

The content in this preview is based on the last saved version of your email - any changes made to your email that have not been saved will not be shown in this preview.

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here.](#)



GREETINGS FROM NRS

Dear Friends,

As 2021 quickly comes to an end and we prepare to kick off 2022, it is an important time to reflect on all that we have collectively accomplished as a community serving some of the most vulnerable youth across the country. We have survived the second year of a global pandemic, developing and implementing innovative practices and service systems to ensure that young people experiencing homelessness have the support and access to resources that they need. NRS is grateful to be part of the runaway and homeless youth network, as we know that we are part of a continuum of services and support working day in and day out to keep America's youth safe and off the streets.



I could not be more proud of the growth NRS has experienced throughout 2021, and the dedication and resiliency our team has demonstrated in the face of the COVID-19 global pandemic. The NRS team has worked tirelessly throughout 2021 to positively impact the lives of the young people and families we serve.

Some of our key accomplishments include:

- National Runaway Prevention Month (NRPM) experienced the largest participation to-date with national partners representing nearly every state in the U.S.;
- Executing the most effective national social media campaign focused on engaging young people in the organization's history;
- Launching two new websites:
 - www.1800runaway.org and www.nationalrunawaysafeline.org;
- Hosting a series of essential virtual roundtables and conversations emphasizing the challenges facing youth experiencing homelessness or who have run away and highlighting effective prevention strategies; and
- Growing our Youth Advisory Board (YAB) membership exponentially, emphasizing our commitment to including and elevating the youth voice in all that we do at NRS.

Most importantly, we continued to offer 24/7 crisis services to the young people who need us most, providing help, hope, and connections to the resources needed to improve their situation.

In late 2021, we also kicked off a year-long celebration of our 50th anniversary that will continue throughout 2022. While the scope of our crisis services, referral resources, prevention materials, educational tools and unique programs has grown and evolved extensively since our inception in 1971, the focus of NRS remains the same: offering safety to every young person in America, and, ultimately, ending youth homelessness. We invite you to [learn more about this incredible milestone and join us in celebrating!](#) We also hope that you will consider supporting NRS through a year-end donation as we continue to provide life-saving services and support to hundreds of thousands of kids and families across the country.

I am proud of all we have accomplished in 2021 and look forward to the challenging work we have ahead of us in 2022 to keep America's youth safe and off the streets. I wish you all a very safe, healthy, and happy new year.

With warm regards,



Susan Frankel
Chief Executive Officer

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NRS?

Help NRS End Youth Homelessness with a Year-End Donation



With 2021 quickly coming to a close, there's still time to [support our 50th Anniversary campaign](#) as we look ahead to 2022.

Through the generosity of our friends and supporters, we are over 30% of the way to reaching our \$25,000 fundraising goal, kicking off a year of 50th Anniversary celebrations.

[Join us with a year-end donation today!](#) Your support will allow us to expand our programs and ensure we have all of the tools we need to continue to serve America's at-risk youth and families in our quest to end youth homelessness.

Thank you for your generosity this holiday season!



Youth in Crisis: What the Data is Telling Us

As part of National Runaway Prevention Month, more than 700 people joined representatives from NRS, the Administration on Children and Families (ACF), the Family & Youth Services Bureau (FYSB), and Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago on November 30, 2021 for an important conversation titled, "Youth in Crisis: What the Data is Telling Us."

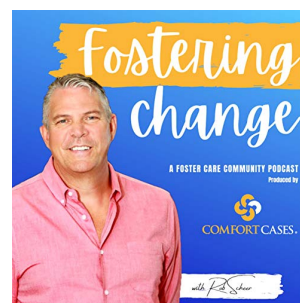
During this virtual discussion, key findings from the [2020 NRS Crisis Services and Prevention Report](#), were shared. The report analyzed a data set pertaining to crisis contacts received by NRS in 2020 and considered the implications of the findings on the prevention and intervention strategies implemented by organizations and agencies serving vulnerable youth. Presenters discussed the needs of youth experiencing homelessness, contemplating running away, or at risk of becoming homeless, and how youth programs, public health providers, schools, child welfare agencies, and communities nationwide can better meet the needs of these youth.

The conversation also focused on the impact of COVID-19 on those served by NRS in 2020. Key data indicating the impact of the pandemic included:

- Contacts skewed younger than in years past;
- Reasons cited for reaching out to NRS aligned with challenges presented by the pandemic; and
- Contacts were more likely than ever to reach out from home.

We invite you to [visit our event webpage](#), where you can view the recording of the November 30th conversation. The full report can be accessed via the link below.

[Click Here to Read the Report](#)



NRS in the Media

The NRS team has had a number of opportunities to share the story of our work with a range of media sources throughout the year. In November, NRS Director of Crisis Services, Jess Jasurda, offered two audio interviews, talking about her role, the organization's mission, the intersections of youth homelessness, human trafficking, and foster care, and much more.

The first of these interviews was with [Lynn's Warriors](#), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and radio show on WVOX 1460 AM, based out of Westchester, New York. The organization is committed to ending human trafficking and sexual exploitation by raising awareness through media and grassroots mobilization, advocacy, education and policy.

The second interview was for the Fostering Change podcast, which shares stories about how communities can come together to bring dignity and hope to children in the foster care system. [Check out the podcast webpage](#) early in the new year, when the interview with Jess Jasurda will be released.

[Click here to listen to the Lynn's Warriors interview](#)

YOUTH IN THE NEWS



Sleepless night under Chicago stars affords time to contemplate youth homelessness

"Snow flurries were falling Thursday evening in East Garfield Park when we arrived at Covenant House, a shelter and resource center for young people experiencing homelessness.

It was one last sign to make me doubt the wisdom of my promise to join the organization's annual Sleep Out Chicago event raising funds for — and awareness about — youth homelessness.

What made me think I could withstand even one night outside in sub-freezing temperatures, even though homeless people do it night after night.

But a commitment is a commitment, and I was foolish enough to publish mine in a newspaper,



How Access to Gender-Affirming Care Can Greatly Boost Mental Health of Trans Teens

"A new peer-reviewed study from researchers at The Trevor Project highlights just how impactful access to gender-affirming hormone therapy (GAHT) can be for transgender and nonbinary youth.

Published today in the Journal of Adolescent Health, the study showed a link between access to GAHT and lower rates of depression, suicidal ideation, and suicide attempts among transgender and nonbinary youth in the United States.

Released during an era when harmful legislation in states throughout the country aim to ban access to this treatment for young people, this research underscores how

so the only thing to do was hope that I'd brought along the proper clothing for sleeping out under the stars on a cold Chicago night."

necessary equity and access to gender-affirming care is, for both the mental health and overall health and well-being of transgender and nonbinary young people...."

[Click to Read the Full Article](#)

[Click to Read the Full Article](#)



If you are in crisis
CALL 1-800-786-2929 | CHAT [1800RUNAWAY.org](https://1800runaway.org)

CONNECT WITH US



LEARN MORE ABOUT US
VISIT nationalrunawaysafeline.org