



National Runaway Prevention Month

Sample Proclamation

WHEREAS, National Runaway Prevention Month began in 2002 and is spearheaded each year by the National Runaway Safeline (NRS), the federally designated national communication system for runaway and homeless youth.

WHEREAS, the prevalence of runaway and homelessness among youth is staggering, with studies suggesting that every year, between 1.6 and 2.8 million youth live on the streets of the United States;

WHEREAS, runaway youth are often expelled from their home; have experienced abuse and trauma; are involved in the foster care system; are too poor to secure their own basic needs; and may be ineligible or unable to access adequate medical or mental health resources;

WHEREAS, children and youth who run away are at increased danger for falling into high-risk situations, including increased risk for human trafficking;

WHEREAS, effective programs supporting runaway youth and assisting youth and their families in providing safe and stable homes, succeed because of partnerships created among families, youth-based advocacy organizations, community-based human service agencies, law enforcement, schools, faith-based organizations, and businesses;

WHEREAS, the National Runaway Safeline is sponsoring National Runaway Prevention Month in November to raise awareness of the issues facing runaway and homeless youth, and educate the public about solutions and the role they can play in ending youth homelessness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, (Elected Official), by the authority vested in me by the laws of (governing body), do hereby proclaim the month of November

NATIONAL RUNAWAY PREVENTION MONTH

Across the (city, state nation), I urge all citizens to support the effort to increase public awareness about, advocate on behalf of, and provide positive and safe alternatives to runaway and homeless youth and their families.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of (governing body) this ____ day of _____, in the year of 20__.