

## Chicago-Based National Runaway Safeline Adds New Leadership

*Business and Student Leaders are 2015 Newly-Appointed Board Members*

**CHICAGO (Sept. 25, 2015)**—The Chicago-based [National Runaway Safeline](#) (NRS), the federally designated national communication system for runaway, homeless and at-risk youth, announces the five newest members to serve on its board of directors. The new board members are Cindy Campbell, owner and operator of The Law Offices of Cindy K. Campbell; Kevin Carlson, an executive advisor; Peter Kingma, a principal at Ernst & Young; Ken Lavelle, president of seal operations at Flowserve; and Robert Speed, a junior at Senn High School.

“These new board members bring unique experiences, energy and commitment to supporting the National Runaway Safeline in its mission to keep America’s runaway, homeless and at-risk youth safe and off the streets,” said Maureen Blaha, NRS executive director. “We appreciate and are honored that they will dedicate their time and expertise to increase awareness about the help available and raise funds for the National Runaway Safeline.”

The announcement occurs as NRS prepares for November’s [National Runaway Prevention Month](#), a national public education campaign to raise awareness of the runaway and homeless youth crisis and the issues that these young people face, as well as to educate Americans about solutions and the role they can play in preventing a youth from running or becoming homelessness.

NRS, formerly known as the National Runaway Switchboard, established in 1971, serves as the federally designated national communication system for runaway, homeless and at-risk youth. With the support of more than 150 volunteers, NRS makes more than 250,000 connections to help and hope through hotline (1-800-RUNAWAY), online (1800RUNAWAY.org), texting (66008) and offline resources. NRS provides crisis intervention, referrals to local resources, and education and prevention services to youth, families and community members throughout the country 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. More than 15,000 youth have been reunited with their families through NRS’ [Home Free](#) program done in collaboration with Greyhound Lines, Inc. For more information, visit [1800RUNAWAY.org](#).

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\*Headshots available by emailing [Kwalsh@1800RUNAWAY.org](mailto:Kwalsh@1800RUNAWAY.org)

**Biographical information on new board members:**

**Cindy Campbell** (*Naperville resident*):

Campbell owns and operates The Law Offices of Cindy K. Campbell that focuses on family issues, estate planning, divorce, mediation and adoption. In addition, she is a member of the faculty at Ashford University and Wilbur Wright Community College. She received a bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Northwestern University in 2004 where she also minored in Humanities. In December 2008, Campbell received her Juris Doctor degree from Western State University College of Law in Fullerton, Calif.

**Kevin Carlson** (*Chicago resident*):

Carlson is an executive advisor with focus on business development. His background includes being the CEO of Brill Street and the managing partner at Patina Solutions. He has consistently been a top performer in business development aspects of companies he has worked for. Carlson received his bachelor's degree in management from Minnesota State University Moorhead and completed the executive development program at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.

**Peter Kingma** (*Lakeview resident*):

**Kingma** is a principal at Ernst & Young and leads the working capital practice in the Central Region. He also serves as the executive sponsor of EY Unity, an LGBTQ professional network. Prior to Ernst & Young, Kingma served in positions at REL Consultancy Group, IBM and Accenture. He serves as a board member for LaSalle Street Church. In 1989, he received his Bachelor of Economics degree from Krannert School of Management at Purdue University, where he served on the Board of Trustees.

**Ken Lavelle** (*Edison Park resident*):

**Lavelle** is training to become an NRS frontline team member. He has been with Flowserve since 2004 and has served as the president of seal operations for the past three years. Lavelle graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1978 and received his MBA in Business Management in 2008 from California National University for Advanced Studies.

**Robert Speed** (*Chicago resident*):

Speed has been an NRS volunteer since March 2015. He is a junior at Senn High School and hopes to continue volunteering at NRS throughout the remainder of his high school career. Speed is known to NRS' call center staff as a very compassionate volunteer and always contributes positively to the call center culture. In the future, Speed hopes to become increasingly involved with NRS.

**CONTACT:**

Katy Walsh

Director of Development and Communications

773.289.1727

[Kwalsh@1800RUNAWAY.org](mailto:Kwalsh@1800RUNAWAY.org)