CALL TO ACTION: END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Below are a few actions you and your community can take to join our work to end youth homelessness during National Runaway Prevention Month in November and beyond.

NATIONAL ACTION

• Contact your legislators and ask them to support the reauthorization of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA), a bipartisan bill that provides a framework to prevent and respond to youth homelessness. The Act also funds vital programs and resources including Basic Center Programs, Transitional Living Programs, Street Outreach Programs and the National Communication System operated by the National Runaway Safeline.

• Find your local representative and use this sample outreach letter to urge them to support the reauthorization.

REGIONAL ACTION

• Connect and get involved with a local campaign to end youth homelessness. Click here to find your local coalitions and stakeholder groups.

• Connect with your local runaway and homeless youth provider and participate in their National Runaway Prevention Month (NRPM) activities. Click here to find the nearest provider.

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTION

• Utilize the 2019 NRPM Toolkit for planning an event with your organization.

• Sponsor an awareness event or panel presentation with multiple stakeholders to highlight runaway and homeless youth issues.

• Invite community members and officials to learn about and tour your organization.

INDIVIDUAL ACTION

• Share your strengths by volunteering your time, donating money or materials, teaching a class at a youth shelter or at an organization in your area that serves young people.

• Find volunteer opportunities at VolunteerMatch, #GivingTuesday, or Idealist or connect with your local runaway homeless youth program. Click here to find an organization near you.