggy responded:

"I continue to come back and pick up extra shifts in the hope that the connections made with chatters can make a difference. Any situation is important, whether figuring out their current home situation, giving them resource info that may allow them to get the help they need, or getting them home with Home Free. I just keep my fingers crossed that each chatter becomes more empowered than they were when they first reached out to NRS."

Check out the rest of our interview to learn more about Peggy!

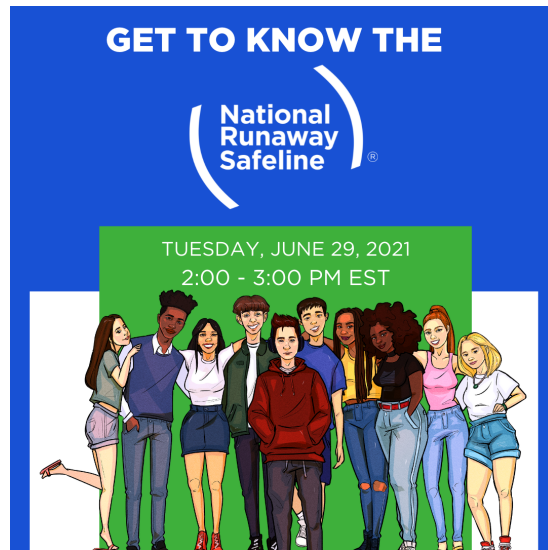
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## RECRUITING FOR THE NRS YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

To align with our organization's vision of eliminating youth homelessness, we recognize the need to uplift, center, and celebrate the voices of young people with lived experience. We are inviting young people who have run away or experienced homelessness to join the NRS Youth Advisory Board.

Our Youth Advisory Board gives young people (18-26) with lived experience a paid platform to advocate for other young people, as well as a chance to be a leading voice in the work that we do. We are currently accepting applications for new Youth Advisory Board members. If this is something you, or a young person you know,



## UPCOMING WEBINAR: GET TO KNOW NRS Tuesday, June 29 @ 2:00pm EST

Are you familiar with NRS, but want to learn more about the support that we offer young people, parents & guardians, and service providers? Join the staff of the National Runaway Safeline for a free webinar as we:

- share how the hotline and digital services support runaway & homeless youth and youth in crisis;
- discuss NRS' prevention services and educational materials;
- share ways your organization can partner with NRS to support your local efforts and the youth you serve; and

are interested in, please contact Maria Taylor at [mtaylor@1800runaway.org](mailto:mtaylor@1800runaway.org). Click the button below to learn more.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

- respond to questions you may have about our services.

[Click Here to Register](#)

## YOUTH IN THE NEWS

More than  
**80%**  
of **LGBTQ** youth  
stated that COVID-19 made  
their living situation more stressful.

PsychCentral | TREVOR



### What the Trevor Project wants us to know about LGBTQ mental health

"...there's nothing inherent about being LGBTQ that raises their risk [of suicide]. The rise in suicidality is solely the blame of society.

'Unfortunately, it's the way LGBTQ youth and LGBTQ people in general are treated by those who are close to them, like rejection from friends and family and other important people in their lives,' [Dr. Amy Green] says.

Green also pointed out that the effects of the hostility on a societal and political level add up, especially for a young person who's still trying to find their place in the world."

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### New York City study will give cash payments to homeless young adults

**New York City, NY** | "New York will become the latest U.S. city to start a pilot giving out monthly cash payments to residents, joining a growing number of others this year that are trying out guaranteed income experiments.

The "Trust Youth Initiative" is targeted at a population with distinct policy needs, and designed with their input, in an attempt to test whether cash improves their housing outcomes."

[Click Here to Read the Full Article](#)





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runaway, homeless  
and at-risk youth safe  
and off the streets.



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Here To Help

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