Thank you for joining the National Runaway Switchboard’s Street Team!

The purpose of the Street Team is to raise national awareness of the National Runaway Switchboard’s services, including our 24-hour hotline, 1-800-RUNAWAY, and website, www.1800RUNAWAY.org, through outreach efforts with local youth and parents.

The National Runaway Switchboard (NRS) believes everyone can play a role in accomplishing NRS’ mission: to keep America’s runaway and at-risk youth safe and off the streets.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What do I do now?
You’ve received the Street Team starter kit of outreach materials. You can begin to earn points by distributing these materials in your community. Check out the Street Team outreach activities and rewards list for ideas.

Where should I distribute NRS materials?
The target audience for most of NRS’ promotional materials is youth ages 12-21, so the best places to distribute NRS materials are where lots of youth hang out like malls, movie theatres, concerts, festivals, schools, etc. Some businesses have policies against solicitation and material distribution, so be aware of an establishment’s policies before handing out materials.

How do I order more materials?
When you have handed out all the promotional materials in your starter kit you need to update the NRS volunteer coordinator about where and when you distributed materials. After you’ve updated the volunteer coordinator about how you distributed that batch of materials, you can request more promotional materials from the volunteer coordinator. When reordering, you may specify which materials worked best for you and order only those – or you can just re-order another kit.

How many materials can I order?
The maximum order amount for most items is 50. If you would like to order more than the standard amount of an item, please contact the volunteer coordinator and explain the details of the event, who will be attending, and how you will be using the NRS educational materials.

How do I earn points and what can I use my points for?
You can earn points by doing any of the activities on the Street Team Activities list and then updating the volunteer coordinator about your activity. The volunteer coordinator keeps track of your point accumulation; then you can use your points to get fun stuff. Check out what you can get on the Street Team outreach activities and rewards list.

How do I handle media inquiries or donations?
Direct all media to the media portion of the NRS website. Direct all donations to the donation section of the NRS website. Street Team members cannot interview with the media or accept donations on behalf of NRS without permission from NRS staff.

What if someone tries to talk to me about a problem they’re having?
Please ask them to call 1-800-RUNAWAY where NRS’ front line team of volunteers and staff can provide crisis intervention and refer them to local resources. 1-800-RUNAWAY operates 24 hours a day and is free, confidential and anonymous.

How do I contact the Volunteer Coordinator at NRS?
You can contact the volunteer coordinator by email at streetteam@1800RUNAWAY.org or by phone at 773-289-1726.