



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: Adam Nordstrom, Jill Anderson, Krynn Pekny, Taylor Newton, Tracy Scherer, Nicole Seymour, Jim Hubbard, Janee Pannkuk, Karla Dush, Debora Faga

- Activity
 - National Runaway Safeline Training Follow up meeting
 - September 16, 2019, 9am to 11am, at Omaha Street School
 - Do we want to make this meeting in place of our regularly scheduled meeting (9-12)?
 - Need to create a survey with the questions we need to report out on
 - Training manuals need to be printed and bound

 - Workplan
 - Follow up data discussion
 - What did each entity find out about being able to gather/share the following information of runaway youth for the TF to analyze (total #, ages, gender, race, ethnicity and zip code)?
 - Should we look at reasons why youth go missing/runaway (push/pull)
 - Push factors are internal/inside the home, pushing the youth to run, and pull factors are more external, pulling the youth away
 - We have to be able to talk to the youth that are running to get to the reasons they run, and it's difficult to get to them
 - Final thoughts on what data we want to look at as well as next action items
 - Do we want to use the survey that KVC is using?
 - Rosie Htu said she could come back in October and speak further on what she presented in July;
 - Project Harmony seems to making more strides with the South Omaha community, but engagement is still a struggle
 - We need to look at which zip codes are/are not engaging
 - One of our goals is to bring agencies together to foster community response
 - Do we have a list of agencies?
 - The hotline may have a list that we can take a look at

- Updates
 - OYS
 - The Young, Gifted & At-Risk Youth Conference is going on this week at Trinity Lutheran Church
 - Steering Committee meeting is next Thursday, 8:30 am, in the Jesse Lowe Conference Room
 - 3rd RED/DMC Community Forum is on Wednesday, August 21st, at the Goodwill Building on 72nd St., at 6 pm

- Members
 - Brett Schrage is OPD's new Missing Sergeant and he wants to start coming to these meetings
 - September 1st OPD is partnering with Autism Action Partnership to launch Project Lifesaver so if an autistic child is registered with Project Lifesaver, they will have the technology to find them faster; have already trained some people and now have the equipment and will be training more people to use the equipment
 - PromiseShip is having a back to school bash tonight
 - PromiseShip has an internal work group for missing youth that has a database they collect a lot of different metrics with but hasn't been compiled into a concise report, and they are working on getting a report built within that system
 - Project Harmony is excited to finally be bringing their numbers together in a usable form
 - If anyone comes into contact with a non-system involved youth that needs help, contact the Missing Youth Services (MYS) team

- Decision Making/Next Steps
 - Karla will send Adam the questions and he will get the training survey together by next Wednesday and send it to Lt. Scherer
 - Debora will check with Douglas County Print Shop about binding services for the NRS training manuals
 - Krynn will look for a list of agencies that we can take a look at in our next meeting
 - September 12th meeting will be merged into the NRS follow up meeting on the 16th
 - Karla will follow up with NRS on a Spanish version of the training binder so one can be printed as well for the follow up meeting
 - October agenda will include: Cassandra presenting on MYRA and Taylor will bring data on family engagement by zip code from the MYS program for us to review and debrief NRS follow meeting meeting

- Feedback Survey – Handed out

Next Meeting: Monday, September 16th at the Omaha Street School

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**.