



Runaway Taskforce Purpose Statement

The Purpose of the Runaway Taskforce is two-fold:

- Prevent youth who are exhibiting runaway risk factors and behaviors from entering the juvenile justice system, by ensuring that appropriate community resources exist and meet the needs of youth.
- Ensure the justice system is effective, compassionate and empowers youth and their families to succeed while building an environment of mutual trust and accountability.

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Present: Cassandra Dittmer, Jim Hubbard, Julie Mason, Krynn Pekny, Colleen Roth, Lt. Tracy Scherer, Cara Stirts, Shelby Anderson-Holt, Janee Pannkuk, Karla Dush, Debora Faga

- Activity
 - National Runaway Safeline Training
 - Update
 - Have approximately 20 different agencies represented; 31 people scheduled to attend
 - NRS did share some sample scenarios that may be used during the training (attached)
 - May have media presence
 - Assistance on Training Day (registration table, resource table, etc.)
 - Asking the agencies attending to bring resource materials for a resource table at the training, will need people to help staff that
 - Be there by 8 am if you're planning on helping

- Updates
 - OYS
 - Juvenile Justice Reform Community Conversations continue on February 26th at the Clair Memorial United Methodist Church, 5544 Ames Ave.
 - Steering Committee meeting next Thursday 8:30 – 11 am will include discussion/action on the CBA sub-grant adjustment
 - Families WG has submitted a grant to produce video vignettes on various system points (i.e., probation, JAC, DCYC, courthouse, etc.) so families can get an informational overview and learn how to be their best advocate at each of those points
 - QR Code sheet (attached) that the Prevention WG created is ready to use and can be shared as anyone sees fit
 - Member
 - Colleen and Tracy did an interview with the Omaha World Herald about the Missing Youth Services pilot program
 - Have also spoken to Probation and talked at the Commission for the Protection of Children on the first four months of the program

- Have had three more community agencies reach out for information
 - Shared success stories of the program thus far
 - Staff went to Boys Town yesterday and talked with them about how they can collaborate
 - The Women’s Fund brought Minnesota here to talk about their sex-trafficking “Safe Harbor” program, and they extended an invitation to go up there and shadow them for two days in their County Attorney’s office and in the field; Tracy and two officers are planning to go up sometime next month to check out their programs
 - Tracy and Colleen are presenting in Dallas at the National Crimes Against Children conference in August
 - Colleen is doing a webinar tomorrow with CACs across the state
 - Project Harmony has a release of information with OPS that parent/guardian sign. This helps them work with the schools to coordinate efforts
 - KVC is talking about opportunities for respite
- Decision Making/Next Steps
 - Julie, Krynn and Colleen will help in the morning with set-up at the training
 - Everyone else feel free to pop in to help if your schedule permits
 - NRS will do a survey after each of the training sessions and the results will be shared with us; the results will help answer the information needed for our grant
 - Feedback Survey – Handed out

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 14, 2019, from 8:30am-10am, UNO Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, Room 221

OYS Mission Statement: Across Douglas County, our vision is a **comprehensive, coordinated, and community-wide** approach to **juvenile services** that **eliminates** the need for youth involvement with our justice system while maintaining **public safety**.

For **all youth** who do enter our justice system, our goals are to provide **effective, compassionate and individualized** support that empowers youth and their **families** to **succeed** and to build an environment of **mutual trust and accountability**.