



Runaway and Homeless Youth Services 2008 Directory

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Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) Runaway and Homeless Youth - DYCD Staff Contact List

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Youthline	New York City Youthline 161 William Street, 8 th Floor New York, NY 10038	www.nyc.gov/dycd	1-800-246-4646

Runaway Homeless Youth Services

The Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), as the Youth Bureau for New York City, supports an integrated and coordinated system of care for the City's RHY population. In 2006, DYCD redesigned the "continuum of care" model covering a broad range of services for runaway and homeless youth. The new model included a Drop-In Center in every borough, revised Street Outreach Services, specialized residential services and expanded shelter options for young people, and improved quality of services through a continuum of care which directed young people to appropriate assessments in Crisis Shelter before entering Transitional Independent Living programs.

Youth become homeless in New York City for a variety of reasons. Many young people run away from their homes as a result of conflict with parents, family members or other people living in the household. Some are rejected by their families because of their sexual orientation, an unplanned pregnancy, problems at school, or their use of drugs and alcohol. Some are subjected to abuse or sexual exploitation, exposed to domestic violence or have substance abusing parents. Some find themselves homeless when they leave detention facilities or age out of foster care. Many have mental health needs. In all cases, however, living on the streets of New York City makes homeless youth vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, including violence and prostitution.

In keeping with the federal Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) of 1978 and current New York State RHYA regulations, DYCD funds programs that are designed to protect runaway and homeless youth and, whenever possible, reunite them with their families. In cases where reunification is not possible, these programs are designed to help youth progress from crisis and transitional care, to independent living. Program activities and experiences are designed to assist youth in becoming healthy, caring, and responsible adults.

To achieve these goals, DYCD's continuum of Runaway and Homeless Youth services includes the following programs:

- **DYCD's Youthline**
- **Drop-In Centers**
- **Transportation Services**
- **Crisis Shelter**
- **Transitional Independent Living Programs**
- **Street Outreach**

For additional information please call Youthline – 1-800-246-4646

DYCD's Youthline

1-800-246-4646, or call 311

Program Overview:

New York City Youthline is an information and referral resource for youth and families to be connected to services and opportunities throughout the City of New York.

Youthline provides callers with information concerning runaway and homeless youth services, after-school programs, training and employment opportunities, community service/volunteer opportunities, high school and post-secondary education, financial literacy and health services.

Information, Resources that are provided but not limited to...	Days/Hours of Operation	Additional Services	NYC Youthline Telephone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Runaway Homeless Youth Services ➤ Training and Employment ➤ Summer Jobs ➤ After School Programs ➤ Literacy Programs ➤ Service Learning Programs 	<p>Monday to Friday</p> <p>9:00 AM - 7:00PM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Staff utilize AT &T's "Language Line" to communicate with callers in 152 different languages ➤ Fully accessible to persons who are hearing impaired through a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD). The phone number is (800) 246-4699 	<p>1-800-246-4646</p> <p>(TDD)1-800-246-4699</p>

- **During off-hours, callers will be referred by voice system to crisis support or shelter for youth under age 21.**

Drop-In Centers

Program Overview:

- Drop-in centers are located in each borough. They provide homeless and at-risk youth and their families with information and access to a variety of services including, food provision, counseling, mediation, educational assistance and referrals to local resources such as health and mental health services and substance abuse treatment. In effect, they are family resource centers, offering support and assistance to youth. There is a licensed Social Worker on staff in all programs.

Program Days/Hours of Operation:

- 7 Days a Week, From- 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Target Population:

- Under 21 years of age

Additional Services:

- Drop-in centers raise public awareness about homelessness through workshop presentations in schools and other venues.
- Drop-in centers also coordinate with all RHY Street Outreach Referral Programs and Crisis Shelter Programs.

Transportation Services

Program Overview:

- The Manhattan Drop-In Center arranges for citywide transportation services. The primary role of this service is to transport youth to and among RHY facilities in accordance with requests from DYCD-funded RHY programs, including Youthline.

Program Hours of Operation:

- 7 Days a Week, From 1:00pm to 9:00pm

Target Population:

- Under 21 years of age

Drop-In Centers

Program Name	Contact Information	Name of Contact Person
SCO Family of Services	89 South 10 th Street Brooklyn, New York 11221 718-384-7083	Nixon Pierre Program Director
Bronx Community Pride Center, Inc www.bronxpride.org	448 East 149 th Street Bronx, New York, 10455 (718) 292-4368	Shawn Coleman ccoleman@bronxpride.org
Safe Horizon	165 West 131 Street, 3 rd Floor New York, New York 10027 (212)695-2220	Bertha Fountain Bfountain@safehorizon.org
Safe Space www.safespaceny.org	89-31 161 st Street Jamaica Queens, New York, 11432 (718) 785-9062	Theresa Wright twright@safespaceny.org
Seaman's Society for Children and Families	50 Bay Street Staten Island, New York, 10301 (718) 447-7740 Ext. 4303	Leigh Fisher Leigh@roots-wings.org

Transportation

Program Name	Contact Information	Name of Contact Person	Days/Hours of Operation	Age
Safe Horizon	(646) 342-9861	Sherlitta McCaskilla Smccaskilla@safehorizon.org	Monday-Sunday 1:00pm-9:00pm	Under 21

Crisis Shelter Services

Program Overview:

- Emergency shelter is a critical component within the continuum of care for runaway and homeless youth and is the entry-point for residential services in DYCD's system. These voluntary, short-term residential programs provide emergency shelter and crisis intervention services with the goal of reuniting youth with their families or, if family reunification is not possible, finding other appropriate transitional and long-term placements for them. Youth will be housed on a short-term basis for up to 30 days, with the possibility to extend for an additional 30 days, pending pre-approval by DYCD. There is a licensed Social Worker on staff in all programs.

Program Days/Hours of Operation:

- 7 Days a Week, 24 Hours a Day

Target Population:

- Under 21 years of age.

Additional Services directly or through referrals to other providers:

- Emergency services, including food, in accordance with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) standards, shelter, and clothing
- Entitlement services
- Intensive counseling for families, individuals and groups
- Medical and mental health care
- Dental care
- HIV testing
- Educational services, including basic skills testing and proficiency exams
- Housing assistance
- Legal assistance
- Recreational activities
- Substance abuse education and prevention
- Transportation services
- Violence intervention and prevention counseling
- ACS referrals, where required
- Family mediation

Crisis Shelters

Program Information	Name of Contact Person	Age	# of Beds
Covenant House New York, Crisis Shelter II (Under 21) 460 West 41 st Street New York, New York 10036 (212) 613-0300 Ext. 0531	E-mail:	16-21	65 (M/F)
Covenant House New York, Crisis Shelter III (Mother/Child) 427 West 52 nd Street New York, New York 10019 (212)613-0300 Ext. 0532	E-mail:	16-21	5 (M/C)
Safe Horizon 165 West 131 Street New York, New York 10027 (212) 268-3943	Liza Zaretsky lzaretsky@safehorizon.org	16-21	6 (F)
Ali Forney Center (LGBTQ) 527 West 22 nd Street, Suite 2C, New York, New York (212) 222-3247	Jama Shelton Shelton@aliforneycenter.org	16-21	12 (M/F)
**The Turning Point - TBA Brooklyn, NY	Not yet certified	16-21	20

** Pending Certification.

Transitional Independent Living (TIL) Programs

Program Overview:

- The goal of Transitional Independent Living Programs (TILS) is to provide older homeless youth with the training and skills necessary to establish a self-supporting, independent life. Youth who cannot be reunited with their families, and will benefit from a supportive environment in which they can become self-sufficient, may stay in a Transitional Independent Living Program for up to 18 months, with a 6-month extension possible with DYCD approval. There is a licensed Social Worker on staff in all programs.

- **Youth enter into a DYCD-funded TIL program only through a referral from a DYCD crisis shelter.** Referrals from other approved residential program such as a DJJ or OCFS may be granted, subject to DYCD pre-approval facilities. However priority will be given to youth who are referred through a DYCD-funded crisis shelter. Addresses of TIL programs should not be made public.

Program Days/Hours of Operation:

- 7 Days a Week, 24 Hours a Day

Target Population:

- Ages of 16 and under 21 years of age.

Additional Services directly or through referrals to other providers:

- Food, in accordance with USDA standards, shelter, and clothing
- Entitlement services
- Medical, mental health, and dental care
- Educational services, including basis skills testing and proficiency exams
- Long-term counseling for individuals and groups
- Independent living and life skills training
- Employment skills training
- Employment preparation and training
- HIV testing and education
- Legal assistance
- Recreational activities
- Substance abuse education and prevention
- Violence intervention and prevention education
- Parenting skills training
- Transportation to off-site programs and services
- Housing assistance and referrals to permanent housing prior to discharge

Transitional Independent Living (TIL) Programs

Program Information	Name of Contact Person	# of Beds
Girls Educational & Mentoring Services, Inc. (Sexually Exploited) Bronx, New York (212) 926-8089 Ext. 25	Julie Laurence Julie@gems-girls.org	9 (F)
Green Chimneys Children's Services (LGBTQ) New York, New York (212) 491-5911, Ext. 19	T. Nolan E-mail: theresanolan@juno.com	10
SCO of Family Services Independent Inn I (Males) Brooklyn, New York (718) 782-0198	Richard Luthy rluthy@sco.org	20 (M)
SCO of Family Services Independent Inn II (Females) Brooklyn, NY (718) 827-8465	Richard Luthy rluthy@sco.org	25 (F)
SCO of Family Services Independent Inn III (Mother/Child) Brooklyn, New York (718) 326-5931	Richard Luthy rluthy@sco.org	16 (F/C)
*SCO of Family Services Independent Inn IV (Females) Queens, New York	Richard Luthy rluthy@sco.org	6 (F)
Rachel's Place (Orthodox Jewish) Brooklyn, New York 11210 (718) 253-5364	Jennifer Jaffe Rachelsplacenyork@yahoo.com	6 (F)
Good Shepherds NYC 646-485-3941	Brenda Tully brendatully@goodshepherds.org	8
Inwood House Maternity Residence New York, New York 212-861-4400 ext. 203	Ms. Gwen Carroll gcarroll@inwoodhouse.com	4 (F)
*Safe Space TBA	TBA	TBA

*Pending Certification

Street Outreach and Referral Services

Program Overview:

- DYCD's Citywide, vehicle-based street outreach services focus efforts on those areas where youth are known to congregate at night. The role of the street outreach worker is to distribute information about RHY services and referrals, and provide transport to youth from unsafe places to a safe environment—whether home to their family, another safe home, or a Crisis Shelter.

Program Days/Hours of Operation:

- 7 Days a Week, From 9:00pm-5:00am

Target Population:

- Youth under the age of 21.

Additional Services:

- Urgent Needs Assessment: crisis intervention and counseling, offering information about resources and, when youth are willing to accept assistance, helping them access the services they need.
- Support and Referral Services: information and materials, including food. The contractor distributes information about drop-in centers, healthcare services and other network service providers for young people. The contractor provides materials that encourage safe sex and prevent HIV and STDs.
- Transportation: Where youth are in need of and willing to accept transportation - escort them home, to a shelter or other safe environment, or, if appropriate, to a hospital.

Program Information	Name of Contact Person	Age
Greenwich Village Youth Council 167 Madison Avenue New York, New York 10016 (646) 935-1812		Under 21
La Asociacion Benefica Cultural Father Billini 104-11 37 th Avenue, Corona Queens, New York 11368 (718) 651-8427	William Miller (347)242-6455 2(Day) John Sanchez (347)231-7653 (Eve) Director: Eugene D'sources fba4000@hotmail.com	Under 21