



DIGITAL FRONTLINE

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

Greetings from NRS

Friends of NRS,

I take great pride in the work we do at the National Runaway Safeline (NRS). When I have opportunities to work directly with youth with lived experience, my commitment to our mission deepens and my hope for the future grows stronger.

In July, we had the amazing opportunity to host nine members of the NRS Youth Advisory Board at NRS' offices in Chicago. These smart, passionate advocates spent two days meeting with federal officials, discussing strategic priorities for NRS' efforts to ensure greater awareness of and access to our 24/7 crisis services, and participated in a meeting with NRS' Board of Directors. I am grateful to this talented group of young leaders for their generosity in sharing their personal experiences and expertise with homelessness, mental health, and family challenges and I am inspired by their strength, commitment, and determination to work together to create a system that not only prevents but ends youth homelessness.

Also, at a recent photo and video shoot in Atlanta, we had the great fortune of working with a small group of young people who were willing to share their personal journeys experiencing homelessness. They are committed to educating the public, service providers, and politicians about the challenges and barriers youth face, and to speaking directly to young people who are seeking help, services, and support. They know the challenges of trying to survive while living on the streets and are determined to change the trajectory for other young people who may be facing similar experiences.

At NRS we remain steadfast in our commitment to incorporating and including youth voices in every level of work. We look forward to continuing to share these stories, effective strategies, and recommendations for success.

With warm regards,

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

Susan Frankel
Chief Executive Officer

NRS Youth Advisory Board Member Honored at Focus 2023 Conference



During Focus 2023, a bi-annual conference hosted by the National Safe Place Network (NSPN), NRS Youth Advisory Board member Rachel Litchman was presented with the Youth in Action Award for her outstanding efforts to make meaningful change at the local, state and national levels.

The NSPN Awards honor youth service professionals, volunteers, and community organizations who work diligently to strengthen youth and families in communities across the country. We nominated Rachel for the Youth in Action Award, which recognizes a young person or a group of young people whose efforts go above and beyond to make a difference in the lives of others. She uses the power of her voice for positive change and responds to issues that are important in her life and community. Earlier this year, we honored Rachel with the National Runaway Safeline's Spotlight Award at our Celebrating the Spirit of Youth event.

[Watch Rachel's Acceptance Speech](#)

Top Social Media Posts



NRS Blog



Let's Talk Podcast



Shelters throughout the country provide safety and protection for people experiencing homelessness. But many struggle to stay fully stocked with popular, essential items and supplies.

Consider donating new (or in some cases, gently used) items to a shelter in your area. With scorching temps of summer spark particular, seasonal needs to keep people comfortable.

Not sure what to donate? We've compiled a list of popular items that shelters typically need during the warm months.

[Read More Here](#)

For the Season 5 premiere of "Let's Talk," we have the good fortune of talking to Jillian Years, a youth homelessness advocate from Georgia. Having left home several times and having been kicked out just as many, today Jillian, 18, lives with her boyfriend and baby, and describes her life as peaceful, happy, and energetic.

In this episode, Jillian shares what motivated her decision making, how judgmental adults and stigma prevented her from seeking help, and why forgiveness is her most powerful tool when processing trauma.

[Listen Here](#)

YOUTH IN THE NEWS

Northwest Public Broadcasting

Youth homelessness in Washington is up, federal program aims to help

More than 37,000 students in Washington state are homeless, according to the most recent report to the legislature from the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

For the Central Valley School District outside Spokane, staff said that number is going up.

[Read the Full Article](#)



Nevada Current

Lack of funding, mental health resources hinder groups working with youth experiencing homelessness



Whether it's an 18-month wait to get resources for youth with developmental disabilities or a lack of investment in homeless prevention services, groups working with youth experiencing homelessness say they face substantial barriers helping vulnerable children.

Providers and nonprofits outlined some of their struggles when it comes to meeting the mental health needs of the vulnerable population at a recent forum put on by the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth.

[Read the Full Article](#)

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