



Safe Harbors Youth Intervention Project

Guidelines for Working with Homeless, Runaway and Sexually Exploited Youth

Developed and Implemented in Ramsey County, Minnesota

The Safe Harbors Youth Intervention Project (SHYIP) Protocol Guidelines

In May 2006 the Minnesota Legislature awarded Ramsey County funds to implement the Safe Harbors Youth Intervention Project (SHYIP). This pilot project convened to address the needs of homeless, runaway or truant youth in Ramsey County who have been sexually exploited. Specifically, SHYIP's purpose is to promote closer coordination and better communication among all agencies who serve the target population defined above. In doing so, it is hoped that services will improve; leading to youth having access the services they need to thrive.

The SHYIP model focuses on intervention and prevention methods as reflected in multidisciplinary Protocol Guidelines. These materials were developed collaboratively, with each section intended to be used across disciplines to increase awareness and understanding of the services available. In addition to the discipline specific Protocol Guidelines, the following material contains sections on prevention and support including information on cultural considerations, positive youth development, support for friends and family, consent and confidentiality laws, and resources for youth and providers. The SHYIP model has implications for implementation and potential for replication across the state.

It is hoped that these Protocol Guidelines will become an integral part of the work of all agencies who serve the SHYIP target population. A special thank you goes out to all who worked on, and will work with, these Protocol Guidelines.

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Partners for Violence Prevention (PVP) was founded in 1996 to reduce the impact and incidence of violence on youth and families. It began in response to a community need to promote safe neighborhoods and provide effective intervention and prevention alternatives. PVP's unique collaborative strategy has provided the basis for its success and in May 2004, PVP earned its' 501(c) 3 non-profit status. Since its inception, PVP has acted as an innovative service provider and a pivotal bridging point in violence prevention for youth, programming for over 70 health care and social service agencies, law enforcement agencies, schools, businesses, churches, and other community organizations. PVP is regarded as a local and national model for replication in other communities, school and neighborhoods.

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SHYIP Participating Agencies

Ain Dah Yung (Our Home) Center

American Indian Family Center

Booth Brown House

Breaking Free Inc.

Casa de Esperanza

Center for Victims of Torture

Comunidades Latinas Unidas
En Servicio (CLUES)

College of St. Catherine

District 202/Street Works

Domestic Abuse Project

Face To Face

Family Tree Clinic

Freeport West Inc./Streetworks
Collaborative

Girl Scouts of St. Croix Valley

Health Start

Hmong American Partnership

Mercy Hospital

Midwest Children's Resource Center

Minnesota Coalition Against
Sexual Assault

Minnesota Department of Health

Minnesota Department of Human
Services

Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual
Assault Coalition

Minnesota Office of Justice Programs

Mounds View Schools

Neighborhood House

North Saint Paul Police Department

Partners for Violence Prevention

Planned Parenthood

Project Pathfinder

Ramsey County Attorney's Office

Ramsey County Commissioner,
Dist. 6

Ramsey County Community
Corrections

Ramsey County Human Services
Department:

Child Protection

Children's Mental Health

Delinquency

Foster Care

Ramsey County Juvenile Probation

Ramsey County Sheriff's Department

Regions Hospital

Saint Johns and Josephs Hospital
Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner
(SAFE) Program

SafeZone

Sexual Offence Services of Ramsey
County

Southern Minnesota Regional
Legal Services

Saint Anthony Police Department

Saint Paul Indians In Action Group

Saint Paul Public Schools

Saint Paul Youth Services

Saint Paul Ramsey County Department
of Public Health

Saint Paul Domestic Abuse
Intervention Project

Saint Paul Police Department

StreetWorks Collaborative

The Bridge

United & Children's Hospitals'
Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
(SANE) Program

Wilder Foundation

Women of Nations-Eagle's Nest

YMCA CLIMB Program

Youth Link

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SHYIP

The Safe Harbors Youth Intervention Project (SHYIP) Protocol Guidelines

SHYIP Background and Approach

Background on Protocol Guideline Development

To understand the needs and challenges of serving homeless, runaway, and sexually exploited youth, SHYIP members have reviewed research reports, Census Bureau, and other available statistics, and conducted interviews with youth and focus groups with service providers. These key findings were reported in the SHYIP Community Needs Assessment (copies available at www.partnersforviolenceprevention.org), which informed the Guidelines' development.

- There are not enough adequate shelter services in Ramsey County to respond to the target population.
- Lack of communication and continuity between agencies limits services provided.
- For services to be effective, trust and rapport must be developed with youth.
- Education for parents/guardians and service providers is essential.
- Untold numbers of sexually traumatized runaway or homeless youth do not engage available resources.
- There is a profound need for culturally relevant services.

A Multidisciplinary Approach

The Protocol Guidelines offered in this document represent an effort to compile best practices from multiple disciplines working with homeless and runaway youth who have been or are at risk to be sexually exploited. Contents of every section, including the Cultural Considerations section, have been developed and informed by members from the disciplines and cultures represented. This process involved extensive involvement to present, review, discuss, and revise based on the collective knowledge of participating members.

The SHYIP Protocol Guidelines are intended to help multiple disciplines effectively serve runaway, homeless and sexually exploited youth. While it is essential that professionals understand their own guidelines thoroughly, it is also essential that all disciplines have a competent working knowledge of other agencies' guidelines and services. Therefore, it is expected that the SHYIP Protocol Guidelines will be used as an opportunity for collaboration, communication, and streamlining of services and resources available for youth.

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Cultural Considerations

The cultural considerations content has been developed thanks to the commitment, dedication and significant work of following agencies and SHYIP representatives.

Ain Dah Yung

American Indian Family Center

Breaking Free

Casa de Esperanza

Center for Victims of Torture

Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES)

District 202

Face to Face/SafeZone

Face to Face Counseling Clinic

Family Tree

Freeport West Inc./Streetworks Collaborative

Girl Scouts of St. Croix Valley

Hmong American Partnership

Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition

Neighborhood House

Partners for Violence Prevention

Planned Parenthood

Ramsey County Attorney's Office

Ramsey County Human Services

Saint Paul Indians In Action Group

Saint Paul Intervention Project

Saint Paul Ramsey County Department of Public Health

Sexual Offense Services of Ramsey County

Susan Raffo, Independent Representative

Tribal Law & Policy

YMCA CLIMB Program

Youthlink

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Saint Paul, Minnesota

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Introduction to Cultural Considerations

Dedicated to helping providers understand youth from diverse cultures, the Safe Harbors Youth Intervention Project (SHYIP) created the following cultural considerations. This section is to be used by multiple disciplines to help professionals gain cultural sensitivity when working with youth.

It is recognized that culture is neither a blueprint nor an identity, but rather individuals carry with them multiple cultural preferences and traditions within our multicultural society (Fontes, 2005). Because individuals carry multi-faceted identities with them at all times, peoples' culture is unique to their experiences. As a result, our culture not only influences our views, but also how we relate to those whom we encounter.

Professionals must understand and accept the complexities of culture as something that is ever changing and continuously being revised. The development of cultural competence is an on-going practice that evolves over time and requires professionals to consciously seek unfamiliar experiences so they may better understand, value, and appreciate diverse cultural interactions and settings. It is hoped that all individuals and agencies will aspire to achieve understanding, appreciation, and respect of cultural differences and similarities in an effort to better serve and understand the populations with whom they work.

Aspiring to be considerate, sensitive and competent is the ultimate goal for professionals using SHYIP's Cultural Consideration guide. The information presented here is specific to cultural communities and reflects input from a multidisciplinary team. The composition of this team was made up of active representatives and reviewers from each community discussed. The considerations begin with general considerations for all professionals to apply

to their work, followed by the most pertinent considerations applicable to each system (medical, law enforcement, legal, schools). It is expected that all professionals will read, become familiar with and employ these considerations when working with youth.

For optimal effectiveness, these considerations are to be incorporated into all levels of professional practice and service delivery from policy making to administration to each individual community of service providers. In doing so, these cultural considerations will assist professionals as they grow in their capacity to value diversity, manage the dynamics of differences, acquire cultural knowledge and adapt to the multiple contexts of each youth's experiences.

Ultimately, it is intended that professionals using the SHYIP Protocol Guidelines will reference the cultural consideration section frequently and use it to develop and grow their personal and professional cultural competence.

General Youth Considerations

The following are recommendations developed by the SHYIP team and community members for working with all youth, regardless of their identified cultural community.

Basic Concerns Youth May Experience:

The following is a short list of concerns many youth identify during a crisis situation. If left unaddressed, they will likely grow into barriers of service. These concerns include:

- Feeling that they lack credibility and will not be believed
- Fears regarding their immigration status, including timeline of residence (Illegal/Legal status of family)
- Complications because youth are already in the system due to truancy, runaway, prior victimization, probation, etc.
- Fear of getting someone else in trouble if a report is made
- Threats of harm if the youth reports the assault
- Fear of caregiver finding out and reacting negatively to youth's victimizations, truancy or running away
- Lack of trust in authority figures
- Lack of hope in the system based on previous circumstances
- Does not label incident as sexual assault
- Self-blame and self destructive behaviors
- Illegal behavior (drinking, drug use etc.)
- Fear of being lectured for behavior

Culturally Related Considerations for all Youth:

- Youth may fear their family/community discovering what happened. Often youth fear ostracism, family retaliation and may not have the support of family. Be sure to provide an advocate for youth regardless of parental involvement.

- Regardless of how openly sexual violence is discussed within communities, rape and sexual violence is not a cultural practice or culturally accepted for any culture.
- Many communities do not use eye contact when in conversation with others; this is a cultural practice of respect for elders/adults and should not be considered a form of disrespect or not paying attention.
- Not all females will shake hands with someone of the opposite sex. (In some cultures, neither females nor males will shake hands).
- Family and community remain important across cultures. Youth will often avoid telling parents/caregivers what has occurred or avoid reporting due to not wanting to be shamed or bring shame upon the family.
- Many communities will nod their head in respect with the intention of "I hear you." Many times nodding one's head is misinterpreted as "you're agreeing with me or you understand me." Therefore, be sure to ask for a verbal response before making decisions.
- Youth may have faced racism in the legal system, police, court, and in hospitals. Be sensitive about how reluctant youth are to go to these places and always give youth an option to have an advocate.
- Regardless of age or cultural community the youth belongs to, these factors do not imply that service providers should talk to them in slower English or louder, as this minimizes one's abilities and intelligence.

General Youth Considerations

- Avoid stereotyping and making assumptions about identity, appearances, race or class.
- Always establish rapport with youth and never give up on youth, even if the youth has a negative/harsh attitude towards the professional.
- Many youth and families have trust in the legal system. When a youth chooses to report, there is an implication that the case will be charged and prosecuted. When cases are not charged or prosecuted, youth are often re-victimized within the family and community for what appears to be lying about the incident.
- When using an interpreter, pay attention to what the interpreter says and watch body language. Not all interpreters relay the correct information and some may add their own opinions while interpreting which is unacceptable.
 - * Always use certified interpreters.
 - * Never use family members or children as interpreters.

African American Youth

The following are recommendations developed by African American community members as well as participating members involved with SHYIP.

General Considerations:

“Blacks have a 375 year history on this continent: 245 involving slavery, 100+ years involving legalized discrimination and only 30 years involving anything else.” Historian – Roger Wilkins

African Americans are not monolithic people. They are a richly diverse population, spanning the spectrum of lifestyles and interests, education and income levels, and religious background. However, the unique legacy of slavery, racism, sexism and economic oppression continues to influence the lives of contemporary African Americans. Although working with young African American males and females is a complex process with much more than can be contained here, the following points should be taken in consideration:

- The brutal history of African Americans still resonates with contemporary African Americans and has left a sense of distrust for many systems including law enforcement, the courts, school systems and health care.
 - * Many African Americans from all backgrounds still do not trust institutions that are “white male” driven largely because of the institutionalized racism that exists within these structures.
- Many Black families are fractured because of poverty and the ills associated with poverty (e.g. unemployment, health care, childcare). When poverty is socialized within the family structures, young African American males or females might experience a lack of direction and isolation.
- For many African American youth there are immediate and extended families that are support systems.
- In African American communities, the church is often an

extension of family and can be a major contributor to supporting youth.

- Today’s pop culture perpetuates images of young black males that are sexually dominate and young black females that are exotic gold diggers. This leads to perceptions that young males are overly sexual and young females are un-rapable. These stereotypes do not represent the majority of black youth, but must be recognized as contributors to their self-identity.
- Many young African Americans have incorporated Hip-hop and Rap as part of their culture along with many other young mainstream Americans. This diverse musical genre can be used for good and bad, but must be noted as an important form of expression among youth.
- Most rapes in the African American community are intra-racial, black on black. Fear that a young victim will be labeled a traitor to his/her race for raising the awareness of black on black rape may prevent reporting.
- A belief in the African American culture is that females have to be strong and protect their men. As a result of this cultural belief, black females may be reluctant to identify their perpetrator.
- Always treat African Americans as individuals, not as the problem the youth comes to you with, or by the trauma that he/she has experienced.
- Recognize that a person who has experienced adversity and feels beat down by life still has pride. As a result, do not act like you are superior, or treat the youth as less intelligent because of his/her current situation.

African American Youth

- Do not assume a youth's race by their skin color; always ask how the youth identifies his/her race.
- As a Caucasian man, avoid calling African American males, "boy" as this is disrespectful.
- If youth use slang words such as "baby daddy" or "baby mama," professionals should avoid referring to a father or mother in those words at all cases.
- Do not make assumptions about whether a youth is involved in a gang because of the way he/she dresses.
- African American male youth relate to African American men. If possible, attempt to provide support/assistance in partnership with African American men on staff.

Law Enforcement Considerations:

- Historically, and in contemporary times, many African Americans have had negative experiences with law enforcement personnel (i.e. racial profiling).
- Because of past experiences and current fears associated with reporting a sexual assault (i.e. embarrassment, shame and disbelief), law enforcement professionals may find some African American youth "acting out" by displaying poor eye contact, showing anger or disrespect.
- Young Black gay males are a highly marginalized community and may be hesitant to report a sexual assault because they fear blame, disbelief or intolerance.
- Young Black females fear validating negative societal images of Black males or turning Black perpetrators over to the legal system.
- Remember that Black youth may have been raised to fear

the police and as a result their actions may or may not appear to be disrespectful.

- If an African American young female or male makes the decision to report the rape, there may be a concern that once the rape has been reported nothing will happen to bring the perpetrator to justice. An explanation is needed to help youth understand how both law enforcement and the legal system will work on their behalf. Equally important is the discussion of the limitations of law enforcement and the legal system.

Court System Considerations:

All children deserve to be treated fairly, regardless of race or ethnicity. Policy makers, police officials, officers of the court and corrections must work together to remove racial inequities from the juvenile court system.

It is the perception within African American communities that court systems may not always give fair assessment of cases presented. The following are facts law enforcement and court officials should be aware of:

- African American youth comprise 15.4% of the national youth population.
- The arrest rate among African American youth (ages 10-17) is nearly twice the rate of their white peers.
- African American youth are 1.4 times more likely to be detained than their white peers due to racial profiling (DWB – Driving While Black). Among all racial groups, whites are the least likely to be detained.
- Nationwide, one of every three young black males is in prison, on probation or on parole.

African American Youth

- Nearly 60% of young offenders serving time in adult state prison are African American, although African Americans comprise only 15.4% of the youth population.
- Although people of color make up one-third of the total United States youth population, they make up nearly two-thirds of the young offenders behind bars.

Although there are limited statistics specific to Black young females who end up in the court systems, the following general information should be considered when working with a sexually abused female:

- Young victims have most likely experienced physical, emotional and sexual abuse in conjunction with overall family problems. They may suffer from physical and mental disorders and/or endure academic failure.
- Forty to 73% of girls in the juvenile court system have been physically abused. In United States population, 26% of teenaged girls report physical abuse.
- Young females are three times more likely than boys to be sexually abused. This leads to increased mental health disorders, truancy, prostitution and sexual violence, as well as other destructive behaviors that impact young women for the rest of their lives.

Medical System Considerations:

A disproportionate number of African Americans live with serious diseases and health conditions. Some of our youth are afflicted with diabetes, hypertension and obesity; therefore sexual violence can further compromise the mental, emotional and physical well being of youth.

- To enhance a youth's sense of safety, medical professionals should explain invasive procedures.
- Like all young males, the young heterosexual black male victim may be at an age where there may be confusion or questions about his sexuality; therefore, there may be hesitation to complete an examination.
- Respect the needs of the youth (e.g. a young black male may be uncomfortable with a female forensic nurse).

School System Considerations:

School professionals are aware that urban education is viewed today as failing in its major goal of educating students, especially those students characterized as people of color, including African American and Hispanic students. Among people of color, African American males are affected most adversely. The following points may not appear to have a relationship to sexual abuse; however, as discussed earlier in this document most rapes are intra-racial. It is considered by many that African American males experience school adversity and hardship.

- Research has shown that when Black male students are compared to other students by gender and race they consistently rank lowest in academic achievement, have the worst attendance record, are suspended and expelled the most often, are most likely to drop out of school, and most often fail to graduate from high school or to earn a GED.
- Black males are characterized as having more health problems and mortality rates at a younger age than any other group in the United States.

African American Youth

- The ills that plague Black males are not completely the responsibility of the public schools, but are a responsibility of society as a whole. However, the public schools have potential to play a major role in addressing the problems of Black male students.
- * The more the Black male is suspended from school, the more opportunity he has to bond with the street and to develop a pattern of school truancy. Poor school attendance leads to more contact with juvenile court and for some Black males, this may begin a journey away from school and towards jail for many wrong behaviors including sexual assault.
- Schools struggle with many problems associated with size, diverse populations, and financial concerns; however, schools have a major responsibility for developing and implementing programs to prevent failure of all children.

American Indian/Alaskan Native Youth

The following are recommendations developed by Ramsey County Urban American Indian/Alaskan Native community members as well as participating members involved with SHYIP.

General Considerations:

Colonization by the United States government resulted in historical trauma and racism for American Indians/Alaskan Native. As with any community who has withstood such experiences, generations of urban American Indians may have developed a complex mistrust of service providers, law enforcement, etc. It is important to recognize this historical context, even if the youth does not. Be mindful that it may take time to establish trust and rapport with American Indian/Alaskan Native individuals. Some general considerations to include:

- Avoid assumptions and generalizations that all American Indians/Alaskan Natives are the same. There are 562 federally recognized tribes in the United States and several tribes exist without Federal recognition.
- Avoid believing the statement, “What works for the majority, works for all.”
- Indian communities are small and everyone tends to know every individual. This impacts the long standing issue of sexual exploitation/assault. Fortunately, as with other communities, the topic of sexual exploitation is becoming more openly acknowledged and discussed.
- Take time to allow for silence and be respectful to youth; avoid interrupting youth, talking too much and talking in a loud voice. Also, refrain from being directive, aggressive, or intrusive as all of these tactics contributes to intimidation.
- American Indians/Alaskan Natives have a strong rule to “respect your elders.” As with other communities, it is difficult for a youth to publicly seek help if the perpetrator was an adult/family member.
- Recognize that a non-American Indian/Alaskan Native may need to earn the trust of an individual who has been victimized. Take the time to build a relationship and earn trust.
- Unspoken rules, such as: “Do not turn on your own community” may prevent youth from seeking services or reporting violence.
- It is very offensive to make assumptions about American Indians/Alaskan Natives’ spiritual practices or beliefs. As with traditions, customs and experiences, individual’s spirituality is diverse.
- Recognize that because of the generations of forced assimilation into the dominant society, some American Indians/Alaskan Natives are unfamiliar with the traditional practices of their Nations. Don’t assume youth know of, have access to, or want these resources.
- Refrain from criticizing practices that are not the same as what you believe or choose.
- Avoid saying, “Color doesn’t matter to me” or “Some of my best friends are Native.” This will not impress youth, and may even jeopardize the relationship.
- Some youth are going to be more quiet than others, don’t mistake quietness for being shy or a disability. Accordingly, youth who avoid making eye contact is not necessarily an indication of something further to investigate.
- According to the Department of Justice, 86% of sexual assaults on American Indians/Alaskan Natives are perpetrated by non-American Indians. This often creates barriers related to reporting.
- Recognize that American Indians/Alaskan Natives come in all colors and/or have varied knowledge and experience with their own cultures.

American Indian/Alaskan Native Youth

- As a professional working with this community, it is important to be patient. Let individuals have time to think and process.
- Avoid making assumptions about the family layout (aunties, grandmas, extended family etc.). Extended families are often primary caretakers of youth, but not always. Also, it is important to understand the concept of customary adoption within American Indians/Alaskan Natives communities.
- Be aware that family is often both urban and reservation. Frequently, American Indians/Alaskan Natives travel back and forth, so that support, safety, and resources may be located with both, neither, or one or the other. Every individual is different.
- Recognize that some youth have accelerated responsibility within the family structure such as helping with childcare, cooking, cleaning, etc.
- Alcohol and drugs impact all communities. Despite statistical cultural disparities, do not assume alcohol or drugs are in any way related to a youth's experiences.
- Recognize that speaking original languages are valued and lineages are valued as well.
- It is also important to remember that American Indians/Alaskan Natives view culture as a form of healing and a way of life.

Law Enforcement and Medical System Considerations:

- Do not assume that a youth's reaction (be it highly emotional or unemotional) means that the youth is ignorant or fabricating

the crime committed against them. Their response may be a sign of fear, respect, intimidation, or distrust.

- Understand the importance of family. As protocol/rules permit, it may be extremely important and helpful for the youth to have a family member(s) allowed to be present during the police interview, medical examinations, etc.

School System Considerations:

- Generally, the western-model oriented educational system alienates American Indian/Alaskan Native youth.
- Institutional racism and judgment continue to impact American Indians/Alaskan Natives experiences.
- Boarding Schools have devastated individuals by forcefully taking American Indian/Alaskan Native children from their families. During this time, individuals were generally abused physically, sexually, emotionally and spiritually for American Indians/Alaskan Natives' culture and traditions (i.e. American Indians were beaten for speaking their language). Identities were dismantled as American Indians/Alaskan Natives were forced to assimilate into mainstream Christian culture.
 - * Although this was decades ago, it is extremely important to acknowledge this devastation because it is relevant to American Indians/Alaskan Natives identities. The culture continues to heal.
- A lack of American Indians/Alaskan Natives' history is an ingrained part of the United States educational curriculum which makes it difficult for youth to connect school to life.
 - * The history and contributions to this country are not accurately reflected in the textbooks.

American Indian/Alaskan Native Youth

- * Often American Indians/Alaskan Natives' are stereotyped and portrayed as historical figures from the past or something related to Thanksgiving, wars, or casinos.
- * As with all youth, American Indian/Alaskan Native youth's learning styles are not the same.
- Generally, American Indians/Alaskan Natives are not acknowledged for the positive contributions they make to the community; rather, American Indians/Alaskan Natives are frequently publicly exploited.
- American Indian/Alaskan Native individual's worldviews are not the same.

Homelessness and American Indian/Alaskan Native Youth:

- Be aware that immediate and extended families are both extremely important to American Indian/Alaskan Native.
- * Because there is little difference between immediate and extended family, if youth are staying with someone, they may not consider themselves homeless.

Important information regarding the ICWA – Indian Child Welfare Act, PL 95-608:

What is the Indian Child Welfare Act?

- The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is a federal law that was passed in 1978.
- ICWA sets out rules that state courts have to follow in certain child custody cases involving Indian children. Under state law, courts must follow these rules.

- The rules are designed to keep Indian children connected to their families and tribes. Maintaining this connection serves the best interests of Indian children and also promotes the stability and security of Indian tribes and families.
- One important way ICWA helps to keep children connected to their families and tribes is by requiring social service agencies to make special efforts to keep Indian families together. These agencies must provide services that reflect the current social and cultural standards of the family's Indian community.
- A high number of Indian children were being removed from their families by state courts and county social services agencies and put in non-Indian homes and institutions. These rules apply in cases where Indian children are being taken away from their parents or Indian custodians.
- Often, state and county officials did not understand, ignored, or rejected the cultural or social customs of the child's tribal community.

When does the Indian Child Welfare Act apply to youth?

ICWA applies to child custody cases where an Indian child is being taken away from a parent or Indian custodian, or where parental rights are being "terminated" (ended). These include:

- Foster care "placements" (placing a child in the custody of foster parents)
- Child Protective Services removal
- Guardianships (in juvenile court and probate court) and adoptions (in juvenile court and family court)

American Indian/Alaskan Native Youth

- Certain juvenile court cases (for example, truancy cases)
- ICWA does not apply to custody cases between parents who are divorced or are getting divorced

What defines an American Indian Child?

- An American Indian child is one under the age of 18, who is either enrolled in a federally recognized tribe or eligible for enrollment in a federally recognized tribe;
- If the state has reason to believe that the child is American Indian, the court has a duty to discover their tribal identity;
- The State must notify the tribe immediately; notice to parents, tribe, and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) notification

Under ICWA, what rights does the Indian child's tribe have?

- The tribe has a right to participate in custody cases of its Indian children.
- The tribe can “exercise” (use) “tribal jurisdiction.” (The term “jurisdiction” refers to which court – tribal or state – has the right to hear a case. Whether the tribe has jurisdiction may depend on whether the child lives on or off the reservation.)
 - * NOTE: Jurisdiction is a very complicated subject. Contact proper authorities if you have questions about the jurisdiction of your custody case.
- The tribe has the right to be notified about the child custody case.
- The tribe has the right to ask for up to 20 more days to get ready for a hearing.

- The tribe has the right to ask that the case be moved to tribal court.
- The tribe has the right to deny your request that the case be moved to tribal court.
- The tribe has the right to look at the documents about the case that the court has on file.
- The tribe has the right to see records kept by the State on the placement of tribal children.
- The tribe has the right to apply certain tribal laws or customs to the custody case. These include laws that define “Indian custodian” or “extended family,” for example.
- The tribe has the right to disagree with ICWA’s placement preferences and to tell the court where the tribe thinks it would be best for the Indian child to live.
- Tribes have all the same rights about getting proper notice from the court that you do, including the right to ask for invalidation.
- Notice to the tribe must be sent to the tribal chairperson or other representative that the tribe chooses.

Cognitive and Developmentally Disabled Youth

The following are recommendations developed by professionals who provide services to Cognitive and Developmentally Disabled community members as well as developed by participating members involved with SHYIP.

General Considerations:

- Youth may have difficulty communicating that abuse has occurred and may appear frustrated with their inability to communicate words verbally.
- Reports from youth with disabilities may be construed as false and not believed because of their lack of creditability (based on their physical and cognitive abilities).
- Youth with disabilities are at an increased risk for abuse because of their vulnerabilities as compared to the general population and are more likely to be victims of crime.
- Youth with disabilities need additional support and will typically have difficulty accessing appropriate services. Guiding youth throughout the referral process is essential.
- When youth report abuse, investigations are triaged through the county child protection agency. Because of jurisdiction problems, multiple caretakers and displacement, charges may not be reported and/or investigated.
- Youth with disabilities rarely report either abuse or assault because of:
 - * A lack of trust for authority figures
 - * The assumption they will not be believed when telling their story
 - * Disabilities act as a barrier for youth to acknowledge the abuse
- Most likely the abuse will be someone well known to the youth (family member or caregiver.) Safety should always be assessed before transporting youth back home to a caregiver or another family member.

- Developmental delays (cognitive, psychological or physical) may interfere with the understanding of what is happening in abusive situations.
- Youth sometimes lack the ability to know the difference between care and abuse, especially when abuse does not cause physical harm.
- Feelings of isolation and withdrawal because of special needs may make youth more vulnerable to manipulation as a result of increased desire for attention and affection.
- Youth are more vulnerable to abuse in the community because they may be unable to make safe decisions and may lack self-protective skills.

Frequent Characteristics of Youth with Cognitive/Mental and Physical Developmental Disabilities include:

- Youth are educated to be compliant and responsive to authority figures.
- Youth are dependent on support from long-term caregivers and/or several caregivers.
- Youth may be looked upon as being asexual and are often not provided with general sex education and/or denied recognition of their sexuality as it may be delayed in onset.
- They may be viewed negatively by society and labeled as “bad,” or “different.”
- It is important to be aware of any behavior changes seen in youth.

Cognitive and Developmentally Disabled Youth

- Professionals should assess whether the youth is cognitively or developmentally delayed. Knowing whether the youth is developmentally/cognitively delayed may be critical to the charging decision, may constitute a separate offense and will assist prosecution, courts and law enforcement. If the youth is cognitively or developmentally delayed, attempt to document the level of youth's functioning. The following questions are appropriate to ask a parent, guardian or school official to assess the youth's functioning:
 - * Are youth's cognitive/developmental challenges obvious and, if so, in what way?
 - * Has youth been evaluated recently? If so, by whom? (Copy should be attached to police reports).
 - * How well does this youth conceptualize abstract questions?
 - * What is the youth's chronological age vs. developmental age?
 - * What is the difference between youth's developmental age and age of consent?

Depending on level of abilities it may be necessary to individualize the approach, these suggestions may be helpful; however, they can be demeaning to the person as well.

- Speak slowly and clearly; use simple language.
- Present one concept at a time
- Use visuals (draw pictures, make outlines)
- Ask for feedback by youth to ensure clear comprehension

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth

The following are recommendations developed by Deaf and Hard of Hearing community members as well as participating members involved with SHYIP.

Guidelines and Steps to Using Interpreter Services:

To obtain a certified ASL interpreter call 651-224-6548.

General guidelines for choosing interpreter services:

- Only use certified American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters (call 651-224-6548)
- Do not allow “signers,”—people who are not certified to interpret, regardless if they know sign language, interpreters must be certified.
- Do not use children or any family members to interpret.
- Do not wear sunglasses.
- Attempt to get an interpreter of the same sex as the deaf/hard of hearing person for the best situation for youth.

Guidelines for interacting with an interpreter:

- Have the interpreter stand next to you facing the deaf/hard of hearing person.
- Face the deaf/hard of hearing person, not the interpreter.
- Give the deaf/hard of hearing person direct eye contact—avoid looking at or watching the interpreter.
- While the deaf person will mostly likely watch the interpreter, she/he also will have eye contact with you and want a relationship with you.
- Speak directly to the deaf/hard of hearing person as if you would a hearing person. Direct questions at the deaf/hard of hearing person (i.e. “How are you feeling?”). Avoid directing questions at the interpreter (i.e. “Tell her...” “Ask her...”)

- Make sure the room is well lit and free from any distractions.
- Have deaf/hard of hearing person face away from the light (from windows, flashing lights, and computer screens) or other distractions.

If you absolutely cannot get an Interpreter:

- Avoid using computers or writing on paper. When a deaf/hard of hearing person is in crisis, their English and typing skills become impaired.
- Attempt to locate a Video Relay Services (VRS), which enables a person with hearing disabilities who use ASL to communicate with voice telephone users through video equipment.
- Video Relay Services (VRS) is more efficient and effective than a TTY machine for a deaf/hard of hearing individual to express what has happened to them.
- As the very last communication option when working with a youth with hearing disabilities, it is an option to use a computer to type back and forth or pen/paper, however please use the following considerations if method is used:
 - * Remember English is a second language for individuals with hearing disabilities. Keep written sentences short and use simple words. Instead of, “Did s/he assault you?” it is better to say, “Did s/he hurt you?”
 - * During a crisis situation, youth will have difficulty trying to explain their experience/situation through a TTY, a computer or writing their words onto paper. Be patient and understanding during this process.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth

- * A small percentage of deaf people read lips well, but only 30 percent of what is said is visible on the lips and may be especially difficult to understand in stressful situations.
- * Avoid using lip-reading as the method for communication, even if the deaf/hard of hearing individual states it is okay.

General Considerations:

- Youth expect providers to display signs of impatience upon learning the youth's communication limitations.
- More than likely, the perpetrator plays an integral role in the survivor's daily life and is an acquaintance to the survivor. Safety of youth should be assessed.
- When deaf individuals report sexual assault, they encounter stereotypes about being a sexual assault victim and deaf.
- Many deaf victims of sexual assault perceive a lack of support within the deaf community, particularly if the perpetrator is also deaf.
- There is a lack of trust using interpreters; victims of sexual assault believe they cannot rely on interpreters to accurately represent their words and experiences.
- Avoid becoming frustrated, differences in hearing abilities are not visible and providers should suspend judgment and build awareness that we all have different abilities.
- Youth who are deaf and/or hard of hearing that also are homeless and/or live in shelters, face additional challenges such as not hearing a perpetrator behind them, not hearing fire alarms, etc. Building a safety plan with youth is extremely important.

Law Enforcement System Considerations:

- If outside and squad cars are visible to the person with hearing disabilities, do not attempt to talk to the deaf person while the squad car's lights are flashing or when there are other outside distractions. The flashing lights should be turned off and a quiet room to take the police report should be found.
- The deaf community recognizes law enforcement as a resource; however, reporting sexual assault rarely happens because of frustration communicating with first responders (911 dispatch) and fear of stigmas related to victimization.
- There is often a fear that the perpetrators words will be taken over the victim's report.
- Be aware that if a police officer yells, "stop," a deaf/hard of hearing youth may not see nor hear them and can easily be misinterpreted as defiant behavior. Do not punish deaf/hard of hearing youth for their hearing abilities.

Medical System Considerations:

- It is important to view deaf/hard of hearing individuals as members of a linguistic and cultural community. This may challenge the medical model which focuses on an individual.
- Recognize the difference in communication of deaf individuals. Some may be comfortable with lip reading and writing; other may prefer or only use ASL.

Hmong Youth

The following are recommendations developed by Hmong community members as well as participating members involved with SHYIP.

General Considerations:

- Rape and sexual violence are typically not discussed within the Hmong culture; however, just because it is not discussed, does not mean that rape or abuse is culturally accepted or a cultural practice.
- Youth may have fears about their family/community hearing about the crime that occurred. Many Hmong youth may fear ostracism and family retaliation despite the circumstances of the event. Especially if youth do not have the support of their family, an advocate is extremely valuable during their process.
- Hmong youth may have faced racism within the different social systems (i.e. with the police, legal system and in hospitals.) Be cautious about how reluctant youth are to go to these places. Provide or be an advocate assisting them throughout processes involving these systems.
- Avoid making assumptions, generalizations, or stereotypes about all Asian youth being the same. For example, a common stereotype is that all urban Asian youth are involved in gang activities. This is hurtful to the youth's identity formation and social expectations.
- Avoid talking to youth with slower English or talking louder because they are Hmong; this is demeaning even if the youth's English is not as fluent as others.

Medical System Considerations:

- Keep in mind that not all Hmong youth will need an interpreter. However, always give the option of having an interpreter.

* Although Hmong youth may be fluent in English, youth may not understand English medical terminology. Some words do not translate and comprehension of medical terminology often is not clearly understood.

- There are not Hmong words for all the Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI):
 - * If medical personnel are discussing information/preventative precautions about sexually transmitted infections, always clarify that youth understand that she/he does not have a deathly disease and explain if each infection is curable or incurable.
- Be sensitive when talking about body parts:
 - * Keep in mind that Hmong words for private body parts are more graphic than English words;
 - * Find and use an interpreter that knows the under-tone language for body parts and is comfortable with other medical terms.
- Communicate and discuss with youth the process of the evidentiary exam, what is likely to happen. Talk with youth throughout the process of the exam:
 - * Many times when a victim does not speak English, the examiners avoid talking with them, making the exam more unbearable and uncomfortable.
- While some grant specifications are focused on services for the Hmong community, youth have the right to decline the exam.
- The uses of contraceptives are not always favorable in the Hmong community, particularly with parents/caregivers; allow youth to make their own decisions about reproductive health.

Hmong Youth

Law Enforcement System Considerations:

- Typically, Hmong youth experience racism and assumptions that youth are associated with gangs. When youth sense that they are being falsely judged, they may not want to cooperate with law enforcement.
 - * Avoid assumptions that runaway youth are affiliated with gangs, and/or are running away from gangs; also, do not assume a youth was sexually assaulted by a gang member as this may or may not be the case.
- Police should use appropriate words in regards to sexuality. Use sensitivity when talking about youth's sexuality; Hmong words for private body parts are more graphic than English words.
 - * For example, be sensitive and do not force youth to use particular words to describe where they were penetrated if they are not comfortable and refuse to use graphic language to describe what occurred.
- If youth does not speak English, it is imperative that Law Enforcement attempts to get an interpreter of the same gender as the youth.
- Be sure to ask youth if they would be most comfortable with a male or female officer to make the report.
- Interview youth alone and not in the presence of any family members (perpetrator's or youth's).
- Inform youth there are Hmong advocates from advocacy offices that they can speak to and assist them through this process.
 - * Make sure the advocate understands both the law and Hmong culture, especially how these may conflict with each other.
 - * Find advocates or advocacy agencies you know and trust before a situation arises when you need one.
- Explain law enforcement procedures and each stage of the process. Youth will want to know how the youth individually, and their family will or will not be affected by the process.
- Never assume home is the safest place, regardless of status of an arrest.
- Before a youth is returned home after they have been picked up for running away:
 - * Assess the safety of home
 - * Discuss where they were living/staying before returning them home
 - * Discuss all places where youth typically run
 - * Assess reasons why youth left home
- Youth and their families trust the legal system and hope all cases will be charged and sentenced after a sexual assault. When youth choose to report, the expectation is that their life will return to normal. It is important to note that in circumstances when the case is not charged or prosecuted, youth often are ostracized by the community and re-victimized.

Hmong Youth

Court System Considerations:

- Build trust and rapport with the youth and explain the American Criminal Justice System. Hmong people may or may not be familiar with system procedures and what is likely to occur throughout the legal process.
 - * Be mindful that there is not a legal system in the Hmong culture; therefore, the American Criminal Justice System is something new to Hmong individuals, young and old.
- Be mindful that it is always the victim's choice in how the case is resolved. Be mindful that not all victim(s) will want his/her case to be resolved within the Clan system. Moreover, not all cases that enter the criminal justice system are appropriate to be resolved within the Clan system.
- Keep in mind, despite if the victim was born and raised in the United States, he/she may want to use the clan system to resolve their case. Also, youth may want to use both the Clans in the community and law enforcement to resolve the issue regarding the criminal case.
- Keep in mind that within the Clan system, everything is solved quickly; whereas, in the mainstream criminal system it may take months to a year for a case to be resolved.

School System Considerations:

- Depending on circumstances, Hmong youth may be more likely to share information with Hmong school personnel, because they understand the culture.
- Sometimes Hmong girls may be forced to marry their boyfriend or the perpetrator to not bring shame onto the family after an assault has occurred.

- Hmong parents may not understand the school rules for “un-excused” absence and may keep the youth home to baby-sit.
- If the youth is truant from school, language and communication may become a barrier. As a result of language barriers for some caregivers/parents—youth may tell parents/caregivers that they are going to school, when in fact there is no school (holidays, school vacations, etc.) and youth meet up with friends, boyfriends, etc. Or vice versa, youth will tell parents there is “no school today,” when in actuality there is school; as a result, youth typically develop a truancy problem that parents are unaware exists.

Homeless Youth

The following are recommendations developed by homeless community advocates as well as participating community members involved with SHYIP.

The Diversity and Subgroups Among Homeless Youth:

There are many sub-group populations of homeless youth and the definitions are changing while systems which serve or should serve these youth may not be aware of their existence. The numbers of homeless youth enrolled in schools continues to rise with inadequate services available. Moreover, while there are still youth living in the public eye, under bridges, in vehicles, “squatting” in abandoned buildings or “camping” out of doors, many homeless youth remain invisible.

There are a number of youth, both urban and suburban, who are difficult to identify as homeless. They may not consider themselves homeless when they are living couch to couch, week by week, or even day by day with kin or friends. Variations of homelessness exist. Some youth who live with friends, neighbors and their parents do so because these figures do not care especially if the youth stays “out of their hair.” Some youth stay with family members who may provide them with basic essentials including food, clothing, and money, but the youth does not truly have a “home.”

Other groups of youth are escaping danger and may be relying on friends to secretly “hide” them and provide shelter.

Another population of youth are homeless because they have been shoved out or thrown away. These youth often come from families who are fed up with a youth’s behavior, (independent and resistant, smoking marijuana, not attending school, etc.) or they come from families that are living in poverty, overcrowded, and can’t feed them because there are too many other small children to feed. Youth in these situations are not receiving the support they

need. It is important not to make assumptions regarding the family life or support systems a young person has or does not have.

Among homeless populations there are a growing number of documented and undocumented immigrant youth. This population experiences the stress of acclimation to a new culture and generational differences. Adults and elders of immigrant populations often struggle with English, while their children become proficient in a new language in school. This can create tension and role reversal because children and youth are in the role of an interpreter for the family. Some cultural traditions practiced in former immigrant nations are also illegal in the United States, female genital circumcision, early marriage, etc.

Young immigrants may refuse to continue cultural traditions such as choosing to wear different attire in their search to become “American”, or to blend. Therefore a rift can develop between youth and parents. If a young person acts “out” of cultural tradition, a parent may banish the young person from the family and cultural comfort, i.e. extended family, community. These issues coupled with poverty and “starting over” that immigrants also struggle with, cause homelessness among immigrant youth populations. Many youth, who are undocumented drop-out of school because they see no future, they know they cannot go on to higher learning opportunities. As a result, the stress of streets can “pull” at a youth who already endures hopelessness.

Homeless Youth

General Considerations:

- Avoid defining homelessness for youth. Ask open-ended questions such as, “Where did you sleep last night?” “Do you feel safe where you’re staying?” A youth may be sleeping in a friend’s garage and not consider herself/himself homeless.
- Always explain to youth that they have the right to refuse to answer any questions.
- Explain to youth their information will be kept confidential; however, always explain mandated reporting laws before any disclosure by youth.
- Begin the interview and/or intake session by asking if they prefer the door open or closed.
- Homeless youth often have issues around trust, because of prior relationships when trust has been broken. Be sincere and patient to allow trust to develop. When trust is gained youth will be able to disclose information that is relevant in working with them.
 - * Begin the intake session by asking them informal questions (how they are doing) and ask if they need anything (water, food, etc.).
- Many members of the homeless community have been abused emotionally, sexually and/or physically. When asking about these sensitive issues, it is imperative to read body language. They may verbalize in one way, but their body language may express something different. Note any inconsistencies and come back to it later.
- When asking questions, be direct with youth. Ask the question upfront and constantly remind her/him that the

answers that they give will be kept confidential and that you are trying to determine what services they would most benefit from.

- Do not coerce or force youth to do anything. Pressuring a youth to disclose information is very detrimental. Many youth often rebel after being told what to do simply because systems already dictate the things that youth do not have control over in their lives. Hence, allowing youth to have options and choices builds the relationship between youth and service provider.
- Offer referrals as information that they can use at their leisure. Do not demand or suggest what they ‘need’ to do.
- Do not generalize. Each person has her/his own story and is diverse. When doing an intake with a youth, read each question as if you have never read it before. The youth may feel you are insincere if you appear to know the answers before they give you an answer.
- Always ask if there is anything else you can provide that you haven’t already mentioned.
- Homeless and at-risk youth may not identify as being sexually exploited.
 - * When asked where they live its important to ask about the living situation. A youth may say they’re living with “a friend.” Be sure to explore the youth’s living situation. Ask, “What is the age of “your friend”? What other people are living in the apartment, home, etc.?” All professionals should follow this line of inquiry.

Homeless Youth

Advocacy Considerations:

- When advocating for homeless youth, remember that other service providers may not understand what the history and experiences of a homeless youth have been. Be prepared to educate other professionals.
- Do not disclose any facts about the youth's life that they have not given you permission to disclose or signed a "Release of Information Form".
- Teach youth how to advocate for themselves. Make initial contacts to advocate for homeless youth and then model how a youth can advocate and speak to providers to obtain services.
- Advocate from a strength based perspective. Homeless youth may have multiple needs, but they bring a lot of skills to the process; it is important to recognize the strengths they have gained from their life experiences and empower the youth.

Medical System Considerations:

- Never make the assumption that one will recognize a homeless youth by dress code, attitude, or stance. Homeless youth come in all sizes and shapes and often are dressed like all other youth, even if it's the only clothing they own. Maintaining an image is extremely important for their positive self-identity. Be aware that homeless youth may be reluctant to disclose a full medical history and information when questioned and examined. They may be concerned that their family will learn about a visit to a physician or emergency room and may not desire contact. Or they may be concerned that information they share will show up on a family insurance policy. However, youth will often disclose

personal issues to a doctor or a nurse, more than any other service provider; this is a great opportunity for medical professionals to learn what is really occurring in the life of a young homeless person.

- Check youth out for cuts, scars, skin infections, needle marks, etc. Homeless youth who live in alternate spaces (i.e. homeless camps, squats, or abandoned buildings), may have increased skin problems. They also may have a history of self-injurious behavior such as cutting, utilizing needles, lack of hygiene care or scars from accidents. Keep information available about the needle exchange program in Minnesota, one resource is Access Works to refer youth who are not ready to stop injecting drugs.
- Always ask for a sexual risk history and have a conversation about risk-reduction, Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases (STI's and STD's). Offer youth safer sex supplies and give them follow-up refer to agencies where they can continue to access safer sex supplies and information. Because sexual abuse and exploitation among homeless females and males is common, it must always be included in medical intakes.
- Attention must be paid to respiratory health. Homeless youth often have respiratory conditions due to smoking, exposure to weather and chemicals, or childhood illnesses.
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) in homeless populations is more common than has been recognized; consider TBI when examining a homeless youth.
- Homeless and at-risk youth may not identify as being sexually exploited.

Homeless Youth

School System Considerations:

- Never assume by a youth's attire that they are or are not homeless.
- Be sensitive and aware of a youth's current and past relationships. Take note of their socialization patterns including their level of isolation with peers at school and attachment.
- Watch and take notice of concerning body language while interacting with youth.
- School professionals should be educated about homeless youth and warning signs that a youth in school may be homeless and/or exploited.
- Keep an updated referrals list and resources that will be helpful to youth.
- Avoid labeling and generalizing youth's experiences after they have been exploited and/or are homeless.
- Be sensitive and familiar with the family compositions and avoid assumptions of a youth's family.
- Be sensitive to Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgendered/Queer/Questioning (LGBTQQ) youth. (See Cultural Considerations for LGBTQQ youth)

Law Enforcement, Legal System and Juvenile Correction Systems Considerations:

- Be sensitive to youth and avoid judgments towards youth, avoid generalizing and making assumptions about their experiences. Rather than assuming, always ask the questions directly to the youth.

- Take into consideration prior history, prior victimizations, family history, etc.
- Be aware of familial issues and whether or not it is safe or unsafe to return a youth to "home," or the place youth is staying.
- Provide youth with resources and referrals based on a youth's specific needs. Only provide information about the resources/referrals that you know to be true.
- Understand and be familiar with LGBTQQ youth. Understand the dynamics of this population and know the correct language for referring to this population. There is overlap between homelessness and LGBTQQ youth; avoid making assumptions based on preconceived notions and stereotypes.
- To build trust and rapport with law enforcement and the legal system, use comprehensive questioning and non-generalized language (i.e. parent(s) rather than mom & dad).
- Individuals within the court system have tremendous power over youth; always treat youth with respect and dignity even though they may look, act or behave differently than the service provider.

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer/Questioning (LGBTQQ) Youth

The following are recommendations developed by Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer/Questioning community advocates as well as participating members involved with SHYIP.

General Considerations:

- Avoid making assumptions about gender and/or about the kinds of relationships/families individuals are involved with; specifically, avoid generalizing that all youth are heterosexual.
- Regardless of the shelter or Transitional Living Program (TLP) youth should be allowed to self-define their gender. This means specifically asking the youth: “What are the most comfortable sleeping arrangements for you?” “Do you want a male or female space to sleep, or a private place to sleep (as available for transgender youth)?”
 - * Always allow youth respect, dignity and safety in choosing gender specific sleeping arrangements.
 - * Before placing youth in a safe shelter, be aware of how the staff responds to a Transgender youth, make sure it is in a respectful and safe atmosphere.
- It is respectful to LGBTQ youth to have non-gender specific bathrooms in public spaces.
- Have clarity around the diversity of family. Recognize that youth might come from queer/LGBTQQ families themselves.
- Some LGBTQ youth may feel safer living on the street than entering a shelter due to fear of harassment by peers or inexperienced shelter staff.
- Be sensitive and use respectful pronouns. Ask youth how/what gender pronoun they identify with, along with the name they prefer to be called.
- Allow youth to identify who they are and how they identify. If you do not know, always ask.

- All personnel can learn to be allies for LGBTQ youth by leading by example, i.e. if there is a transgender student, use their preferred pronoun and name. This also applies across all professionals who seek to be resources for all youth.

Advocacy Considerations:

- Some youth who have been assaulted by a same sex partner may be concerned about not being taken seriously by professionals. Youth may be concerned that others will believe that males cannot be raped or that an assault by a partner is “mutual” since they are both men and can protect themselves.
- A person may not wish to be open about an assault if it will somehow involve coming out about gender identity or sexual orientation. Get consent from the individual person before assuming it is okay to share their personal information (sexual identity/orientation) with any other providers or family members.
- Unlike many youth who come from families where discrimination and harassment are shared experiences, (i.e. racial discrimination), a person who is LGBTQ will face discrimination or harassment but they may not have the support of their families.
- LGBTQ youth may have multiple identities with which their sexual orientation or gender identities intersect. It is helpful to consider these intersections when advocating for youth.
- Before providing referrals to youth, determine if the referrals are LGBTQ friendly and safe.

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer/Questioning (LGBTQQ) Youth

Medical System Considerations:

- Many youth may not feel comfortable disclosing about sexual behavior unless a clear non-judging stance has been taken. Asking, “Have you been sexually involved with males, females or both,” can be a nonjudgmental approach.
 - * Always use inclusive language.
 - * Avoid making assumptions that someone is male or female, gay or straight and always ask questions openly. “Are you dating someone,” “How do you identify your gender?” “Where do your parents live”, etc.
- Transgender youth may resist being seen naked. Many transgender people do not relate comfortably to their genitals and may deny to themselves that they exist.
 - * Transgender youth may be uncomfortable if they feel their medical provider is deciding their gender based on their genitals.
- Discretion should be used when calling the person from the lobby for an appointment. If you are aware a person is transgender, it is most respectful to walk up to them and say it is their turn rather than call their legal name from across the room, thereby “outing them” or causing them to feel unsafe.
- If you ask if a female is sexually active and she says she is, do not assume she is referring to heterosexual vaginal sex.
- A person who is transgender also has a sexual orientation and can be gay, lesbian, or bi-sexual, etc. Gender identity, not biology, will likely determine how a person identifies his or her sexual orientation. For example, a person born biologically male who identifies as female and is attracted to males will likely consider herself to be heterosexual.
- Assess the situation of homeless youth/LGBTQQ youth; meet youth where they are and avoid making decisions about what you, as a professional, believe is best.
- Be a resource for medical needs rather than a provider who is going to attempt to solve youth’s problems.
- Incorporate intake and assessment forms that are gender inclusive to the medical setting.
- Provide sexual health education, sexually transmitted infections/disease education, mental health support – never assume the youth is straight or only has heterosexual sex/relationships. If a youth identifies as “straight,” don’t assume they only have heterosexual sex, etc.
- Medical providers must remain non-judgmental and use a “Harm Reduction” approach to youth who choose to continue in sex-work.
- Provide safe sex supplies to youth or provide a referral to a clinic that can supply this.
- Provide affordable health care and all other basic needs and services youth need in places that are LGBTQQ friendly and safe.
 - * If the first response medical clinic is not affordable to the specific youth’s needs, provide them with referrals that would assist them best for the immediate and long-term medical needs.

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer/Questioning (LGBTQQ) Youth

Law Enforcement System Considerations:

- Law enforcement will encounter homeless and LGBTQ youth under many circumstances which law enforcement deem dangerous and unsafe for youth. It is best to build a relationship with youth before attempting to “save” the youth, being a resource for youth is most helpful short and long-term.
- Many transgender youth have identification that does not match their gender expression and are therefore very concerned about interacting with systems/people that may confront them about this inconsistency (airports, public restrooms, reporting assault, etc).
- It is very important to remember that homeless and LGBTQ youth need safer places to stay (places that are LGBTQ friendly and where youth feel safe and welcome). When placing youth, be sure youth feel comfortable at the safe place to ensure they will stay at the secured safe place.
- Be sensitive and educated on the diversity of the LGBTQ community.
 - * It is common for service providers and law enforcement to have opposing goals, having someone within law enforcement to lead this effort is ideal.
- As law enforcement asks questions about family, be aware that families come in a variety of arrangements. For example, some youth have two moms/dads for parents; hence the question “Where do your mom and dad live” is alienating. It is better to ask youth, “Where does your family live,” or “Where do your parents live?”

- Comprehensive questioning and non-generalized language (parent(s) rather than mom & dad, or assuming sexual orientation) will allow youth to build trust and rapport.

Legal System Considerations:

- Many transgender people have documents that have discrepancies between legal name and gender marker and gender presentation. It is best to inquire about these privately to have questions clarified. Limit your questions only to what is necessary rather than to satisfy curiosity.

Juvenile Corrections System Considerations:

- Transgender youth are often placed in settings based on biological features rather than identity. Any person who does not conform to gender norms may be at significant risk of being re-victimized in locked settings. To avoid re-victimizing youth:
 - * Be conscious around issues of sleeping arrangements, showers/bathrooms and changing areas. Provide private and separate areas as needed.
- Some LGBTQ youth are forced to stay in detention longer than needed due to inability of workers to locate safe placement settings in foster care or group homes.
- Individuals within the court system have tremendous power over youth; always treat youth with respect and dignity even though they may look, act or behave differently than the service provider.

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer/Questioning (LGBTQQ) Youth

School System Considerations:

- Within each school, clearly identify “safe staff.” This can be done with stickers, signs, etc. placed outside of staff doors/offices. Safe staff members are known to be staff members LGBTQQ students can talk with about issues.
- Be sure both students and staff are clear on harassment policies; in addition, anti-harassment policies should always be enforced (teasing, taunting, etc.).
- Always allow students private changing areas in school locker rooms.
- Encourage staff support for both LGBTQQ support groups and Gay-Straight Alliances (GSA), and an awareness of the difference between these groups (a confidential support group just for LGBTQQ groups vs. a GSA which is more of an activist/activity group).

Latino/Hispanic Youth

The following are recommendations developed by Latino/Hispanic community members as well as participating members involved with SHYIP.

General Considerations:

- Latinos are not a monolithic ethnic group. Latinos can be documented or undocumented immigrants from different countries with different cultural traditions. They can belong to families that have lived in the United States for many generations. Some may claim English as their native language, others may claim Spanish as their native language, and yet others may be native speakers of a variety of indigenous languages.
- Even if youth appear to speak English, ask if she/he would prefer to have an interpreter. Hire only certified interpreters. Do not use family members, particularly children, to interpret.

When using an interpreter:

- * Face the victim, not the interpreter.
- * Speak in first or second person. Ask: “What is your name?”
Instead of saying: “Ask her what her name is.”
- Understand the importance of the family. It is extremely important to let the victim decide if she/he wants to inform her/his family of the sexual assault. Ask if she/he would like someone from the family to be present while making a police report, evidentiary exams, counseling, etc. It is her/his choice to have someone present.
- Be informed about the special challenges faced by immigrants (racism, language barriers, sexism, cultural differences, immigration status, etc.). Remember, abuse is not a characteristic of the Latino culture, it can occur in every culture.
- Some Latino youth will make less eye contact or touch each other more in normal conversation, but others will not.

Legal/Law Enforcement System Considerations:

- Survivors of sexual assault may often believe that it is their fault. Youth may choose not to discuss the assault with their family because they don’t want to scare, dishonor or worry their family, or because of religious beliefs.
- Youth who are immigrants may not report a sexual assault due to fear of immigration problems or deportation. They often distrust the legal system and may not know how to ask for help because of their fears. Likewise, a perpetrator’s immigration status may impact the youth’s decision to report. Most youth do not want their families/partners to be deported. They just want the abuse to stop.
- It may be difficult for a Latino survivor of sexual assault to seek help because of a past experience with distrust and discrimination with the system. Be aware of how these biases may affect communication with law enforcement, and provide reassurance of the confidentiality and safety of the interaction.
- In some Latin American countries, sexual assault and/or domestic violence are not viewed as a crime. In others, sexual assault survivors regularly appear alongside the perpetrator in the local media. In many Latin American countries, photos of the suspected or convicted perpetrators appear on the news. Sometimes the victim’s picture may appear alongside it, or as part of the news piece. This may interfere with the victim’s desire to report as a result of his/her identity being “public”.

Latino/Hispanic Youth

- * It is important to explain to youth how sexual assault and domestic violence are addressed in the United States Criminal Justice System.
- * Inform youth of their rights as minors. This will help youth understand the importance of making a report to the proper authorities or to be seen at the hospital.
- Always talk to youth and take police report alone and without family members or friends present, regardless of whom the youth states she is with.

Medical System Considerations:

- For many Latinos, questions related to sexuality are a delicate topic, and youth should be asked if she/he will prefer a female or male person to do the examination, make the police report, etc. or in the presence of a person the youth trusts.
- Be aware that when youth go to a clinic or hospital the perpetrator may accompany her/him. Be sure that regardless of whom youth says she/he is with (friend, partner, brother, etc.) that medical personnel see her/him alone.

School System Considerations:

- School personnel should consider that youth do not want to confirm abuse, exploitation, or assault to authority figures because of experiences where disclosure immediately follows schools informing parents and/or guardians.
- * Sensitivity and discussion of confidentiality and mandated reporting should always be discussed with youth.

- * Informing Latino youth and parents/guardians of minor consent laws is helpful for families who are unfamiliar with confidentiality laws.

- If the youth is truant from school, language and communication may become a barrier for parents and school personnel.
- * For example, youth may tell parents/caregivers that they are going to school when there is no school because of language barriers (and instead are going to a friend's house/boyfriend, shopping mall, etc.).
- * Latino parents may not understand the school rules for "un-excused" absence and may keep the youth home to baby-sit for the family.

Male Youth

The following are recommendations developed by male youth advocates as well as participating members involved with SHYIP.

Introduction to Male Youth:

The identification of sexual assaults committed against males is a recently recognized phenomenon. Previous to the feminist efforts of the last 30 years, resulting in much more comprehensive laws and growing public awareness, rape was the only “sex crime” recognized by law. Only males could be charged with rape and females were the only victims recognized by law.

There has been a bias in our culture against recognizing the sexual assault of boys and men as prevalent and abusive. Because of this bias, there has been a belief that boys and men do not experience abuse and do not suffer from the same negative impact of sexual assault that girls or women do. Today this bias is changing; many states are beginning to recognize that sexual assault of males is a problem. Research shows that one out of six boys will have been assaulted by the age of 16. Unfortunately, experts believe too many cases still go unreported.

Recent statistics suggest that 75% of sexual predators are male and 25% are female. Sexual abuse by women of children and teens is a subject most parents and caregivers are not familiar with. Female sexual predators go unreported because of lack of awareness by the public. As recently as 10 years ago, it was a common assumption that females did not or could not sexually abuse children or youth. As a result, as many as 86% of the victims of female sexual predators are not believed, and therefore, the crimes may go unreported and might not get prosecuted.

Many of the considerations stated in the document “Youth Considerations” are applicable to male youth. However, because male victims often face different issues there are additional considerations that should be taken in to account. Following is

list of general considerations along with a suggested list of considerations when working with male youth:

General Considerations:

- Boys are more likely than girls to be sexually abused by strangers or by authority figures in organizations such as schools, the church or athletic programs.
- The feeling of denial is most common after a male youth has been sexually assaulted. The reasons behind denial include:
 - * A worry that people will not believe him
 - * A fear that the perpetrator may punish him for reporting the crime
 - * Inability to view himself as a victim of a crime
 - * Reluctance to face all potential changes in him that may result from acknowledging what has happened
- Mistaken attitudes including the perception that men/boys cannot be forced into sex makes it difficult for a man or boy who has experienced sexual assault to cope with the event, leaving him feeling isolated, ashamed and feeling “less of a man.”
- Erection or ejaculation during a sexual assault does happen. Reassure the youth that a physical arousal has nothing to do with sexual desires or consent. Physical contact or stress can make physiological responses occur.
- For male youth, sexual assault typically causes confusion or questioning about one’s sexuality. Reassure the youth that his sexuality is unlikely to have changed as a result of being sexually assaulted.

Male Youth

- For homosexual youth, many blame themselves because of their sexuality. This self – blame often adds another layer of problematic thoughts for professionals to assess.
- Gay youth tend to hesitate reporting a sexual assault due to fears of blame or intolerance by police or medical personnel. As a result, gay youth might not seek out legal protection and medical care following the assault.
- When male youth are in a medical setting, don't assume that youth want a same sex provider; always ask if youth prefer to have male or female medical provider.
- Youth respond differently to being sexually assaulted. Some may respond to their feelings of shame, guilt, or anger by punishing themselves with self-destructive behavior.
- Many youth may pull away from relationships and family making them more isolated.
- As a coping behavior, some youth may begin using drugs or alcohol. There may be signs of increased aggressive behavior or becoming increasingly agitated with friends, family and partners.

Working with Male Youth:

- When working with young males, try to build rapport. Appropriately expressing personal feelings and allowing boys to appropriately express theirs will build better relationships.
- It is best to engage youth with contemporary mediums that they identify interest in. For example, you could use a well know movie that highlights challenges, obstacles and achievements in life.

- For many young men, appearing “soft,” too permissive, or inconsistent will inhibit your interaction and progress toward healthy relationship-building. Establish clear guidelines and consequences that are logical, clear, and understandable. These should be discussed from the beginning of your interaction with the youth so that they are aware of what they are expected to be accountable to in the future.
- Be aware of the following fears and concerns a young male victim may have when seeking services:
 - * Being labeled as gay.
 - * The assumption that, especially if he is gay, he will not be believed or supported.
 - * Concern for being treated with shame, blame or intolerance by law enforcement or the medical profession.
 - * Stigma associated with the myth that “males are not victims.”
 - * Loss of security, sense of self and “innocence.”

Somali Youth

The following are recommendations developed by Somali community members as well as participating members involved with SHYIP.

Who Are Somali People?

Somalia is located eastern Africa, bordering the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean, east of Ethiopia. Due to the collapse of the 1991 Somali government and subsequent civil war, thousands of Somalis immigrated to this country as either refugees or political asylees. An estimated 50,000 Somalis have made Minnesota their home because of economic opportunities. It is very important for one to know the following key elements about this community:

- Language: The spoken language is Somali with regional variations.
- Social Structure: Based on family and clan group.
- Religion: The majority of Somalis (99%) are Muslim Sunnis. Being a Muslim means declaring (Shahadah) that there is only one God and Mohammed is his messenger.

General Considerations:

- Shaking hands with the opposite sex is not a common practice in the Somali culture. It is best to not shake hands unless one is first extended to you.
- Physical contact between men and women in public is avoided.
- Somalis sometimes use sweeping hands and arm gestures to make a point or express a feeling.
- The American way of using the index finger to call someone to come towards you is offensive to Somalis. It is a sign of disrespect.
- To show respect, young people avoid looking adults in the eye.
- Indirect speech and humor is used as a way of saving face and overcoming embarrassment.

- In the traditional household, the father is the head of the household; however, due to the civil war in Somalia, many young people are now raised by single mothers.
- One of the important pillars of Islam includes praying five times a day. It is good practice to offer youth a place to pray during prayer times. Do not be offended if someone requests prayer time.
- Another important pillar of Islam is fasting during the month of Ramadan. The start and end dates of Ramadan change every year because it is based on the lunar year. A person who might be fasting during Ramadan is not allowed to eat or drink from dawn to dusk.
- In the Muslim religion, drinking alcohol and consuming products containing pork is prohibited. Do not offer Somalis alcoholic beverages. Youth who drink alcohol or use drugs might not want anyone to find out because in addition to being illegal, using alcohol and drugs are not culturally accepted behaviors.
- As with other religions, in the Muslim religion, rape is a serious offense and carries serious consequences. There is a stigma associated with rape, which often prevents victims to come forward with their stories.
- Avoid making judgments based on a Somali youth's attire. Generally, Somali women wear a head scarf and prefer to cover their entire body. This is something required by their religion and is part of their culture and tradition. Youth may choose to dress less traditionally and more mainstream (urban or pop culture attire) without approving or disapproving his/her entire culture and religion.

Somali Youth

- Avoid making judgments based on a Somali youth's verbal language skills. Some youth learn to speak English before they develop sufficient reading, vocabulary, and comprehension skills.

Medical System Considerations:

- Although it is an unlawful act, female circumcision is a common practice. Be mindful when examining young women who might have been circumcised and focus on the issue at hand.
- Youth might not be comfortable to share their sexual or medical history with strangers including medical professionals. Providers should explain why the discussion is important, how it might help the victim, the issue of confidentiality, right to choose services, as well as available resources.
- During physical examination, females might not be comfortable to be with male doctors or interpreters. Ask ahead if they prefer female or male doctors or interpreters.
- Youth might not want their parents or relatives to find out what has happened to them for fear of shaming family members or fear of bringing family members to court.
- Youth might not want to go back to their immediate family. Let youth know their rights and of any community resources that are available to them.
- Youth might prefer living with extended family rather than a foster family or shelter.
- Youth might be suffering from mental health issues or substance abuse in addition to being sexually abused. If a

youth has substance abuse or mental health issues, inform them of available treatment and support services he/she can access.

Law Enforcement System Considerations:

- Somali youth might not know how to cooperate with law enforcement.
- Somali youth hang out to be together but are rarely gang affiliated. It is a cultural norm for friends to congregate in social groups.
- Let youth know about available community resources and provide interpreter services if language is a barrier; be sure to ask youth if they would be most comfortable with a male or female interpreter.
- Do not make assumptions or stereotypes; rather, ask questions if you are not sure about something related to the youth and/or the Somali community.
- Many Somalis fear dogs and get upset if touched by dogs or chased by one. It is best to keep dogs away from them when seeking their trust or cooperation.

Court System Considerations:

- Explain to youth and family the way the court system works, as they will most likely not be familiar with the system.
- Provide interpreters if language is a barrier. Ask youth what gender of interpreter they are most comfortable being with throughout the court process.

Somali Youth

- Economic disparities often do not allow for equal representation under the law. Let families know if they are eligible for legal assistance and inform families and youth of their rights.
- Clearly explain to families and youth the meaning, the purpose and the consequences of criminal no contact orders and other legal actions.
- Only with the family and/or youth's consent, connect with Somali community leaders for assistance if culture is a barrier.
- With permission of the youth, find out if there are local restorative justice programs that are available to youth.
- Be aware that the entire family and community might appear in court and expect you to explain the facts of the case. Give families and relatives an explanation of what you can realistically and legally share with them.

School System Considerations:

- If you are communicating with youth or parents and language is a barrier, provide an interpreter and seek additional services from school liaisons and advocates.
- Explain confidentiality and mandated reporting laws and appropriate conduct to youth and family before any problems arise.

Suggested Reading for Further Information

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation: Wilder Research. Research on Homeless Youth, Race and Culture and Troubled Youth: <http://www.wilder.org>

Fontes, L.A. (2005). Child abuse and culture. Working with diverse families. New York: Guilford Press.

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Sue, D. (2004) Counseling the Culturally Diverse (4th ed.). New York: John Wiley & Sons.

The Center for Victims of Torture Resource website for culture competency reading: <http://www.cvt.org/main.php/ResourceCenter>

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Ungar, M. (2005). Handbook for working with children and youth. Pathways to resilience across cultures and contexts. California: Sage Publications.



Positive Youth Development

Strengthening Prevention Strategies: Theory and Practice of Effective Youth Development

Compiled by Theresa Dolezal, MA

The Safe Harbors Youth Intervention Project (SHYIP) seeks a multi-disciplinary approach to prevention by identifying and supporting prevention strategies that help professionals, family members, and communities provide opportunities and spaces for sexually exploited homeless/runaway youth to thrive. The following section contains information and points to consider about positive youth development as a strategy for interacting with youth.

Positive youth development efforts intend to promote health and wellness and prevent problems from developing. This is often expressed in terms of promoting protective factors and decreasing risk factors. **Protective factors** for all youth include events, interactions, circumstances and experiences that nurture their life goals, helping youth choose behaviors that do not compromise their health and safety. It is hoped that supporting youth will promote resiliency while decreasing **risk factors**, which may include events, circumstances and factors that limit the likelihood of healthy development including exposure to interpersonal violence, economic poverty, and inadequate housing options. In the context of SHYIP, professionals can promote protective factors in the daily interactions with youth by structuring services, systems, and support that will help youth develop skills and gain the resources they need to thrive and face the myriad challenges they encounter.

A key premise of positive youth development suggests that when working with sexually exploited homeless/runaway youth, professionals must consider the youth's unique life circumstances and focus on their capabilities, strengths, and developmental needs (See Cultural Considerations for information on youth culture). Within positive youth development approaches, public health agencies suggest a harm reduction model. Harm reduction recognizes that some people will inevitably engage in high risk behavior and that it may not be possible to eliminate

these behaviors completely; however, it suggests that it is possible to reduce the harm done by addressing the conditions associated with the risky behavior and a process that meets the youth "where they are at."

Regardless of history, social status or life experiences, all youth have hopes, dreams, talents, and skills that can be developed or crushed as life is full of adversarial experiences. As professionals from multiple disciplines interact with sexually exploited homeless/runaway youth, there are many opportunities to help generate protective factors and decrease risk factors associated with sexual abuse and exploitation. The following approaches offer information on strategies found to strengthen youth's protective factors.

Part one of the information provided is intended to encourage best practices among professionals who work with youth.

Part two of the information provided involves general suggestions for family and friends when interacting with youth.

Strengthening Prevention Strategies: Theory and Practice of Effective Youth Development

Youth Development Programs are:

- Youth Centered staff and activities centered on engaging youth's diverse talents, skills, and interests. These activities build on their strengths and involving youth to engage in planning and decision-making that ultimately build empowerment.
- Knowledge Centered – activities will involve an array of activities, including music, sports, clubs, theater/dance and community service. This acquired knowledge and experience will build a range of real life skills that provide opportunities to connect with a wide array of adult and peer mentors in the future.
- Care Centered – youth are provided safe space to build trusting relationships.

Youth Development Seeks to Build the Following Competencies:

- Social competencies, such as work and family life skills, problem-solving skills, and communication skills;
- Moral competencies, such as personal values and ethics, a sense of responsibility and citizenship (including participation in civic life and community service);
- Emotional competencies, such as a sense of personal identity, self-confidence, autonomy, and the ability to resist negative peer pressure;
- Physical competencies, such as physical conditioning and endurance, and an appreciation for and strategies to achieve lifelong physical health and fitness; and

- Cognitive competencies, such as knowledge, reasoning ability, creativity, a lifelong commitment to learning and achievement, and self determination.

Premises of Youth Development:

- Focus on assets and strengths, not problems. Provide youth with praise and assistance through programs that find solutions and address the real or human needs of their lives.
- Young people should participate in designing the program and its activities. This will help the youth develop a sense of accountability and connection to the program, agency, or community.
- Programs should involve committed, trusted and knowledgeable adults. Professionals should enjoy mentoring and helping youth.
- Successful youth development requires community partnerships. This requires professionals to join youth to advocate that youth are community resources, not “trouble makers” or causes of dysfunction in society.

Strengthening Prevention Strategies: Theory and Practice of Effective Youth Development

To Help Young People Develop, the Following Opportunities are Needed:

- The opportunity for safety and structure through open and non-judgmental discussions about values with safe, trusting adults;
- The opportunity to belong and have membership through active participation in a variety of programs and activities;
- The opportunity to develop self-worth and an ability to contribute through meaningful interactions;
- The opportunity for independence and control over one's life through guided experimentation and boundary setting to discover self and an enjoyment of life;
- The opportunity to build close and significant relationships with peers and at least one adult;
- The opportunity to gain competency and mastery through experiences being active in nature, expressing themselves creatively, and interacting with multiple generations.

Five Outcomes of Positive Youth Development:

1. **Health** – Good current health status and evidence of knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors that will assure future well-being. For example, sexual health, decreasing substance use, good nutrition, and a better understanding of the consequences of risky behaviors.
2. **Personal/Social Skills** – Intrapersonal skills – the ability to understand one's own emotions, practice self-discipline, and set personal boundaries and goals. Interpersonal skills – working with others, developing and sustaining friendships through cooperation, empathy, and negotiation, and developing judgment skills and coping systems.
3. **Knowledge** – Reasoning, and Creativity – A broad base of knowledge and an ability to appreciate and demonstrate creative expression. Good oral, written and problem-solving skills and an ability to learn. Interest in life-long learning and achieving.
4. **Vocational Awareness** – A broad understanding of life options and the steps to take in making choices. Adequate preparation for work and family life and an understanding of the value and purpose of family, work, and leisure.
5. **Citizenship** – Understanding national, community, and racial, ethnic, or cultural group history and values. Desire to be ethical and to be involved in efforts that contribute to the broader good.

Positive Youth Development

Recommended Strategies for Family and Friends Interacting with Youth

For runaway prevention to be useful, it must begin before problems arise. As youth mature into adolescence, adults are encouraged to acknowledge and support the adjustment to a new stage in life. This may mean empathizing with the youth's experiences and considering situations from his or her viewpoint. Parent/caregivers should also share their feelings as a parent/caregiver and make clear their expectations from the youth. An open environment for sharing feelings encourages youth come to an adult sooner if they have problems. If it seems that a youth might run away, it's important to confront the situation right away. Expressing concern and offering to listen if the youth needs to talk are good first steps. It's important to make clear to the youth that the parent/caregivers do not want the youth to run away. The National Runaway Switchboard (NRS) is also available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as a resource for parents or youth in this difficult situation (1-800-runaway). NRS can provide safe options for youth considering running or already on the street.

General Recommendations to Help Build Healthy Relationships:

- Spend time with children and teens. Shared experiences build relationships based on affection and trust that form the basis for future communication.
- Eat together. Meals offer the opportunity to talk about the day's events and to grow closer. Use the time for conversation, not confrontation.
- Be present within the home as much as you can. Adult supervision is not always possible, however adults remind youth that they are accountable, offers opportunities to connect, and demonstrates adult interest in their lives.

- Read, watch TV or movies, and surf the internet together. This offers adults a chance to start conversations about their own values and opinions.
- If you have a computer, put it in a centralized location in the home. This provides accountability to adults and opens communication between youth and adults.
- Exercise or play sports together. Shared experiences create important connections as young people develop.
- Get involved in community service with your kids. Modeling good experiences and behaviors of community involvement will not only provide a good example but will also create connections and increased relationships to each other.
- Help youth gain a sense of self-confidence. By offering praise for jobs well done and emphasizing the things youth do right develop the ability to navigate the world. If youth fall short, adults can suggest ways to improve by providing alternative scenarios, not criticism.
- Encourage youth to get involved in fun, safe, fulfilling activities. Help youth to identify their strengths, talents, and interests and encourage them to volunteer in the community, join a youth group, or participate in arts, sports or school activities.

Tips for Healthy Interactions with Youth:

- **Pay Attention** – Listen when youth are talking with you. Ask questions and provide feedback in conversations interesting to the youth.
- **Give Respect** – Acknowledge and support youth's struggle to grow and mature.

Positive Youth Development

Recommended Strategies for Family and Friends Interacting with Youth

- **Understand Youth Perspective** – Try to empathize with the youth's experiences and struggles.
- **Allow Youth to Make Mistakes** – Everyone makes mistakes; youth must learn to cope with mistakes in positive and healthy ways. This can occur by normalizing mistakes.
- **Openly Discuss Feelings** – When adults share their thoughts and feelings, youth know it is safe to share their own feelings when they need to.
- **Create Responsibility** – Give youth choices, not direct orders. Help youth understand the consequences of their actions.
- **Administer Positive Praise** – Be specific about praise and reward good behavior and positive decisions, especially when you recognize the choice was difficult.
- **Avoid Hassling** – Asking too many questions often shuts off information and closes conversation.
- **Avoid Always Giving the Answers** – Youth must learn to reason and think critically so that they are able to find their own answers or solutions to problems when they need to.
- **Use Team Work** – Work together to lay out the problems and find mutually agreeable solutions. Make sure the youth understands the problem and reasons for the solutions.
- **Identify Clear Boundaries and Expectations** – Clearly establish and communicate with youth about what is and what is not acceptable and expected of them. Discuss immediate and long term consequences of not following expectations and rules based on what is fully expected.

Advice from Youth:

- Teach me the value of community by providing opportunities for me to contribute.
- Teach me that getting up to go to school every day, on time, is important by supporting my attendance and welcoming me.
- Teach me to be the kind of person other people will respect by setting clear boundaries and expectations.
- Teach me to be fair and consistent by being fair and consistent with me.
- Teach me to listen and value other people's opinions by listening to me and valuing my opinions.
- Teach me to behave well by modeling appropriate behavior.
- Teach me that there are consequences for inappropriate behavior.
- Teach me not to engage in risky behaviors by modeling healthy choices.
- Teach me that profanity and violence are unacceptable by paying attention to what I watch, listen to and view on the internet.
- Teach me to do my best by expecting me to do my best.
- Teach me to love learning by reading with me.
- Teach me that the community values me by providing safe places for me to study and play and work after school.

Positive Youth Development

Recommended Strategies for Family and Friends Interacting with Youth

Questions to Help Youth Considering Running Think Through Their Decision:

- Why are you running?
- Are there benefits to staying at home?
- What else can you do to improve your home situation before you leave?
- What would need to change at home to enable you to stay?
- How do you plan to survive on your own?
- What makes running away unsafe?
- Who is a safe person you can count on to help you? Do they know they are your safe person?
- Have you thought out a plan to run? If so, what is your plan?
- What are your other options?
- Who will you call if you end up in trouble?
- If you run and then return home, what may happen?

Signs a Teen Might be Thinking of Running Away From Home:

- Changes in behaviors or patterns: Youth who suddenly stop eating or begin to overeat, sleep all day or never sleep, spend all their time with friends or never want to leave their room. Sudden mood swings mean youth are unsettled and restless. Youth may be coping in an unhealthy way to stress or distressing situations.
- Rebellious behavior: Dropping grades, truancy, breaking rules at home, and picking fights are all symptoms that your child is having problems.

- Disclosure of intentions to run away: Some youth will hint that they want to run away and some will outright threaten their family with running. Sometimes their family will hear rumors through friends, school, or other parents that their child is thinking of leaving home.
- Accumulation of money and possessions: To survive, run aways need money and resources. Some runaways prepare for their run by slowly withdrawing cash from their savings accounts. Keeping a bag or backpack of clothes in the closet might mean they are waiting to make a quick escape.
- Confront your suspicions right away. Clearly and calmly let youth know you are concerned about them and their behavior makes you afraid they might run away from home. Invite them to talk with you or someone else about what is troubling them and be supportive of finding positive ways of coping with their stress. Let them know you don't want them to run away and you're committed to helping the family work things out. If youth's intent is on running away, give them the phone number of the National Runaway Switchboard (NRS) so that they can find safe options while out on their own (1-800-runaway). Tell them they can also use the NRS to stay in touch with you even if they choose not to stay at home.

Positive Youth Development

Recommended Strategies for Family and Friends Interacting with Youth

The Most Frequent Characteristics that Place Runaway/Throwaway Youth in Danger:

(Youth in the US who were identified as runaway/throwaway in a 1999 by the National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway and Throwaway Children (NISMAART) study with 1,682,900 youth)

- Experiences of physical or sexual abuse at home in the year prior to leaving and/or fear of abuse upon return (350,400, 21%)
- Substance dependency (317,800, 19%)
- Extremely young, 13 years old or younger (305,300, 18%)
- In the company of someone abusing drugs (302,100, 18%)
- Using hard drugs (292,000, 17%)
- Presence in a place where criminal activity occurs (256,900, 12%)

Works Referenced:

The recommendations found in the present document have been compiled from literature, brochures, and experts working in the field of positive youth development. These include:

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The National Collaboration for Youth, Younger Americans Act Policy Proposal, 2000

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A New Vision: Promoting Youth Development,
Testimony of Karen Johnson

Pittman, before the House Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families, September 30, 1991

Making the Case: Community Foundations and Youth Development , Bonnie Politz, Senior Program Officer, Academy for Educational Development

Center for Youth Development & Policy Research, Foundations for Change, 1996, Second Edition

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
www.missingkids.com

The National Runaway Switchboard. (2008).
More runaway prevention tips for parents
http://www.1800runaway.org/pub_mat/tips1.html

The National Runaway Switchboard (2008).
Signs my Teen Might be Thinking of Running Away.
http://www.1800runaway.org/pub_mat/signs.html

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<http://www.1800runaway.org/sourcebook/contents.html#f>

Support for Family and Friends Section

Considerations for When a Young Person Runs Away from Home

Compiled by Theresa Dolezal, MA

The experience of running away can be frightening for youth, their families and/or friends. The primary goal of this section is to assist families and friends to consider the necessary steps when looking for help locating a youth who has run away. The following information was integrated based on the recommendations of professionals working in medical, outreach, law enforcement, and prosecution fields.

It is important to consider that there are differences between ‘missing children’ and ‘runaway children.’ A missing child is someone who is taken from their home or family against their will (i.e. abducted or wandering). A runaway youth is someone who has intentionally left home, often fleeing from a negative situation or having been coerced to leave. While some suggestions are universal, approaches to locate and help runaway youth versus missing children are different. For more information on what to do when a loved one is missing call the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) on their toll-free telephone number: 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) or visit www.missingkids.com.

To help locate and return a running youth to safety, it is important for families and friends to remain calm and rational, thinking clearly and logically about where the youth might be and the reasons why he or she might have run away may be helpful. Despite your emotions and reactions to the situation, it is best to stay calm. Although locating the youth immediately may seem difficult, it is critical that every attempt possible is made to find them before they are recruited to use and/or engage in drugs, alcohol, crime, sexual exploitation, pornography, and/or prostitution for survival.

When a youth runs, many people may feel guilty, depressed, anxious or even paralyzed by fear. However, it is important to be candid and direct with law enforcement and outreach professionals concerning the circumstances that may have led a youth to run. If you cannot provide

law enforcement and professionals with necessary information, ask a family member or friend to help and support you through this process as it may be difficult. The situations leading up to a youth running away may involve complicated dynamics, including, but not limited to: incidents of racial discrimination toward the youth, experiences with interpersonal violence, familial conflict about a youth’s peer group and social behaviors, and a youth adopting nontraditional behaviors that are unsanctioned or rejected by their previous support system .

Given the potential complications, it may not be the best solution for the youth or the family member(s) to have the youth return home. While families and friends want to know their loved one is safe, the situation the young person ran from cannot be overlooked. It is of utmost importance that when a youth returns, the problems that prompted them to leave must be addressed and resolved—solutions should be agreed upon by both guardian/caregiver/parent as well as by the youth. An interim placement should be considered when appropriate to offer the family an opportunity to work on solving larger problems and come up with long-term options. Please refer to the SHYIP community resources if counseling or further support is desired.

Support for Family and Friends

Immediate Action with Law Enforcement:

- Contact law enforcement and make a report to the police.
- Request that the youth's name and identifying information be immediately entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Missing Person File, a national law enforcement database that will pick up their information if she/he is found anywhere in the state. Please be aware that this information will not give the youth a criminal record with law enforcement, but will only assist in his or her safe return.
- Provide law enforcement and street outreach workers with a recent photograph of the youth. Please see community resources for a list of street outreach workers.
- If your local law-enforcement agency will not enter information about the youth into NCIC's databases, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) will. The Missing Children Act of 1982 mandates information to be entered. Contact your nearest FBI field office for help. Regardless of what you are told, there is no law requiring a waiting period for reporting a youth missing to law enforcement or for entry into NCIC.

Immediate Action with Community, Friends and Family:

- Go to the young person's school and talk with all of their teachers and school staff. Ask if they have noticed any unusual behavior and who the young person hangs out with/talks with/associates with.
- Contact the young person's friends. Ask if they have ANY information about the youth's whereabouts, and give them your number in case they hear from the youth. Reassure the

youth's friends that the youth on the run is NOT IN TROUBLE but that you want them to be safe and you are worried about their endangerment. Provide youth's friends with resources that will help this location process if they seem willing and able.

- Check with the youth's friends, partner/girlfriend/boyfriend, school, neighbors, relatives, or anyone else who may know of or have clues about his/her whereabouts. Ask them to notify you if they hear from her/him. If the youth has a computer and other online devices, they should be checked as a source of leads or other information concerning individuals she/he may have been in communication with. It may shed light on a planned meeting between the missing youth and someone he or she "met" online or discussed plans with in chat rooms, instant messenger, Myspace and Facebook accounts, etc.
- When appropriate, have posters or flyers made (see following example for what to include). Place them in store windows, and distribute them to truck stops, youth-oriented businesses (e.g. drop-in centers, local hang outs, to street outreach agencies, etc.), hospitals, treatment centers, law-enforcement agencies, and local spots the youth may frequent.
- Circulate flyers, pictures, and information about the youth with local Outreach Workers and shelters (see resource section for sample flyer and contact information).
- Call or visit several local spots that the youth may frequent. Also, check with area hospitals and treatment centers. If she or he was employed, call the employer or coworkers.
- Ask friends, family and immediate contacts when the last time she/he saw the youth and if the youth said anything that may lead to where the youth has run to.

Support for Family and Friends

On-going Searches and Follow-up:

- Identify a “safe” person/place for the youth to stay with if they are not willing or able at this time to stay at home. Have this person in mind so that if the youth contacts you, you are able to suggest it as an option. This person must be a “safe” person in from the youth’s perspective too. Make sure the person know he/she is the designated safe person.
- Use all available technologies to assist in the search. For instance, outgoing messages can be left and others on your answering machine, with an answering service, and/or on voice mail. You may consider wanting to keep your telephone number free at all times, explore the possibility of getting a second telephone line to be used as a facsimile line, a connection to an online service/the Internet, and/or as an additional telephone line.
- Telephone calling features such as Call Trace, Caller ID, and Call Return may help in your search. Check with your service provider to see if these calling features are available in your area and if any additional features are available to assist in your search. If you cannot afford these available technologies to help this process, you should contact local service agencies that support families and youth for emergency funds and/or financial support. It never hurts to ask for extra support.
- Search for leading information in the youth’s room, school locker, journal, notes, letters, computer files, electronic mail, current and past telephone bills, bank account, automatic-teller-machine (ATM) transactions, and credit-card bills. Check with the motor vehicle licensing and registration bureau within your state, and other states, if the youth is of age to drive.

- If youth have bank account/credit card, attempt to get bank statements to potentially track any recent activity.
- If the youth utilizes networking and social websites such as myspace.com, facebook.com, ask a youth’s friend to see their webpage to see any online activity and/or conversations that may lead to his/her location or information about the situation.

If the Youth Contacts You But Is Unwilling to Come Home:

- It is important to show love and concern for the youth, not anger or fear despite adverse feelings you may have. Remember the goal is to help work through problems and have him or her return home, not shame or scold the youth for running.
- Encourage the youth to contact a local runaway shelter or the National Runaway Switchboard (NRS) at 1-800-621-4000 for assistance and support.
- Ask if you can stay in touch with the youth. Suggest setting specific plans with a form of contact (telephone number, mailing address, electronic mail).
- Always ask if the youth is safe. Determine level of safety plan based on their response. If the youth is not safe, it is best to contact law enforcement in regards to their contact for assistance.

Support for Family and Friends

Tips for Families When a Runaway Youth Returns Home

- Remember to show care and concern for his or her safety and well-being—not anger or fear. If you react with anger, youth may feel unwanted and unloved and run away again. Make sure s/he understands that you care about what happens to him or her.
- Be prepared to make changes. If no changes are made to make the situation better, the youth is likely to run again.
- Most importantly, when the youth returns, try to resolve the problems in the child's life, especially those that involve the family, which prompted him or her to leave home in the first place.
- If you are unable to address the family problems effectively, seek the assistance of a licensed counselor or helping professional. Families can contact the local department of social services (usually by county), family services, or other public or private agencies that help families. Members of the clergy, school personnel, or the law-enforcement community can also direct you to available services and resources. If possible, make counseling or support arrangements before the young person returns. It may be helpful to have the services readily available to be immediately accessed upon his/her return.
- Remember that it may be necessary for a youth to go to a temporary residence or runaway shelter while the family works toward resolving its problems. A licensed counselor or professional can help you make this decision if it feels difficult.

- Promptly notify law enforcement, the state clearinghouse, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC), the National Runaway Switchboard (NRS), or anyone else who may have assisted you about the return of the youth. If the youth has been away for an extended period of time, a complete medical examination is needed when he or she returns home including tests for sexually transmitted diseases and an assessment of mental health concerns may also be helpful depending on experiences and circumstances of being away.

Building the Foundation for a Healthy Teen & Family/Kinship Relationship

- Spend time with children and teens. Shared experiences build relationships based on affection and trust that forms the basis for future communication.
- Eat together. Meals offer the opportunity to talk about the day's events and to grow closer. Use the time for conversation, not confrontation.
- Read, watch TV or movies, and surf the internet together.
- Exercise or play sports together.
- Get involved in community service with your kids.
- Help teens gain a sense of self-confidence. Offer praise for jobs well done and emphasize the things your children do right. If they fall short, suggest ways to improve; avoid criticism and work to empower them to try again.
- Encourage your teens to get involved in fun, safe, fulfilling activities. Help your children to identify their strengths, talents, and interests and encourage them to volunteer in the community, join a youth group, or participate in arts, sports or school activities.

Support for Family and Friends

Prevention Efforts: Considerations for Friends and Family

- **Pay Attention** – Listen when youth are talking with you and engage in conversations based on their interests.
- **Give Respect** – Acknowledge and support youth's struggle to grow and mature.
- **Understanding Youth** – Try to empathize with what youth may be going through.
- **Avoid Lectures** – Everyone responds favorably to clear information and direction.
- **Avoid Labels** – Labels will only confuse the real issues that you wish to address.
- **Be Open** – When adults share their feelings, youth know it's safe to share their own.
- **Create Responsibility** – Give youth choices, not orders. Help them understand the consequences of their actions and model this behavior.
- **Administer Positive Praise** – Be specific and give praise to reward good behavior and good choices.
- **Stop Hassling** – Asking too many questions often shuts off information and creates frustration for all people involved.
- **Avoid Always Giving Answers** – You want youth to be able to find their own answers or solutions to problems. Play “what if” to help them develop problem-solving skills and natural consequences to situations.
- **Use Team Work** – Work together to lay out the problems and find mutually agreeable solutions.

The Safe Harbors Youth Intervention Project (SHYIP) Protocol Guidelines

Discipline Specific Protocol Guidelines			Discipline Specific Protocol Guidelines
Advocacy / 58	Ramsey County Juvenile Delinquency / 76	Ramsey County Human Services Children's Mental Health / 85	
Law Enforcement / 65	Ramsey County Attorney's Office / 77	Ramsey County Human Services Children's Crisis Response / 86	
Medical Assessments / 69	Ramsey County Human Services / 80	Schools / 88	
Ramsey County Community Corrections / 73	Ramsey County Human Services Foster/Shelter Placement / 81	Shelter & Drop-In Centers / 91	
Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center / 75	Ramsey County Child Protection / 83	Street Outreach / 94	

Advocacy

Services and support by advocates are person-centered and based on individual's defined needs. An advocate's role includes informing youth of their rights as a survivor of crime and as a minor. Youth have the right to privacy and confidential information; mandatory reporting should always be discussed with youth before disclosure. The role of an advocate is to provide support, guidance, and advocacy; and to provide appropriate information and referrals to the survivor of a sexual assault.

Advocates recognize that sexual violence has secondary influences on family, friends and partners. The advocate also provides advocacy to secondary victims. Services provided by each agency may vary based on cultural differences and staff limitations. Please see the Cultural Considerations section of the SHYIP Protocol Guidelines when working with diverse cultural communities.

First Response with Youth

The first response and contact with youth requires warmth, empathy and concern. An effective advocate will:

- Ask, "How can I help?"
- Assess need for culturally specific advocate or interpretive services.
- Assure and tell youth you believe her/him.
- Be sensitive to the issues and dynamics of youth.
- Be open and nonjudgmental in attitude and approach.
- Be honest and not make promises s/he cannot keep.
- Discuss mandated reporting and how that applies to youth. (See Consent and Confidentiality Section)
- Reinforce youth's decision to call advocate's office/youth agency.

- Accept youth's reactions to violence. Everyone responds differently to stress and/or crisis.
- Be a good listener. Silence is okay. Let youth talk at her/his own pace.
- Address safety:
 - * Where is the perpetrator?
 - * Is the youth safe right now? Where are they? Is home a safe place for youth?
 - * Assess ongoing safety issues (shelter, home security, etc).
- Help identify options and choices for next steps and how to proceed to best help them.
- Discuss referrals; help youth in connecting with resources.
- Provide information regarding reporting to law enforcement and assist with the reporting process and address concerns. (See Reporting below)
- Address medical needs (Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) and pregnancy testing, birth control options, medical follow-up).
- Provide/offer ongoing crisis and in-person counseling, information referrals, support groups, and financial assistance as needed.
- Support decisions made by youth and if safety is a concern, it is okay to state, "I am concerned for your safety."

Advocacy

Advocacy in Schools

Initial contact with youth victimized by sexual violence in a school setting is usually done through a school staff member (e.g., Guidance Counselor, Social Worker, Nurse or Teacher).

If the school staff calls an advocate to come and meet the student after disclosure, the advocate will:

- Define their role to the school staff.
- Ask if the student would like an advocate to come to their school:
 - * Ask to speak with student before going to the school.
 - * Only go to school with permission of the student.
 - * Ask school staff to arrange meeting according to schedule of student.
- Offer the option of meeting the student at advocacy office.

As an advocate for the student at the school, an advocate will:

- Arrange with staff for a private place to talk with the student.
- Ask the student if they want an interpreter, parent/guardian, caregiver or close friend present with the advocate.
- Define their role and explain confidentiality in addition to mandated reporting laws (i.e. the student should be clear as to what is confidential and what facts are reported to appropriate agencies.)
- Ask the student to share her/his story and begin where the student is most comfortable. They may want to share the entire story or small/general details. Avoid asking detailed questions, unless qualified or required to do so.
- Give the student information, resources and referrals so that they can make their own decision based on their needs.

- Discuss a safety plan with student based on individual circumstances.
- Follow mandated reporting laws and the laws of confidentiality.
- Ask if youth would like follow-up assistance:
 - * Assist youth in connecting with provided resources and referrals.
 - * Explain the depth of advocacy services.

Advocacy with Youth in the Legal System

When working with youth involved with the legal system, youth need to understand the legal process to make informed decisions about her/his criminal case.

Basic concerns youth encounter when working with the legal system:

- Already in the system—truancy, runaway, probation.
- Fear of getting someone else in trouble.
- Threats of harm if they report.
- Fear that they won't be believed.
- Lack of trust in authority figures.
- Assault occurred doing something illegal, e.g., while using drugs or drinking alcohol.
- Fear of parents finding out.

Considerations for reporting to Law Enforcement:

- Assess the needs for interpreter or other culturally specific concerns. (Refer to Cultural Considerations).
- If a delayed report is requested, give phone number for law enforcement. (See Resources).

Advocacy

- Advocates can support youth through the reporting process, and where appropriate, will coordinate efforts with other agencies.
- Inform youth that a report can always be made, even if delayed:
 - * Discuss the pro/cons. Examples: A benefit to reporting the crime is the report against suspected perpetrator will be on file for any future assaults perpetrator commits, reparations typically would like evidence of police report, giving power back to youth, etc. Delayed reporting typically results in a lack of evidence for prosecution, etc.
- Inform youth what information police will need for investigation: report, any evidence, etc.
- Offer to provide support during the report. As jurisdiction permits, youth can make the report at police station and/or advocate's office.
- Be with youth during interviews and appointments when requested.
- Assist youth in getting information about the status of the case (including case number).
- Provide ongoing support, advocacy and information during investigation procedures.
- Provide assistance with any civil matters (Order For Protection (OFP), Harassment Restraining Order, etc.)

Role of Advocate when Arrest Has Been Made:

- Provide youth with information regarding the process for obtaining offender's case status (arrest, charged, not charged, incarceration status, release date, etc.).

- If immigration status is a concern, pursue options with INS (Immigration and Naturalization Service) only at youth's request.

Role of Advocate if Case is Charged:

- Facilitate communication between youth and Victim Witness Advocate if one is assigned to the case, as requested by youth. (See County Attorney's Office for more information).
- Accompany youth to hearings, meetings with prosecuting attorney, Victim Witness staff and others requested by youth.
- Assist youth in communicating safety concerns regarding conditions of offender release.
- Attend trial during youth's testimony or other testimony if requested by the youth.
- Privileged communication (between advocate and youth) means the advocate may not be called to testify.
- Provide ongoing support as needed throughout the process.
- As applicable, ensure there is an interpreter that the youth is comfortable with for all hearings and meetings.
- Refer to MN State Laws for Victim Rights: Website for information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/infores/vrs.htm>

Role of Advocacy during Sentencing Procedures:

- Facilitate communication between youth and Victim Witness Advocate assigned to case, as requested by youth.
- Assist youth with victim impact statement as needed.
- Accompany youth to sentencing hearing as requested.

Advocacy

Role of Advocacy Post-Sentencing:

- Be available to respond to youth's ongoing needs and to inform youth about issues such as restraining order options, reparations and civil litigation.
- Offer non-system related services, which may include individual counseling, support groups, 24-hour hotlines access and referrals to other community services. (See Community Resources).

Role of Advocacy When the Case is Not Charged:

- If a youth feels their case is not resolved, support youth to talk, or to schedule a meeting with the investigator. Always support youth's decision to ask the investigator to send it back to county attorney for a second look at the case.
- At youth's request, contact charging attorney for information on the final decision and find out why they choose not to charge the case.
- Accompany youth to meet with prosecuting attorney to discuss non-charging decisions.
- Provide continuing support services and advocacy as needed.
- Address current and future safety concerns.

Advocacy with Parents/Guardians and/or Caregivers

An advocate's role is to provide adequate information to the parent(s) so they can support the youth who has been sexually assaulted/sexually exploited. Youth have the right not to share or tell parents/caregivers what has happened.

When talking to parents, guardians or caregivers regarding a youth who has disclosed a sexual assault, make certain:

- To explain the advocate's role as a mandated reporter and make certain they are aware of this role and the boundaries of confidentiality.
- Listen to needs and assess safety; offer resources available.
- To prevent dual roles to parent/caregiver and youth, two advocates may be needed when working with families (one advocate for youth; one advocate for parent(s)/caregiver(s)).
- Remind parents/caregivers that youth have the right not to share/tell parents about details of assault or any other information if youth chooses to keep it private.

Tips for working with parents/guardians/caregivers:

- Encourage parents/caregivers to empower youth by encouraging the youth to make their own choices – – and respect these choices as the parent/caregiver.
- Caution parents/caregivers not to sympathize with the abuser or take sides with abuser/assailant.
- Caution against shaming the youth for what occurred.
- Be sensitive towards parents as they may have one child abusing their other child; parents may feel conflicted as to how to help both children (both victim and child that committed the crime).
- Consult Minnesota Minor Consent Laws. (See Consent and Confidentiality Section)

Advocacy

Advocacy in Medical Settings

When providing services to Sexual Assault/ Exploitation victims in an Emergency Room, the advocate will:

- Check in with triage nurse/front desk, show hospital badge and introduce themselves.
- Check in with primary nurse regarding information needed before seeing the client.
- If sexual assault nurse examiner is not there, verify with the hospital that the nurse has been called.
- Introduce themselves to the client, the nurse and law enforcement.
- If youth is not in a private room, be sure to obtain a private room from the primary nurse.
- Explain advocacy role to youth and any secondary victims present.
- Confirm with youth that he/she wants to speak with the advocate.
- Explain Confidentiality and Mandating Reporting Laws. (See Consent and Confidentiality Section)
- Address any concerns about ER procedures and evidentiary exam (as applicable):
 - * Explain that evidentiary exam can be completed without reporting to the police.
- Determine if there is a need for culturally appropriate services (advocate, interpreter):
 - * Be sure youth is comfortable with provided interpreter (gender, any cultural relationships, language line being used, etc.) (See Cultural Considerations)

- Give information regarding Emergency Department services and other options (community clinics with sliding fee scales, STI and pregnancy testing, medical follow-up, legal considerations).
- Provide emotional support, validation of feelings and address any concerns.
- Check in with anyone waiting for youth after assisting the youth.
 - * With permission from the youth, speak with secondary victims that are present as they are experiencing emotional feelings because of this crime. Assure the youth that no personal confidential information will be shared with the secondary victim (caregiver, partner, guardian) without their consent.

Considerations during the Evidentiary Exam

- It is the youth's choice whether to have an advocate present during the exam.
- If in the room, advocate should stand at the head of the table.
- Continue to provide support and validation.

Discharge of patient or admission

- Assure youth has a safe place to go (home, shelter):
 - * Address transportation home, as available, provide cab for transportation to safe place.
 - * Assess immediate and any long-term safety needs, as well as the youth's support system (friends and family) they can talk to when they leave the hospital.
- Ask youth if they would like a follow-up call from advocate's office.

Advocacy

- Assist youth with prescriptions if necessary.
- Assist in securing change of clothes for youth if necessary.
- Offer referrals as needed.
- Remember advocate is not legally responsible for the minor, even under circumstances of homelessness.

Advocate Role at Medical Clinic other than Emergency Room

- Check in with front desk and introduce yourself.
- Check in with primary nurse.
- Primary nurse should introduce advocate to client (as well as to parents, guardians, other significant adults that may be present).
- Primary nurse will provide a room where to have a private conversation with youth.
- Explain advocacy role to youth.
- Explain to youth that she/he has the choice whether or not to speak with an advocate or have one present.
- Explain the medical exam is the youths choice, no one can/will make them do something they do not want to do.
- Explain confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting Laws. (See Consent and Confidentiality Section)
- Provide emotional support, validation of feelings and address youth's concerns.
- Address immediate and long-term safety needs and identify the youth's support system (friends/family).
- Ask youth if she/he would like a follow-up call from advocate's office.
- Assist youth with prescriptions as needed.

- Assist in securing change of clothes for youth as necessary.
- Assure youth has transportation home, cab to safe place as necessary.
- Offer referrals as needed. (See Community Resources for listing of referrals).

Meet with secondary victims if appropriate:

- Explain advocate's role.
- Explain confidentiality and Mandated Reporting Laws.
- Provide emotional support, validation of feelings.
- Address any concerns parents/caregivers/guardians may have at this time.

Considerations in all medical settings:

- Provide youth with information regarding reporting and address youth's concerns. (See Advocacy – Legal)
- If youth are reluctant to report the crime due to outstanding warrants under youth's name, assure the youth that Law Enforcement will not enforce any prior existing warrant(s). The police officer who takes the report on a sexual assault will not pursue any outstanding warrants at that time, nor will the police officer follow-up with the youth for any outstanding warrants. It is the responsibility of Law Enforcement to take the report as a victim/witness of the crime and not to arrest the youth due to prior existing warrants.
- Be sure youth understand personal information is confidential and youth have the right to refuse or consent to evidentiary exam, STI preventative treatment and pregnancy prevention. (See Consent and Confidentiality Section)

Advocacy

- Ask youth if there is anyone the advocate should call while youth is at medical setting.
- Spend time with youth when hospital personnel are not available.
- Ask youth if there is anything you can get for her/him to make them more comfortable. (Avoid offering food or drink until the medical staff has had the opportunity to speak to the youth about the assault. If youth is requesting food or drink explain the reason for waiting.)
- Address the youth's cost concerns: evidentiary costs are covered; any additional costs should be discussed with the medical staff.
 - * Some medical settings may need to see youth's insurance cards.
- If there is any reason to believe that youth has psychiatric problems and should be assessed (e.g., suicidal tendencies) consult SHYIP Protocol Guidelines for Law Enforcement.

Law Enforcement

While the following information was compiled and developed by officers from the Saint Paul Police Department, the content is relevant and appropriate to be used by officers throughout Ramsey and surrounding counties. These are SHYIP Protocol Guidelines from the Saint Paul Police Department's...

- Vice Unit,
- Family & Sexual Violence Unit, and
- Missing Persons-Juvenile Unit.

The Protocol Guidelines are divided into sections by unit, based on the unique focus of each unit.

Also, each unit has identified the opportunities to share information with each other as well as the following professionals:

- Saint Paul Police Department Gang Unit
- Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)
- Ramsey County Attorney's Office
- Metro Gang & Drug Strike Force Task Force
- Ramsey County Human Services – Child Protection
- Ramsey County Human Services – Juvenile Corrections, Delinquency
- Suburban Police and Sheriffs

All Saint Paul Police officers are to ask these 10 questions, and report the responses of juveniles with whom they come into contact:

1. Why did you leave home?
2. How long have you been away from home?
3. Who have you been staying with while away from home?
4. Has anyone hurt you or tried to hurt you while you were away from home?
5. Has anyone touched you in a way you did not like? If so, who? Describe the incident.
6. Did you get injured or have any health issues that you need to see a doctor or nurse for?
7. Are you ever afraid at home? If yes, why? Will you be safe at home? Use a 1 – 10 scale to quantify safe feelings – 1 not safe to 10 being very safe at home.
8. Do you have someone you can talk to at home or school?
9. Do you drink or do drugs?
10. Are you a gang member or do you associate with gang members?

Law Enforcement

Vice Unit Protocol Guidelines

Prostitution arrests are made through the following avenues:

- Found in field
- Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)
- Other SPPD Units (Family & Sexual Violence, Missing Persons, other) and area law enforcement agencies
- Service Provider reports (e.g., Breaking Free)
- Midwest Children's Resource Center (MCRC) report

The Vice Unit arrests all parties engaged in prostitution*:

- the person procuring sexual services, if apprehended on-site
- the prostitute/person being prostituted
- the person promoting prostitution

* All prostituted persons are referred to Breaking Free for follow-up care

Arrested persons are processed in one of the following ways:

Juvenile prostitution victims:

- Released pending further investigation
- Secured at the Juvenile Detention Center for 24-48 hours when necessary to protect them for their own safety
- May be released pending further investigation
- May be held for court appearance

Family & Sexual Violence Unit Protocol Guidelines

The Family & Sexual Violence Unit becomes involved through the following avenues:

- SPPD Incident Report initiated by street officer
- Ramsey County Human Services Child Protection and their mandated cross-reporting
- MCRC or other medical facility calling or faxing data reports
 - * MCRC interviews youth age 12 and under in cases of stranger sexual abuse, and age 18 and under in cases of family sexual abuse/assault; a hospital-based sexual assault nurse examiner may also be involved in cases of sexual assault
- Other SPPD Units and area law enforcement agencies

If you have any question about a potential sex crime, contact the SPPD Family & Sexual Violence Unit first, at 651-266-5685. They will forward case information to other relevant agencies, e.g., ICAC, Minnesota Gang & Drug Task Force, etc.

The Unit responds by:

- Initiating a SPPD Case # if not done already
- Adding information to existing SPPD Case #

Law Enforcement

Sex Crimes Investigators will:

- Obtain all necessary statements by the person or agency who reported the incident
- Document the chain of disclosure of the crime
- Obtain and/or review evidence, and any physical corroboration.
 - * Ask victim(s) to sign a medical release for medical information.
 - * Determine if search warrants/consent to search need to be done.
 - * Ensure chain of evidence is completed.
- Determine if there are any witnesses and if they need to be interviewed
- Interview the suspect if applicable

See Cultural Considerations section for information relevant to juvenile's own culture.

The Unit investigates the case with several possible outcomes including:

- Insufficient evidence to pursue prosecution (pended with the ability to reopen the case if further information or victim cooperation changes)
- Charges filed, juvenile cases handled in concert with Ramsey County Attorney's Office
 - * Case may also be worked in coordination with RCHS-Child Protection

- Case may also be worked in coordination with RCHS-Child Protection, and whether or not charges are filed, alternatives, safety plans, etc., may be coordinated
- Transfer case to other SPPD Unit if appropriate, re: crossover charges

The Unit may also refer to the following service agencies for victims:

- MCRC or Regions for SANE examination (victims under age 12 referred to MCRC; over 12 referred to hospital)
- SOS, for victim advocacy and referral to additional service providers
- Minnesota Crime Reparations Board – for compensation for other medical costs, medications, prophylaxis, or other expenses related to sexual assault
- Shelter services

Law Enforcement

Missing Persons – Juvenile Unit Protocol Guidelines

Missing Persons Unit receives reports about missing juveniles through the following avenues:

- Day/Business hours:
 - * Schools
 - * Medical Institutions
 - * Shelters
 - * Parent, guardian, other adult, family members
- After 4pm:
 - * Staff report from Records Unit: 651-266-5700

Upon receiving missing juvenile report, Missing Persons officers will:

- Investigate and attempt to locate missing individuals, based on priority criteria.
- Have missing person's data entered into NCIC database.

With information obtained from the ten questions, and other information gathered, Missing Persons will:

- Return juvenile to home, if s/he is unharmed and has no outstanding warrants
- Bring juvenile to shelter, if home is dangerous or parent/guardian will not allow the juvenile in the home, or if there are other extenuating circumstances

- Bring juvenile to the Juvenile Detention Center, when warranted
 - * JDC then engages RCHS in juvenile's case
- Forward relevant information to Ramsey County Child Protection or MCRC for follow-up

Medical Health Assessments

Teens that run away from a home/shelter or are homeless are at high risk for sexual exploitation and health concerns. These youth frequently face multiple cultural challenges and it is important to consider their specialized health care needs including language and cultural barriers to seeking care. If you are working with a youth from a culture or ethnic background that you are not familiar with, it is imperative that you read the “Cultural Consideration” section of this book.

In this section, the following questions are categorized based on the core areas that should be covered within an assessment being completed to identify and assess the health care needs of truant, runaway of homeless youth. Many of these youth have been – or are at high risk for being – sexually exploited. If the full set of questions is unable to be completed, it is imperative that the teen is referred to appropriate services. Also, many teens will give answers to these questions that indicate they require further care and intervention. Please see the Youth and Provider Resource Sections in this book for culturally appropriate responses to the above referral needs.

Emergency Department Quick Screen for At-Risk Teens

Teens that run away from a home/shelter or are homeless are at high risk for sexual exploitation and health concerns. The following ten questions should be asked to identify and assess the acute health care needs of homeless or runaway youth who have been, or may have been, sexually exploited. Referral to appropriate services is imperative in order to more fully address ongoing health care needs in this population.

1. Where are you living and who are you living with?
2. Do you feel safe where you are currently living?
3. Has anyone tried to hurt you while you were away from home?
4. Why did you leave home?
5. Were you ever afraid at home? If yes, why? Would you be safe going back home? Use a 1 – 10 scale to quantify safe feelings – 1 not safe to 10 being very safe at home.
6. Has anyone inside or outside your family touched you in a way you did not like? If so, who? Describe the incident.
7. Do you drink or do drugs? If so, how often and how much?
8. Do you ever trade sex for money, food, drugs, gifts, or a place to live?
9. Have you ever cut or intentionally hurt yourself?
10. Have you ever thought about killing yourself?

Medical Health Assessments

Psychosocial Assessment

1. Where are you living?
2. Who are you living with?
3. What language are you most comfortable communicating with?
 - What language do you speak with your family?
 - What language do you speak with your friends?
4. How, if at all, do you feel connected to your cultural heritage?
5. If you had a problem, who could you turn to for help?
6. Who are your friends? Are any of your friends in a gang?
7. Do you attend school?
 - If yes, where do you attend?
 - If yes, is there any adult you can talk to in school?
 - How often do you miss or skip school?
8. Do you leave home without permission (run away)? Have you ever left home and your parent/guardian did not know where you were?
 - If yes, where do you go?
 - What are you feeling when you leave home? What is it like for you when you are away from home? What do you think will happen if you go home?
9. Where do you go when you need medical care?
10. Do you or have you ever had a therapist/counselor (voluntary/mandated)?
11. What resources (if any) have you used to get help?

Mental Health Assessment:

1. How would you describe your mood?
2. Have you ever felt so discouraged or hopeless that you wondered if life was worthwhile?
3. Have you ever cut or intentionally hurt yourself?
4. Have you ever thought about killing yourself?
5. Have you ever thought of hurting someone else?
6. Do you have access to a gun?

Chemical Dependency Assessment:

1. How often are you using tobacco (smoking, chewing)?
 - How many packs per day?
2. In the last 12 months, how often have you used any alcoholic beverages (daily, weekly, monthly, NA)?
 - How much do you generally drink at one time?
 - In the last two weeks, how many times have you had 5 or more drinks in a row?
3. Which other drugs have you tried or are you using? By other drugs, we mean drugs that are taken for non-medical reasons such as marijuana, cocaine/crack, sedatives, heroin, methamphetamine (meth, crystal), MDMA (ecstasy), LSD (acid), used other people's prescription drugs, or sniffed/huffed glue/gases or contents of spray cans?
 - How often in the past year?
 - How often in the last 30 days?
4. Have you tried to cut down your use of tobacco/alcohol/drugs on your own but been unable to do so?

Medical Health Assessments

5. Have you found that you had to use a lot more alcohol or other drugs than before to get the same effect?
6. Has your alcohol or other drug use hurt relationships with your friends or family?

Abuse Assessment:

1. Have you ever been the victim of (physical, emotional, or sexual/date rape) violence on a date?
2. Has any adult or older person ever hit you so hard or so often that you had marks or were afraid of that person?
 - If yes, and there are physical marks refer to MCRC at Children's Hospital ER.
3. Has any adult or older person outside or inside the family ever touched you sexually or forced you to touch them sexually?
 - If yes (to any of the above), who have you told?
 - If yes, has this happened in the last 72 hours?

After assessment, refer to MCRC (651)220-6750, at Children's Hospital ER if abuse was intra-familial or the perpetrator is an authority figure (teacher, pastor, therapist). All youth less than 13 years old should be referred to MCRC.

After assessment, refer to ER of choice if abuse was extra-familial or the teen is 13 years old or older. Intra-familial abuse victims up to but not including age 18 should be referred to MCRC.

After assessment, refer non-acute sexual abuse (event happened more than 72 hours ago) to MCRC. MCRC to coordinate with SOS for advocacy.

MCRC or the teen's primary medical provider should provide follow-up care after an acute sexual assault. Follow-up care consists of access to reproductive health care, on-going testing for sexually transmitted infections, mental health assessments, and connection to appropriate mental health services. The acute care provider (SANE, ER provider, etc) should obtain a release of information from teen and call MCRC to set up the appointment.

4. Do you ever trade sex for money, food, drugs, gifts, or a place to live?
 - If yes, refer to MCRC. MCRC to contact SOS.
5. Do you feel safe where you are currently living?
6. What do you need to feel safe?

Sexuality Assessment:

1. Have you ever had sex (vaginal/anal/oral)? Have you been sexually active in the last 6 months?
 - If yes, with boys, with girls, or with both sexes?
2. How many sexual partners have you had (in last month, in last year, ever)?
3. What methods of contraception have you used?
4. The last time you had sex did you or your partner use a condom?

Medical Health Assessments

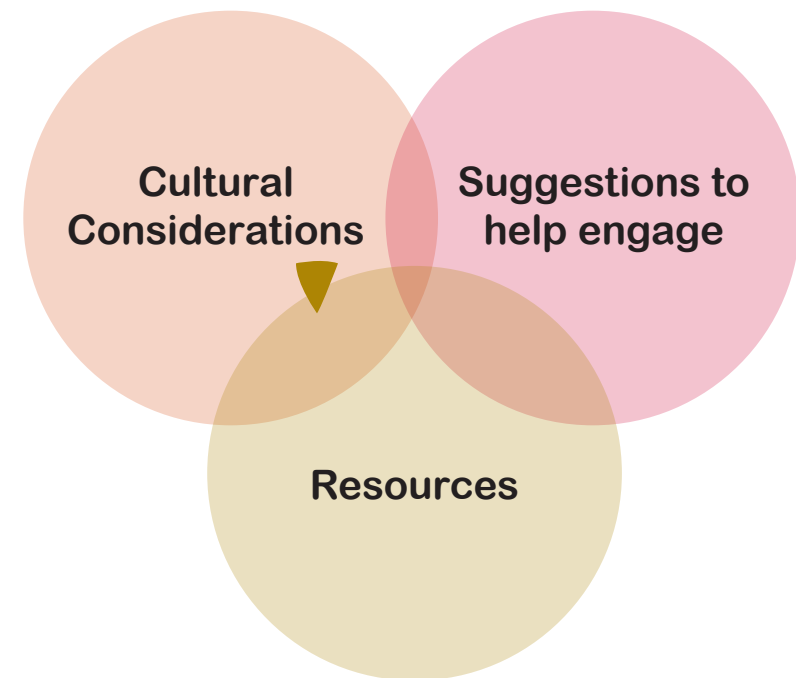
Intervention:

1. Obtain a pregnancy test.
2. Screen for sexually transmitted infection(s); (gonorrhea, Chlamydia, HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis).
3. Both barrier and hormonal contraception should be offered/taught.

Nutrition Assessment:

1. At the present time, do you think you are....underweight, about the right weight, or overweight?
2. Do you ever eat so much in a short period of time that you feel out of control (binge-eating) or vomit after eating?
3. Do you know where you are getting your next meal?

See SHYIP Resource Sections for important contact information for Medical and Mental Health.



This diagram represents information found in the Protocol Guidelines that may help you assess and refer a youth.

Ramsey County Community Corrections

The following Protocol Guidelines represent guidelines generated by Community Corrections, the Juvenile Detention Center and the Juvenile Delinquency Unit. Although these units work together in the justice system, they are distinct in terms of how and why homeless or runaway youth who have been or are at risk for being sexually exploited enter and are served.

Ramsey County Community Corrections

The Probation Officers Report During the time the probation officer report (investigation) is being completed, Ramsey County Community Corrections will provide information and services to victims. These include:

- The Probation Officer Report shall include a summary of the damages to the victim and the victim's recommendation for disposition. To obtain this information, the probation officer shall make a good faith effort to contact the victim or his/her legal guardian by telephone or by mail.
- If the victim is not available or does not respond, the probation officer will contact the Ramsey County Attorney's Office victim-witness advocate.
- If there is an advocate working with the victim, contact can be established through the advocate.
- When the victim does not speak or read English, contact will be made in the victim's primary language.
- Victims will be informed of timing issues: Specifically, to have victim information included in the Probation Officer's Report, it must be received ten (10) days prior to the disposition date.
- Victims or their legal guardians may be provided with

information about appropriate services.

- A note will be made in the Probation Officer Report of any advocacy organizations providing service to the victim.
- Victims or their legal guardians will receive information regarding the adjudicated offense, the right to object to the proposed disposition, the right to request restitution, the right to be present at sentencing, and the range of sentencing options available.

Community Supervision

Ramsey County Community Corrections will provide the following services for victims:

- Ascertain the identity and location of the victim(s) and make a good faith effort to contact the victim or the victim's legal guardian.
- Contact will be made with victims in the victim's language when he or she does not speak or read English.
- Probation officers will notify victims or their legal guardians of any relevant conditions of probation related to the offender.
- If the victim is not available, provide the information to the Ramsey County Attorney's office victim-witness advocate and request that it be forwarded to the victim.
- In the case of victims who do not want their phone number and address given out, the probation officer will send the victim his/her name and telephone number through the victim advocate.
- Once contact is established, the probation officer will provide the following information to the victim or to the victim's legal guardian:

Ramsey County Community Corrections

- * Probation Officer's name and telephone number
- * The status of any "no contact" orders that may exist
- * The status of restitution if ordered
- * Explain the procedures for the victim to obtain timely enforcement of no contact orders (call 911 first; notify Corrections later).
- Monitor "no contact orders" between the offender and victim when those orders are issued.
- If restitution is ordered, the payment schedule or structure will be incorporated into the probation conditions, and the offender's obligation to pay restitution to the victim will continue through the term of the probation.
- Determine if the victim desires notification of the offender's release/ relocation; the identity of the supervising agent; or provision of services.
- If needed, contact the appropriate victim advocacy program in the originating jurisdiction for assistance
- For victims attempting to contact an offender's probation officer, call Ramsey County Community Corrections main number at 651-266-5300

Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center

Youth entering into the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC):

- Youth are brought to the JDC either by the police departments, the deputies or by probation. If youth are at risk of harming themselves or others, youth can be held and detained. Following are reasons for admitting youth to the JDC:
 - * a new charge or a warrant and/or on an initial offense;
 - * a violation of conditions of probation; status offense – i.e. runaway – ONLY if they are in danger of harming themselves; or
 - * if a youth is found and determined to be in a dangerous situation.
- A Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI) is completed on every youth brought in on a new offense. This tool measures threat to community and likelihood of appearing in Court and/or the likelihood to offend in the community. In addition to the RAI, basic health questions as well as mental health questions are asked in regards to hurting themselves or others. Based on assessment, youth may be released to an alternative housing facility, admitted, or released home.

Assessment of Needs and Services while at the Juvenile Detention Center:

- JDC staff completes a health assessment with youth which directly asks questions about violence, sexual abuse or victimization and sexual activity.
- Courts may request a mental health screening to assess trauma and significant mental health concerns. This tool may be also offered to children who are detained 5 days or more, with parent's permission.

- If youth are with the JDC for 5 days or more a case plan is developed to identify youth's cultural and emotional needs while at the detention center.
- While at the JDC, youth may receive health care, mental health, chemical dependency or other therapeutic services as court-ordered or arranged.
- Within the JDC, services are provided by:
 - * Correctional Workers and Correctional Aides
 - * Public Health for nursing services
 - * Saint Paul Public School Teachers and School Social Worker
 - * Contracted Mental Health professionals

Services Provided while at the Juvenile Detention Center:

- The JDC does not provide long term services. Youth may be passed into correctional system or released with no further obligation. If youth are found not guilty services are completed.
- JDC attempts to locate a parent/guardian or ward of the state to notify parents when their children are here and allow visiting during specified times.
- JDC is mandated to notify both the victim and the detaining authority when a youth is released after being charged with a crime of violence.

Runaway youth who enter the Juvenile Court System, may be directed to the RCHS-JDU).

Ramsey County Community Human Services Juvenile Detention Unit

Juvenile Delinquency Unit may employ any of these assessment tools to identify youth's needs:

- JDU assessment varies depending on each child; however, JDU will assess the following:
 - * Child Safety, well-being of child, individual need for services, mental health, chemical/substance abuse
- The JDU provides youth assessment to determine if youth need additional services through the following tools:
 - * Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI)—is a mental health screening form we use to determine whether or not a client would benefit from additional services.
 - * Psychological Evaluation
 - * Chemical Health Assessment
 - * Probation Officer Report (POR).

Services Provided to Youth after Assessment by JDU:

- After the assessment, referrals to appropriate community

agencies and programs are coordinated for youth. These services may include: Children's Mental Health, Child Protective Services and referrals to MCRC. Also, mental health referrals may include: psychologists, psychiatrists, anger management, individual and/or family therapy, etc.

- Long Term Services Include:
 - * Case management
 - * Coordination of services
 - * Supervision

Responsibility to Youth:

- Juvenile Delinquency Unit will provide ongoing community contacts with youth as needed through case management.
- JDU will make every effort to communicate with youth and/or parent/guardian in their primary language and be sensitive to cultural considerations.

The goal of the Ramsey County Attorney's Office in sexual assault cases is to serve the people of Ramsey County and to pro-

Ramsey County Attorney's Office

protect public safety by vigorous and just prosecution of juveniles and adults who commit sexual assault in the county; to provide compassionate support and assistance to victims of sexual assault; and to collaborate with other agencies in the county that investigate or supervise offenders, or provide services to victims.

In the case of juvenile prosecution, the goal of the Ramsey County Attorney's Office is also to reduce juvenile delinquency by developing individual responsibility for lawful behavior while recognizing the unique characteristics and needs of children, including rehabilitation.

For purposes of these Protocol Guidelines, "Sexual Assault" includes any of the following acts, or any attempt to commit these acts, involving a person who does not consent or who cannot consent to:

- Sexual penetration however slight
- Sexual contact (intentional touching by the defendant of another's intimate parts, or the clothing over the intimate parts for sexual or aggressive purposes; may also include inducing or coercing a child to touch the defendant's intimate parts)
- Sexual contact or penetration of a child by an older child or an adult if the statutory age difference and/or significant relationship or position of authority exists
- Masturbation or lewd exhibition in the presence of child under 16
- Incest
- Marital rape
- Sexual exploitation of: clients by therapists or clergy; inmates or persons under correctional supervision by corrections

employee, contractor or volunteer; or vulnerable adults by special transportation service provider

- Possession or dissemination of child pornography, prostitution or use of a child in a sexual exhibition or performance
- Criminal sexual predatory conduct or any other crime charged by this office which contains, in whole or in part, a sexual motivation or goal
- Sex trafficking

This document is a supplemental piece to the Full Ramsey County Attorney's Office (RCAO) Sexual Assault Protocol available from the RCAO upon request.

When working with sexual office cases, consider the following:

Legal Consent

- Children under age 13 cannot consent to sexual activity.
- Children who are at least 13 but less than 16 years old cannot consent to sexual activity with individuals who are significantly older than they are (see statutes for specific provisions), who are in a position of authority over them or who have a significant relationship with them.
- Consent is not a defense for children over 16 but under 18 if the perpetrator has either a significant relationship (generally, familial) to the child or is more than 48 months older than the child and in a position of authority over the child.
- Regardless of the age of the victim, in cases involving sexual exploitation by therapists or clergy, correctional

Ramsey County Attorney's Office

workers or special transportation service providers, consent is not a defense.

- A person who is asleep, unconscious or involuntarily intoxicated also cannot consent.

Prosecution Policies: Role of Charging Attorney

- Promptly make decision to charge or decline;
- Request additional investigation if needed;
- Communicate charging decision to appropriate parties (i.e. Investigating Officer, Advocates, Youth/Victim, Midwest Childrens Resource Center)
- Review custody status, determine if a warrant is needed;
- Recommend bail, conditions of release terms and No Contact Order if appropriate;
- Ensure DNA and other forensic testing is being done;
- Make referral to Victim/Witness Division

Prosecution Policies: Pretrial

- Caseload and assignment of cases should be specialized and respectful of the victim-intensive nature of these cases, including sensitivity of youth culture.
 - * See Youth Culture section of the Cultural Considerations section for tips on how to interact with youth
- Involve victim-witness advocates to help provide support and monitor the needs of the youth throughout the case.
- Collaborate with investigators to obtain all available corroborative evidence.

- Avoid delay. A youth who has experienced sexual assault is likely to desire resolution as soon as possible
- Observe victim's rights in the process of case disposition.
- Coordinate with other RCAO divisions relevant to the victim.

Trial Procedures: Preparation, Trial, and Sentencing

- For preparation, trial proceedings, and sentencing, follow professional best practices.
 - * See Full Ramsey County Attorney's Office Sexual Assault Protocol available from the RCAO upon request.
- Notify youth/victim of various trial outcomes as relevant
- Make required legal disclosures
- Review all physical and testimonial evidence
- Order transcripts of audio or video interviews for evidence (i.e. MCRC videos).
- Subpoena and disclose all witnesses, including chain of custody witnesses.
- Make motions for the admission or limitation of evidence.
- Determine whether expert witnesses are relevant and obtain their interviews.
- Prepare for and conduct any needed pre-trial evidentiary hearings.
- Prepare the youth/victim for trial, including explicit preparation for the sexual detail that will be used.
- Locate, meet with, and determine appropriate use of other witnesses (i.e. medical and scientific experts).

Ramsey County Attorney's Office

- Young people need reassurance and explanation. Be prepared to answer youth/victims questions and concerns.

Coordination within the County Attorney's Office

- When a criminal or delinquency prosecution case involving a youth-victim has been initiated, the assigned attorney shall contact the Child Protection Unit of the Human Services Division to determine if there is an active child protection case, in which case the Prosecution Division of the Ramsey County Attorneys Office will take steps to ensure that information is exchanged across divisions.
- Once attorneys are informed that an active case exists in another Division, the attorneys shall ensure that the following information is exchanged:
 - * Whether criminal or delinquency charges have been brought or a CHIPS petition filed;
 - * Dates of upcoming hearings;
 - * The existence of a No Contact Order or an Order for Protection

Ramsey County Human Services

The mission of Ramsey County Human Services is to enhance the quality of life for the people of Ramsey County by providing resources to meet basic human needs, assuring protection for the vulnerable, and assisting in achieving self-sufficiency, all in the most cost-effective manner. The primary groups RCHS works with are: children and families, low income and homeless, elderly and physically disabled, chemically dependent, mentally ill, and developmentally disabled. RCHS provides a wide range of programs and services in the areas of public assistance, employment support, day care, social services, child and adult protection and clinical counseling.

Following are Protocol Guidelines relative to runaway/homeless youth who are or are at risk for being sexually exploited: Foster/Shelter Placement, Child Protection, Children's Mental Health, and Children's Crisis Response.

Ramsey County Human Services Foster/Shelter Placement

How youth are referred for foster/shelter placement

- In order for youth (up to age 18; up to age 21 with a court order) to receive emergency shelter placement, a referral must be made by one of the following:
 - * Ramsey County workers
 - * City police officers
 - * Ramsey County deputies
 - * Emergency social services
 - * JDC staff
- Circumstances of youth referrals:
 - * Youth are placed by police or county workers for safety issues, parent's arrests or hospitalizations, because of a mental health crisis, delinquency, or as a result of abuse/neglect
 - * Youth are placed as detention alternative by JDC while waiting for court hearing. This option is used when the youth is found to be low risk based on assessment.
- Shelter placement services may be denied for the following reasons:
 - * Youth is not a Ramsey County resident
 - * Youth is at risk of harming self or others
 - * No placement authority for child (no 72-hour hold, custody, or voluntary placement)

Shelter Options

- Ramsey County contracts for emergency shelter services with:
 - * 8 foster homes
 - * 4 shelter facilities: Arlington House, Booth Brown House, Bush Children's Treatment Center, Ain Dah Yung (Our Home) Center

Assessment and placement process

- To be placed, a shelter coordinator conducts brief assessment by phone with referring worker or police officer to determine appropriate placement.
- * Prior to placement, youth under age 12 will have a physical exam at Children's Hospital. Medical assessments for kids of all ages with signs of abuse or illness.
- * Shelter homes receive information about youth – age, why placed, condition, status, other needs.
- * Children are provided with clothing, food, safety and shelter.
- * Workers may be involved to help meet children's needs, such as medical appointments, counseling, mental health services, visitation.

Once a youth is placed in a shelter

- Shelter placement stays are typically up to 30 days. Longer stays may occur under extenuating circumstances.
- Workers are responsible for placement after emergency shelter stay; many children are returned home to parents or family members.
- Foster/Shelter placement services end when the shelter stay ends

Ramsey County Human Services Foster/Shelter Placement

Interaction with Parents

- County workers set up visits between parents and children, provide children and families with case plans to encourage parents and children to work on individual and family goals.
- Parents receive referrals to services that address the reason for the child's placement.
- Youth may be contacted by their parents by phone or by visits away from foster home, as approved by county worker.

Ramsey County Human Services Child Protection

Only a small percent of youth in Child Protection are among the SHYIP target population.

How youth enter the Child Protection system:

- Child Protection Intake screeners (4) receive reports of children and youth up to age 18 who may have been abused or neglected.
 - * M – F, 8am – 5pm: 651-266-4500
 - * Evenings-weekends-holidays: 651-266-4500

The assessment process:

- Reports that meet Child Protection criteria are assigned to a child protection worker who will conduct an in-person Family Assessment or Investigation, depending on the seriousness of the allegations.
- The worker has 5 days to make face-to-face contact with the child and primary caregiver, and 24 hours if the report alleges substantial child endangerment; the assessment/investigation must be completed within 45 days.
- There is a Family Assessment Response (FAR) track which is an alternative for families in which the maltreatment report does not allege substantial child endangerment. FAR does not include a determination as to whether child maltreatment occurred, but does determine the need for services to address the safety of family members and risk of subsequent maltreatment.
- An investigation must be used when reports involve substantial child endangerment and for reports of maltreatment in facilities or in other high-risk situations. It includes fact

gathering related to the current safety of a child and risk of subsequent maltreatment. A determination of whether maltreatment occurred is made when there is a preponderance of evidence.

Services provided post-assessment

- Assessment results are discussed with the child/youth and parent(s), a safety plan is developed, and future services are determined. If the Indian Child Welfare Act is applicable, then tribal notification and involvement in services and case planning is solicited.
- The family is referred to Child Protection Program for ongoing monitoring and case management by a Child Protection worker. Services attempt to be culturally appropriate (see Cultural Considerations Section) and include:
 - * Therapy/counseling
 - * Chemical health assessment
 - * Urinalysis
 - * Residential treatment
 - * Foster care
 - * Parenting Support

Working together to provide care

- Child Protection works with a variety of agencies and groups to help connect youth to the services they need. These connections include Ramsey County services as well as community-based and tribal services.

Ramsey County Human Services Child Protection

Ongoing services for youth

- If youth have behavioral issues that need to be addressed, referrals may be made to residential treatment, delinquency placement or foster care.
- Once the presenting Child Protection issue is resolved, the case is closed. If the youth is in foster care for a year, a permanency recommendation will be made to the court.

Enforcement of Responsibility

- For a child/youth/family to receive continued support from the Child Protection system, a level of cooperation, achievement of safety, stability and child well-being must be established.
 - * If in Juvenile Court, the presiding judge weighs all recommendations and determines whether to order continued involvement with Child Protection.
 - * If an Indian tribe intervenes, they are involved throughout the life of the case.

Interaction with Parents

- Child Protection workers interact with parents during the assessment/ investigation to develop a safety plan and identify needed services. The focus is on parenting behavior and its effects on the child/youth (see Positive Youth Development section).
- In ongoing case management, the worker will develop a case plan with the parent(s) and youth that identifies needs and culturally-specific service areas to be addressed.
- In intake, the typical parent/agency involvement is one interview. Once in the Child Protection Program, contact is expected to be monthly, face-to-face, as long as the case is open.

Ramsey County Human Services Children's Mental Health

Children's Mental Health services provide short – and long-term case management for youth ages 3 to 21 if in school and up to age 18 if not in school. It will also refer cases to Adult Mental Health services when youth age-out of the Children's program. Children's Mental Health may also co-case manage with RCHS Delinquency.

How youth are referred

- Referrals are made to Children's Mental Health by any of the following:
 - * Parents
 - * Schools
 - * Hospitals
 - * Therapists
 - * Other professionals

Services are offered on "open enrollment" basis.

Qualification process

- An "Initial Response Team" of mental health professionals screens referrals to qualify youth for services.
- To qualify for services, a diagnostic assessment must indicate that a youth is severely emotionally disturbed and in need of case management and have or applied for MA, PMAP, Minnesota Care or TEFRA.
- CMH workers help parents with paperwork and access to above qualifying programs.
- Once a young person is qualified, the response team reviews and triages cases, determines needs and makes referrals as appropriate.

Intake

- Contact for intake is made within 5 working days; a face-to-face is then scheduled for intake, usually at the child's home. The number to begin the intake process is 651-266-4500

Assessment

- The areas assessed include: the child's mental health, the family, strengths and areas of concern, services needed, and resources.
- The assessment results determine what services are needed: therapy, medication, respite etc. and whether the case will be referred to long term case management.
- Referrals are made to community agencies for counseling, therapy, and/or other services.

Interaction with parents

- Parents must be part of the development of and approve proposed treatment plan.
- Children's Mental Health workers will assist with making appointments, Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), medical issues, social service needs etc.
- Children's Mental Health workers meet with youth and/or parents once or twice a month to assess youth and families disposition.
- Services and support for parents include counseling, emergency social needs funding, triaging for additional referrals, and other assistance as necessary.

Ramsey County Human Services Children's Crisis Response (CCR)

Children's Mental Health Children's Crisis Response (CCR) provides services to any family residing within Ramsey County that is experiencing a crisis with a child/youth between the ages of 0 to 21 if in school and up to age 18 if not in school and residing with parent/guardian. Insurance is billed when available, but is not required for crisis services. CCR provides help when and where clients need it. CCR is a live phone and in-person crisis response team. Call 651-774-7000.

CCR is available:

- 24 hours per day
- 7 days a week
- 365 days per year

CCR can help with:

- Children's Mental Health Crisis
- Family Conflict
- Behavioral Challenges
- Assessment/Referral

How youth are referred:

- Referrals are made to Children's Crisis response by any of the following:
 - * Case Managers
 - * Hospital Emergency Departments
 - * Hospital Sub-Acute Unit
 - * Parent/Legal guardian/Foster Parents
 - * Police
 - * RCHS Delinquency

- * Schools
- * Sexual Offense Services (SOS)
- * Youth
- * Others Professionals

Scheduling a crisis appointment:

- Ramsey County residents experiencing a crisis with a child/youth can call Children's Crisis Response at (651) 774-7000 to request Crisis Services.
- Children's Crisis Response will ask the caller to state the presenting crisis and will respond by:
 - * Immediate site visit (30-60 minutes)
 - * Scheduling a crisis appointment at the time designated by the caller
 - * Instructing the caller to seek more immediate help by calling 911 whenever there is imminent danger to self or others, especially if weapons are involved or
 - * Advising an immediate visit to the emergency room (recommended by insurance) when a child/youth is suicidal with a clear plan
 - * Providing appropriate resources requested by the caller to meet the needs of the caller

Ramsey County Human Services Children's Crisis Response (CCR)

What We Do:

- Initial Crisis Response:
 - * Crisis intervention
 - * Conflict de-escalation
 - * Assist with “next step” planning
 - * Safety evaluation
 - * Mental health and mental status assessment
- Crisis Stabilization:
 - * Further assessment of mental health issues
 - * Short-term counseling
 - * Transition to ongoing support/ treatment
 - * Connection to community based resources

Children's Crisis Response Culturally Specific Services

- Somali Children's Crisis Response Line (The Center for Somali and Children Services) provides culturally specific crisis services to Somali, Oromo, and other Eastern African immigrant populations

Children's Crisis Response Staff

- Children's Crisis Response Staff is comprised of both Licensed Mental Health Professionals and Mental Health Practitioners.
- In addition to clinical supervision, Children's Crisis Response Staff are supported by daily psychiatric case review.
- Hmong and Spanish speaking staff

Schools

For the 2005-06 school year, Saint Paul School District reported 5,742, or 32%, of junior and senior high school students as “habitual truants.” (Habitual truants are defined as those who were absent for any part of the day on more than seven days.) According to the Minnesota Student Survey, Ramsey County data (administered to students in 6th, 9th, and 12th grades in 2004), four percent of 12th grade girls and boys self-reported skipping school 6 to 10 times during the previous 30 days.

Indicators of Homelessness, Runaways and Sexual Exploitation Among Students

The following are possible symptoms and/or indicators that may indicate homeless, runaway and/or sexual exploitation status among students. These indicators may occur simultaneously. Also, this list is not to be considered comprehensive; but rather as a starting point of early warning signs. Further questioning should be pursued on behalf of the student based on these and other observed indicators. Know your resources and school’s policies around reporting. Child abuse is a mandated report. Refer to Consent and Confidentiality Section and the Cultural Consideration Section for more information. Regardless of circumstances, these indicators warrant further exploration of needs for support services.

- “Acting out” behavior, or behavior below/above chronological age; Attention getting behaviors
- Adult level of sexual knowledge/acting out sexually
- Attendance in multiple schools
- Bedwetting/soiling and/or soiling themselves
- Caregiver seems unaware of attendance problems
- Change in behavior and/or academic performance

- Chemical use and/or abuse
- Chronic hunger or tiredness; or lack of appetite
- Depression and/or withdrawal
- Eating Disorders
- Erratic attendance in schools
- Fear or anger responses to people that once were okay
- Fire setting
- Lack of records, such as birth certificate, immunization record, incomplete records
- Low income hotel address on enrollment form
- Poor grooming or clothing that draws attention
- Poor self-image
- Recurrent physical complaints
- Regression
- Running away
- Self-mutilation (cutting, burning, etc.)
- Sleep disorders and/or nightmares
- Statements from student, such as, “We’ve been having a hard time lately,” or, “It’s a new address, I cannot remember it,” or, “My family has moved a lot and I am staying with friends until we find a place.”
- Student who seems confused when asked about that last school attended
- Suicidal thoughts and/or actions
- Truancy

Schools

The following Protocol Guidelines serve as a tool regarding ways to approach and react to the student.

Everyone has a personal responsibility for reducing the risk of violence. We must take steps to maintain order, demonstrate mutual respect and caring for one another, and ensure that children who are troubled get the help they need.

To set the stage for a safe secure environment, school staff is encouraged to use the following guidelines:

- Learn students' names and use them.
- Be approachable and available to students, encourage students to talk with you if they have problems, whether with friends, family, other teachers, or staff.
- Be visible to students so they recognize you face and feel your presence within the school; create an open door policy with students.
- Discuss an array of topics with students (sexual violence, prevention drug/alcohol use, homelessness, etc). Assure the student that you are a safe person to share information with and that you will not think or feel differently about him/her if the student chooses to share negative experiences that have occurred. This builds rapport with students. Know the Mandated Reporting Guidelines; make sure to let youth know what you are mandated to report if they tell you.
- Hang posters up in offices that talk about sexual exploitation, what to do if thinking of running away and information on homelessness.

If a student discloses information:

- Remain calm. An intense reaction may lead the student to think he/she has done something wrong, or to regret disclosing.

- Reassure student they have done the right thing by telling and assure student it is not his/her fault.
- Explain to the student you are a mandated reporter and make certain the student is aware of this role and what that specifically means; in addition, discuss the limits of confidentiality. See Mandated Reporting Appendix.
- Tell the student it is okay to talk about what has happened.
- If it becomes clear there is a reportable incident, be careful not to ask questions that should be pursued through law enforcement (who, what, where, when, why—detailed questions). It is not your role to investigate.
- Suggested questions may be:
 - * Are you safe?
 - * Who has hurt you and when?
 - * I am sorry to hear this information, how have you been coping?
- Students may need to hear that sometimes even good people do bad things.
- Empower the student for their disclosure and commend them for their courage. Remember that by disclosing information, the student has taken a courageous step.
- Documentation is essential by any staff that learns specific information about a particular student and incident.

Consider the following regarding interacting with students:

After initial disclosure, the best way to help with the healing process after sexual exploitation or issues of running away or homelessness is to provide an environment where the student can regain their balance and sense of control.

Schools

- Listen and reassure the student she/he is not responsible for what happened, regardless of what they were doing at the time. You may, at a later time, want to discuss any problematic behaviors that can increase his/her risk of sexual violence.
- Help the student identify others who can be trusted to provide a safe environment and confidentiality. Discuss confidentiality laws with the student. Remind the student to be careful with whom they choose to share information (with exception of mandated reporting, no one else needs to know).
- Concentration can be difficult after sexual exploitation and during periods of homelessness. Explain to the student these are common reactions and explain that these difficulties will diminish overtime.
- Hypersensitivity and mood swings are common responses to sexual exploitation; these students need your patience and understanding.
- Be aware this issue could be a barrier to the student's performance in class. Teachers may need to know in general terms that a student is experiencing crises. However, discuss with youth before talking with teacher or other school staff about the student's situation.
- Sexual violence can also cause fear of places or situations that once were okay. Students may need to develop a safety plan that may include having someone with them and/or identifying someone they can call if they need to. Make sure this identified "safe person" understands they are the designated person for this youth. Anticipatory guidance and planning may decrease the trauma as well as its devastating effects.
- Sexual assault is not a mandated report unless the assailant

is in a position of authority (e.g., family member, teacher, coach, counselor, etc.). See Mandated Reporting Laws in Appendix

Consider the following to create a safe environment for staff and students:

Staff, students, families, and community members are important in creating a safe school environment. Well functioning safe schools foster learning and socially appropriate behaviors. Social emotional learning needs to be embedded in the core curricula of the schools. Effective schools:

- Involve families in meaningful ways.
- Develop links to the community.
- Emphasize positive relationships among students and staff.
- Discuss safety issues openly.
- Treat students with equal respect.
- Create ways for students to share their concerns and to receive information, options and support.
- Help students feel safe in expressing their feelings.
- Have a system in place for referring students who are suspected of being physically or sexually abused or assaulted.
- Offer extended day programs for students.
- Assist students in making the transitions to adult life and the workplace.
- Understand the complexity of issues with which youth struggle.

Shelter and Drop-In Centers

Many youth who runaway or are thrown out of their homes have been physically or sexually abused or neglected. Childhood abuse increases the risk for later victimization on the street. Physical abuse is associated with elevated risk of assaults for runaway and homeless youth, while sexual abuse is associated with higher risk of rape for runaway and homeless youth. The following are questions that can be used to assess if a youth has been sexually exploited and the status of their housing situation. If the youth indicates that they need further resources, please see the resource directory that follows. If a more extensive directory is needed, please refer to the Resources section in this book.

When working with a homeless youth whom you suspect have been sexually exploited, consider the following:

1. Be respectful of where the youth is coming from.
2. Do not make assumptions or judgments
3. Be willing to listen and take what they say seriously.
4. Be responsive and reliable by listening and ensuring that you have heard accurately.
5. Be honest about the services that you can offer and what you know is available (always keep all promises made to the youth!).
6. Use a strengths-based approach and harm reduction philosophy (See Positive Youth Development section of the SHYIP Protocol Guidelines).
7. Refer back to the Cultural Considerations section for cultural specific information.
8. Understand that youth may not understand that they are being sexually exploited.

9. The youth's chronological age may not match his/her developmental age. Keep this in mind when framing the questions asked.
10. It is important to be in tune with your client. Read between the lines and be aware of your personal assumptions.

Remember, to reach the youth and achieve desired results, your interaction must be relationship-focused. The best interest of the youth should be the number one priority. Support real outcomes for youth and help the youth realize their own strengths and abilities to meet their goals and use their own resources. Please use the intake questions as a guide and always ask for more information and elaborate.

Demographics

- What is your name?
- Do you go by any other names?
- How old are you? What is your birth date?
- Do you have a number that you can be reached at?
- What is your primary language?
- Which race/ethnic group to you identify as yours?
- How do you identify your gender? (Male, female, transgender/transsexual, queer, questioning, other)

Housing/Support Network

- Where did you sleep last night?
- Where are you staying and with whom? (Be sure to specifically identify and define this person)
- Who is your legal guardian?

Shelter and Drop-In Centers

- Who is your closest family member?
- Is there anyone we can contact in case of an emergency?
- Have you ever had an out-of-home placement?
- Do you have a safe person you can turn to for help?
- Does that person know they are “your” safe or special person?
- What/who are the other support systems in your life?
- What are reasons for not being able to stay with your family or for seeking shelter?
 - * Examples: kicked out of home, ran away from home, physical, sexual or emotional abuse at home, caregiver moved away, came out LGBTQQ, unsafe environment, drug/alcohol use at home, death of a caregiver, parent cannot afford care or abandoned, left home voluntarily, parent in an institutional setting, youth is pregnant, etc.
- Does your family have a hard time paying rent/bills?
- Do you have a safe place to stay tonight and for this week?
- Where were you staying in the last six months?
- Do you need referrals to shelters?
- If living alone, when did you become independent?
- Where did you spend most of your life or growing up?
- What communities, neighborhoods, hangouts, school etc. do you participate in?
- Do you want help returning home or locating a safe friend, adult or relative?
- Are you working or receiving any financial assistance?

Education

- Are you currently attending school?
- Do you like school?
- What is the last grade you completed?
- If not attending, would you like help getting back into school or getting your GED?
- What was the last school you attended? Where? When?

Personal/Family Health

- How would you rate your current health? (Excellent, Fair, Good, Poor)
- Do you have any questions or concerns about your health?
- Are you a parent?
- Are you pregnant now or a father-to-be?
- Have you ever been pregnant?
- Is there anyone in your family who has a serious illness or whose health you are worried about?

Sexuality

- When was the last time you had anal, oral or vaginal sex?
- How old were you the first time you had sex?
- Are you practicing safe sex? How often? (All the time, Sometimes, Never)
- Do you need birth control or condoms?
- Are you attracted to males, females or both?

Shelter and Drop-In Centers

- How do you identify your sexual orientation? (Heterosexual, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Questioning/unsure, Don't want to answer, Not known)
- To your knowledge, have you ever had a sexually transmitted infection?
- To your knowledge, have you ever felt pressure to have sex?
- How many people have you had sex with in the past six months, 12 months?
- Have you ever engaged in any type of sexual activity that would be considered commercial sex? (Stripping, Dancing, Posing, Phone Sex, Escort Service)
- Have you exchanged sex for things such as food, shelter, clothing, drugs, alcohol, etc.?
- Have you ever been coerced (threatened, talked or tricked) into having sex when you didn't really want to? How about when you were drinking or using drugs? (Pharming, Inhaling, Snorting, Shooting Up)
- Has anyone ever taken pictures or video of you naked or having sex? If so, was it posted on the internet?
- Have you ever put personal information or pictures on the internet?
- Do you know how to identify an unsafe situation?
- Do you know how to identify an unsafe person?
- Have you ever been sexually abused? * Refer to Mandated Reporting guidelines if youth answers yes.
- How old were you?
- Can you tell me what happened?
- Was it reported? What happened after it was reported?

- Is anyone emotionally or physically hurting you or are you afraid that they might?

Mental Health

- Have you ever been diagnosed for an emotional condition? (Bi-polar, depression, etc.)
- How are you feeling today? Can you describe your mood?
- Are you currently taking any medications regularly for mood, behavior or sleep?
- Is the medication prescribed? Do you have enough medication?
- Have you ever had suicidal thoughts?
- Have you ever made a suicide attempt?
- Are you currently having suicidal thoughts or plans?
- Have you ever tried to hurt yourself on purpose? (Cut, Burn)
- What would you change about your life?

Based on the answers to the above questions, providers should assist clients in finding appropriate resource using the resource sections of the SHYIP Protocol Guidelines. For general assistance call StreetWorks at 612-252-2735.

Street Outreach

Street Outreach, also referred to as Streetwork, or Street-based services, brings services to homeless populations in street and community environments through non-judgmental engagement. It is one form of outreach, which is a large category that includes such services as Meals on Wheels, Visiting Medical Personnel, Community Center work, Religious Proselytizing and Street Outreach work.

All Street Outreach workers must be trained in several skill areas. Those who target youth populations need to be educated and sensitive to issues such as: Youth Culture, Homeless Culture, Boundaries and Ethics, Outreach Methodology, Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer, and Questioning Youth, (LGBTQQ) Safety Protocols, Mental Health Issues, Disability, Sexually Exploited Youth, Case Management, and Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases. In the metro area, Street Outreach Workers carry the StreetWorks “Greenbag”. The Greenbag is filled with supplies for basic needs, hygiene items, socks, t-shirts and underwear, bus tokens, etc. An individual who carries a Greenbag has had approximately four to six weeks of on-street training with experienced outreach workers and three, two-hour in-house training sessions with StreetWorks staff. A Greenbag carrier is known by youth to be a safe person to approach.

Homeless youth populations are extremely diverse, but have many issues in common including abuse histories, foster care placement, involvement in the legal system, immigrant status, mental health diagnosis (or lack of), and mistrust of mainstream culture and services.

When working in street environments, outreach workers conduct themselves using the following guidelines:

General Considerations

- How well they know the environment/s where outreach will occur.
- Training available from outreach professionals.
- How they/their organization define homelessness.
- Their skill level in approaching and engaging strangers.
- Resources to offer youth.
- Supplies needed for outreach?

Environment/Geography

- Assess the area/s where outreach will be conducted by driving/walking through several times at different times of the day or night.
- Observe activities in the area, bus stops, drug traffic, sex work, residential, business, gathering spots such as parks, community centers, or corner streets.
- Introduce themselves to business and community members and clarify their purpose.
- Meet with police personnel in the area they’ll be working in.
- Talk to youth who they already know if they are from the area.
- Identify and meet with any other providers in the community.
- Go and visit all of the youth programs that will be resources, get to know staff in these programs, assess the program for atmosphere, rules, space, cleanliness and accessibility.

Street Outreach

Safety Protocol

- Always work in teams of two when in street environments.
- Know their partner's full name and emergency contact person's telephone number.
- Ask their partner if they have any specific health related concerns (asthma, diabetes, etc.)
- Have a "red code" word or short phrase that means Leave the area now!
- When approaching youth, one person should start the conversation, while the outreach partner continues to observe the environment, or "watches the partner's back." Violent events can happen quickly in street environments. Be prepared.
- When exposed to an episode of violence, street fight, observing a weapon, gang activity etc., leave the area immediately. If an outreach worker witnesses a violent crime, they should walk away and call 911 to report the incidence.
- Never interfere with a police officer and another person. If they witness inappropriate behavior by police personnel, they will write down the name and number of the badge and make a report.

Approach

- Be prepared by having a business card in their hand when approaching a person; consider how they will introduce/identify themselves and their partners and their purpose/services.
- Be friendly and sincere.

- Ask for the person's name after introducing themselves.
- Have a short opener statement prepared, "Hi, my name is _____, and I am an outreach worker with _____. Do you have a minute? I just want to let you know about some services for youth."
- Never chase anybody down the street! Look for an opportunity when people are standing still, waiting for a bus, hanging out by a corner store, etc.
- Don't personalize! If a youth doesn't want to talk, assume it is not about the street outreach worker; it's about what the youth feels at the time.
- Always leave the encounter with a positive message, "Take care!" or "Thanks for your time!" or "It was nice meeting you!"
- Always point to the number on their business card where the youth can reach them or another person for crisis services.

Engagement

- Engagement is more difficult than approach. Introductions and giving out a business card are not difficult, but engagement is another level and critical in building relationships.
- Youth will often ask questions about employment and housing, so be prepared with resources, shelter numbers, transitional living programs, agencies that assist youth in writing resumes, computer access, case management assistance, job programs and educational resources.
- Tell the youth what their outreach hours are, and what neighborhoods they are working consistently with.

Street Outreach

- Ask if they know about their program or services, or if they visit any youth programs regularly. If so, ask who they know or who their case manager is.

Referrals and Resources

- Keep a list of referral resources with them at all times when conducting outreach services.
- Visit as many referral sites as possible to meet with staff and get a feeling for the atmosphere. Before sending a youth somewhere, consider how friendly it would feel to that youth?
- Ask agencies to explain their philosophy in working with youth to help determine if and/or how they would make a good resource.
- KNOW WHAT IS AVAILABLE! Know who can go where, when, for how long, what the youth can expect, and any other useful information.

Advocacy

- Be prepared to educate other systems staff about homeless youth experiences.
- Make their role clear to the youth: advocates provide support services and are not a representative of the legal system.
- When advocating for a youth, ask the youth what you can divulge about their life. Ask the youth to sign a release of information to speak with other agencies/systems about him or her.

Following are considerations for other professionals who work with homeless youth:

Medical Considerations

- Street Youth often dress like all youth, do not assume a youth is or is not homeless by attire.
- If a youth is wearing unwashed or tattered clothing, do not assume that they want different clothing; many youth who are traveling or squatting may be attached to what they wear. This population of youth often wears layers of clothing, even in the warmer seasons.
- Watch out for cuts, burns, bruises and skin infections; homeless youth may not have access to hygiene needs or the ability to treat minor or major wounds. Self-injurious behavior may also be occurring in a homeless youth.
- Discuss sexual activity non-judgmentally. Offer testing for STI's/STD's, even if that isn't the reason the youth came to the emergency room, clinic, or scheduled appointment.

Law Enforcement Considerations

- Law enforcement will encounter street youth under many circumstances which may be deemed dangerous and unsafe for youth. For example, youth may be living in abandoned and unsafe settings (e.g., under bridges, in caves near the river, in cars or trucks/vans, sleeping in doorways or stair wells and in parks). It is helpful to the youth if law enforcement officers do not assume that the youth was safer in their traditional home environment. Many youth are on the street and/or in unsafe places because of severe abuse in their home.

Street Outreach

- It is helpful if officers question the youth about safety issues regarding their familial environment before returning them automatically. Please remember that youth are reluctant to admit that they have been abused. Even severely abused children and youth can be protective of their abusers.
- Read the body language of the youth, this can be more informative than some answers youth give.
- Ask the youth if there is a friend or relative where they can stay that is safe. However, do not assume that if a youth tells you they are staying with a friend, that the “friend” is safe. Ask more questions! For example, find out how old the friend is? How long have they known them? Is there any thing that makes you uncomfortable about the friend’s environment? Where do they sleep at their friend’s house?
- Do not make assumptions about a youth’s activity without getting the whole story. For example, just because they are on University Avenue late at night does not mean they’ve broken a law.
- Be culturally aware and sensitive to all youth (see Cultural Consideration Section).

School Considerations

- It is important not to assume that because a youth is coming to school that they are not homeless or street-involved.
- Do not assume by the youth’s attire that they are, or are not, homeless.
- Ask where and with whom they are staying. Be certain these inquiries are not accusations.
- Ask questions about the environment they are staying in. Is there anything from what you know of the environment

that makes the youth feel uneasy or unsafe? If so, share your concern in a non-judgmental way. For example, “I am concerned about where you are staying and want to be sure everything is okay?”

- Make certain you know who the school’s “Homeless Youth” liaison is where the youth is enrolled.
- Homeless and street engaged youth often know one another. If you know a youth is homeless and enrolled in school, consider that their friendships and relationships may be with other youth who are also homeless or street identified. However, do not judge a youth by their friendships.

As professionals working with outreach workers, it is important to keep in mind that Street Outreach is a uniquely specialized profession and not just “shelter work outside.” Because young people are in street environments, capable providers must also be there. Individuals entering the street outreach field must become highly skilled to be successful in reaching these youth.. The most successful outreach occurs when providers have the ability to form relationships with youth, and have services in place for young people when they are ready to make new choices in their lives.

Outreach workers welcome working with all other providers to connect youth with appropriate services. Outreach workers have a wealth of information to share that could help other providers regarding the experiences street youth are currently having, and how the youth came to be living on the street.

For more information on outreach in the Metro area, call the StreetWorks Collaborative at 612.252.2735 or visit StreetWorksmn.org.



The Safe Harbors Youth Intervention Project (SHYIP) Protocol Guidelines

Consent and Confidentiality

Consent &
Confidentiality

Consent and Confidentiality Section

Note:

What follows is taken with permission from the content of: Consent & Confidentiality: Providing Medical and Mental Health Services to Minors in Minnesota – Legal Guidelines for Professionals (Revised 2002). Online copies available at: <http://www.hcmc.org/depts/documents/ConsentConfidBr.pdf>

Consent & Confidentiality

Providing Medical and Mental Health Care
Services to Minors in Minnesota
Legal Guidelines for Professionals

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Introduction

This document was developed to provide a brief review of the laws that guide the provision of health care to minors in the state of Minnesota. It is intended to:

- Encourage providers to become knowledgeable about the legal parameters of minor consent,
- Discuss the legal parameters of confidentiality as they pertain to the care of minors, and
- Differentiate between the mandated reporting of sexual abuse and the voluntary reporting of sexual assault.

Facilitating collaborative decision-making between a minor and her or his parent regarding health care should be the goal of practitioners. This goal, though often achieved without difficulty, may at times be problematic. Given the brevity of this document, it is impossible to elaborate on all aspects of decision-making or to propose categorical answers for each clinical dilemma faced by health care providers. However, this document does outline the legal aspects of a framework within which responsible decisions can be made. Practitioners should also be guided by an assessment of 1) the adolescent's cognitive, physical, social, and emotional development, and 2) the extent to which the adolescent needs and has access to supportive adults who will assist in making important decisions. Ultimately, it is this assessment along with the ethical principles of our various professions as well as an understanding of basic legal principles that guide our provision of care to minors.

This document is not intended as legal advice or consultation in regard to providing health care to minors. Specific questions regarding interpretation or application of these guidelines should be referred to an attorney. Lastly, since law is an expression of public policy, it changes and evolves over time. This document is cur-

rent at the time of publication. Information about statutes may be obtained from the Minnesota Attorney General's office at (651) 296-6196. Text of Minnesota Statutes and the most recent session changes can be accessed on the Internet through: <http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/statutes.htm>.

We hope this document will enhance understanding of basic legal concepts regarding minor consent and confidentiality. This understanding, along with knowledge of adolescent development, family systems, and professional ethical principles, is intended to assist practitioners in keeping the best interest of their patients as their primary motivation in decisions related to the provision of care.

Consent and Confidentiality

Key Sources of Legal Authority

What are the types of law that govern the provision of health care to minor patients?

- Statutes:
 - * Law as determined and written by a legislative body, such as Congress or the Minnesota State Legislature.
- Court Decisions:
 - * Law as determined by a court. This law is based on judicial decisions, i.e., how a court has ruled in previous similar situations. Generally, this law prevails if there is no applicable statute.
- Regulations:
 - * An implemental interpretation of a statute having the force of law which is issued by an executive body. (Example: regulations issued by the Minnesota Department of Health or by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.)

Key Legal Concepts

What are the important legal terms that provide the basis for understanding the laws that govern the provision of health care to minor patients?

- Minor: Individual under 18 years of age.
- Consent: With regard to medical and mental health care, this is generally defined as informed consent. The following criteria must be fulfilled to meet the requirement of informed consent.

The patient must be informed of and able to understand:

1. Diagnosis
 2. Nature and purpose of proposed treatment
 3. Risks and consequences of proposed treatment
 4. Probability that treatment will be successful
 5. Feasible treatment alternatives and have the ability to make a voluntary choice among the alternatives
 6. Prognosis if treatment is not given
- Parental Consent: The traditional requirement that a parent give consent for treatment of a minor child. Parental rights is a time-honored principle that parents have the right to make decisions for their children while they are minors.
 - Confidentiality: The principle of confidentiality limits the disclosure of medical and mental health care information and protects the privacy of the patient.

Exceptions to Parental Consent

Is parental consent always necessary to provide medical or mental health care to minors?

- Yes, unless certain exceptions can be applied. These exceptions are based primarily on two mechanisms:
 1. Statutory Law
 2. Court Decisions

Based on statutory law and court decisions, what are the two broad areas of exception regarding parental consent?

- The two broad areas of exception are:
 1. Status of the minor, or
 2. Category of care provided

Consent and Confidentiality

Status of Minor

What are the two exceptions to parental consent based on status of the minor?

- Emancipated Minor: In Minnesota there is no procedural court process by which a minor can be designated an emancipated minor” with full rights and privileges of adult status. However, there are state statutes that “emancipate” the following categories of minors for purposes of giving consent for health care. No other consent is required regardless of age.
 1. Minor living separate and apart from parents or guardian (with or without consent, regardless of duration) who is managing her or his own financial affairs. [Minn. Stat. §144.341]
 2. Minor who has married. [Minn. Stat. §144.342]
 3. Minor who has borne a child. [Minn. Stat. §144.342]
- Mature Minor: The concept of “mature minor” is based on principles and prior decisions of a court. Although there is no specific precedent in Minnesota case law related to application of the “mature minor” concept, there is significant case law from other states supporting practitioners who elect to provide care under this doctrine. If the mature minor doctrine is employed, the minor must be judged capable of giving informed consent. It applies where:
- * no other exceptions to parental consent apply, and
 - * parental involvement is impractical or problematic.
- It is generally accepted that the risk of liability for treating a “mature minor” is negligible if all of the following criteria are met:

1. Minor is 15 years of age or older.
2. Minor is able to give informed consent.
3. Proposed treatment is for the minor’s benefit.
4. Proposed treatment is deemed necessary.
5. Proposed treatment does not involve complex, high-risk medical procedures or complex, high-risk surgery.

What is the risk of liability for providing care under the “mature minor” doctrine?

- Careful searches have found no reported cases of a physician being successfully sued for failure to obtain parental consent when providing non-negligent treatment to a mature minor [AMA 1994, Morrissey et al. 1986, English 1990].

If it turns out that a minor did not have legal authority to give consent, is a medical or mental health provider protected from liability?

- Yes, if the medical or mental health care provider relies in good faith on a minor’s claim of ability to give effective consent, concluding therefrom that the minor’s consent is valid. [Minn. Stat. §144.345]

Category of Care: Medical & Mental Health Care

What are the categories of medical, mental, and other health services for which a minor may give her or his own consent in the state of Minnesota?

Under Minnesota law a minor may consent to certain categories of care. These categories are:

1. Emergency care*

(*A minimum age is not specified in the statutes.)

Risk to the minor's life or health is of such a nature that treatment should be given without delay and requiring consent would delay or deny treatment. [Minn. Stat. §144.344]

2. Pregnancy-related care*

Any minor may give effective consent for medical, mental, and other health services to determine the presence of or to treat pregnancy and conditions associated with pregnancy. [Minn. Stat. §144.343(1)]

3. Sexually transmitted disease* (STD)

Any minor may give effective consent for medical, mental, and other health services to determine the presence of or to treat conditions associated with sexually transmitted diseases. [Minn. Stat. §144.343(1)]

4. Contraceptive care*

The practice of giving contraceptives to minors without parental consent by physicians is not criminal conduct [Op. Atty. Gen. 494-B-39, 8/25/72]. In practical application this extends to nurse practitioners and others with prescriptive authority.

5. Abortion*

No abortion shall be performed upon an unemancipated minor until at least 48 hours after written notice has been delivered to both of the minor's parents or her guardians. Notification of one parent is sufficient if the other parent cannot be located through reasonably diligent effort. No notification is required if:

- the abortion is authorized in writing by those entitled to notice as stated above; or
- the attending physician certifies that the abortion is necessary to prevent the minor's death and there is insufficient time to provide notice; or
- the pregnant minor declares that she is the victim of sexual abuse, neglect, or physical abuse. Notice of that declaration shall be made to the proper authorities.

If a pregnant minor elects not to allow the notification of one or both of her parents or guardian, she may petition the court for a waiver of notification. The judge shall authorize a physician to perform the abortion if the judge determines that:

- the pregnant minor is mature and capable of giving informed consent for the abortion; or
- the abortion without notification is in the best interest of the pregnant minor.

[Minn. Stat. §144.343, Hodgson v. Minnesota, 110 S.Ct. 2926]

6. Alcohol and other drug abuse*

Any minor may give effective consent for medical, mental, and other health services to determine the presence of or to treat alcohol and other drug abuse. [Minn. Stat. §144.343(1)]

Category of Care: Medical & Mental Health Care

A minor consenting for inpatient chemical dependency treatment has the right to leave the facility within 72 hours (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) after submitting a written request to the head of the treatment facility, unless legal petition has been filed for commitment. The treatment facility must inform the minor of this right in writing at the time of admission. [Minn. Stat. §253B.04]

7. Inpatient mental health services

A minor 16 years of age or older may request to be admitted to a treatment facility for observation, evaluation, diagnosis, care, and treatment. A minor consenting for admission has a right to leave the facility within 12 hours of submitting a written request to the head of the treatment facility, unless an emergency hold has been placed on the minor or a legal petition has been filed for commitment. The treatment facility must inform the minor of this right in writing at the time of admission. [Minn. Stat. §253B.04]

Can a parent or guardian admit a minor to a mental health or chemical dependency treatment facility on an informal (voluntary) basis without the minor's consent?

If the minor is under 16 years of age, the consent of a parent or guardian alone is sufficient to admit the minor to a chemical dependency or mental health treatment facility if it is determined by independent examination that there is reasonable evidence the proposed patient is:

- mentally ill, mentally retarded, or chemically dependent, and
- suitable for treatment [Minn Stat §253B.04].

If a minor is 16 or 17 years of age and refuses to consent personally to admission, he or she may be admitted as a patient for

mental illness or chemical dependency treatment with the consent of a parent or legal guardian if it is determined by an independent examination that there is reasonable evidence that the proposed patient is chemically dependent or has a mental illness and is suitable for treatment. [Minn Stat. §253B.04]

Under what circumstances can a minor be admitted to a mental health or chemical dependency treatment facility on a formal (involuntary) basis?

Any minor may be transported on a “transportation hold” to a treatment facility by a peace or health officer if the officer has reason to believe that the minor is:

- mentally ill, mentally retarded, or chemically dependent, and
- in danger of causing injury to self or others if not immediately detained.

An examiner of the treatment facility can place the minor on a 72-hour emergency hold with the consent of the head of the treatment facility if:

- the examiner has examined the minor in the last 15 days,
- the examiner believes the person is mentally ill, mentally retarded, or chemically dependent and in danger of causing injury to self or others if not immediately detained, and
- an order of the court cannot be obtained in time to prevent the anticipated injury.

A minor may be held up to 72 hours after admission (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays). To hold a minor for more than 72 hours after admission, a court petition for commitment must be filed. [Minn. Stat. §253B.05]

Consent and Confidentiality

Confidentiality

Are health care providers obligated to provide confidentiality to minors who give consent for their own care?

Yes, the minor alone may authorize release of medical and mental health care information in situations where the minor has given her or his consent for care. [Minn. Stat. §144.335] This statute assumes the minor received services pursuant to Minnesota Statute §144.341-347 (see pages 6 – 9).

Are health care providers obligated to provide minors' health records to parents upon request?

Not if the minor consented to treatment under Minnesota §144.341-347. Under these circumstances, Minnesota law does not authorize release of medical and mental health records to anyone other than the minor. [Minn. Stat. §144.335]

Can health care providers assure confidentiality to minors consenting for their care under Minnesota Statute §144.341-343 when third-party payors are involved?

There is no assurance that an itemized billing statement or hospital bill will not be sent to the person who holds the insurance policy (i.e. the parent or guardian of the minor). Third-party payors differ and providers should inform themselves regarding payor policy on explanation of benefit notification. Health care providers should be familiar with policies regarding itemized statements sent out by third-party payors or individual health care facilities in order to inform the minor whether confidentiality can be maintained.

Parental Notification

If a minor has consented for her or his own care, is there any circumstance under which a clinician can break confidence and inform the minor's parents of the care given?

Minnesota Statute §144.346 states that a medical professional may inform the minor's parent or guardian of any treatment given or needed when, in the professional's judgment, failure to inform the parent or guardian would seriously jeopardize the health of the minor.

Financial Responsibility

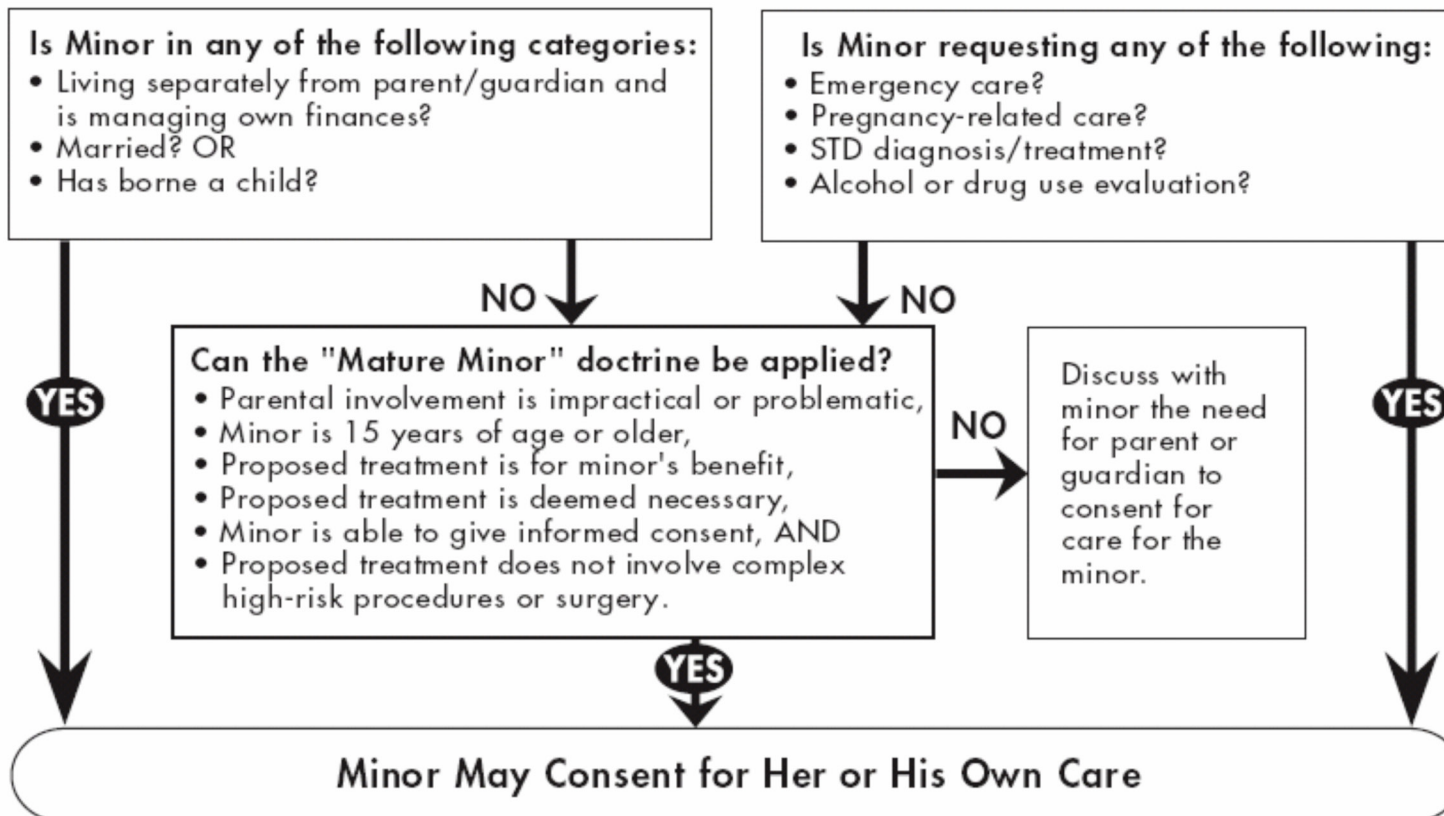
Who is financially responsible for the cost of services when a minor consents for her or his own care?

The minor assumes financial responsibility for health care services when she or he consents for health care services. [Minn. Stat. §144.347]

Minor Consent Algorithm

Summary Guidelines: Minor Requesting Confidential Care

See pages 6-9 for guidelines referring to abortion or inpatient mental health services



Sexual Abuse and Sexual Assault

What is the difference between sexual abuse and sexual assault?

Many people confuse the terms sexual abuse and sexual assault. The distinction between the two is the relationship of the offender to the minor and the fact that health care professionals are mandated to report sexual abuse.

- It is a case of sexual abuse if the offender is responsible for the minor's care, is in a position of authority over the minor, or has a significant relationship to the minor.
- It is a case of sexual assault if the offender is a stranger or does not meet the criteria for sexual abuse as listed above.

What is the definition of position of authority?

Position of authority includes but is not limited to any person who is a parent or acting in the place of a parent and is charged with any of a parent's rights, duties or responsibilities to a child; or a person who is charged with any duty or responsibility for the health, welfare, or supervision of a child, either independently or through another, no matter how brief, at the time of the act. [Minn. Stat. §609.341]

What is the definition of significant relationship?

Significant relationship is defined as a relative by blood, marriage, or adoption, or an adult who resides intermittently or regularly in the same dwelling as the minor. [Minn. Stat. §609.341]

What are the circumstances in which a health care provider is mandated to report sexual contact?

When the sexual contact falls within the child abuse/sexual abuse reporting statute [Minn. Stat. §626.556]. This statute states a report is mandated when the sexual contact took place within the past three years and:

- was with a person who is responsible for the minor's care,
- was with a person who is in a position of authority over the minor,
- was with a person who has a significant relationship to the minor, or
- is an indication of parental/responsible person neglect.

If an adolescent was sexually assaulted but does not want to file a police report, is the provider mandated to report the assault?

No. While filing a police report in the case of sexual assault is important for protection of the public, it is not mandated by law unless it falls within the state's child abuse/sexual abuse reporting statute (as cited above).

If an adolescent reveals having consensual sex with someone considerably older than she or he, is the health care provider mandated to report this as statutory rape?

No, even though the sexual contact between a minor and an older individual may constitute criminal sexual conduct (see page 16); health care providers are not mandated to report unless the sexual contact also falls within the child abuse/sexual abuse reporting statute (as cited above).

What actions constitute criminal sexual conduct?

In Minnesota, criminal sexual conduct ranges from first to fourth degree [Minn. Stat. §609.341-345]. The degree of severity varies according to the age of the victim, the cognitive and physical capacity of the victim, the nature of the sexual contact, the age difference between the offender and the minor victim, and whether force or coercion was used.

Sexual Abuse and Sexual Assault

In addition to those actions that mandate a child abuse/sexual abuse report, other actions constituting criminal sexual conduct in the first to fourth degree (the degree dependent on the variables listed in the previous paragraph) include any of the following:

- sexual contact or penetration and the minor is less than 13 years of age,
- sexual contact and the offender has reason to know that the person is mentally impaired, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless,
- sexual penetration and the minor is at least 13 but less than 16 and the offender is more than 24 months older,
- sexual contact and the minor is at least 13 but less than 16 and the offender is more than 48 months older,
- sexual contact and the offender uses force, coercion, or threat of injury, or
- nonconsensual sexual contact.

Although the above actions constitute criminal sexual conduct, they do not meet the criteria of a mandated report unless the offender is responsible for the minor's care, the offender has a significant relationship to the minor, the offender is in a position of authority over the minor, or the action was the result of parental neglect or neglect of a responsible person/agency.

If a provider has reason to believe a minor has been a victim of criminal sexual conduct in a licensed facility, is the provider mandated to file a report?

It depends upon the relationship of the offender to the victim and the circumstances under which the event occurred.

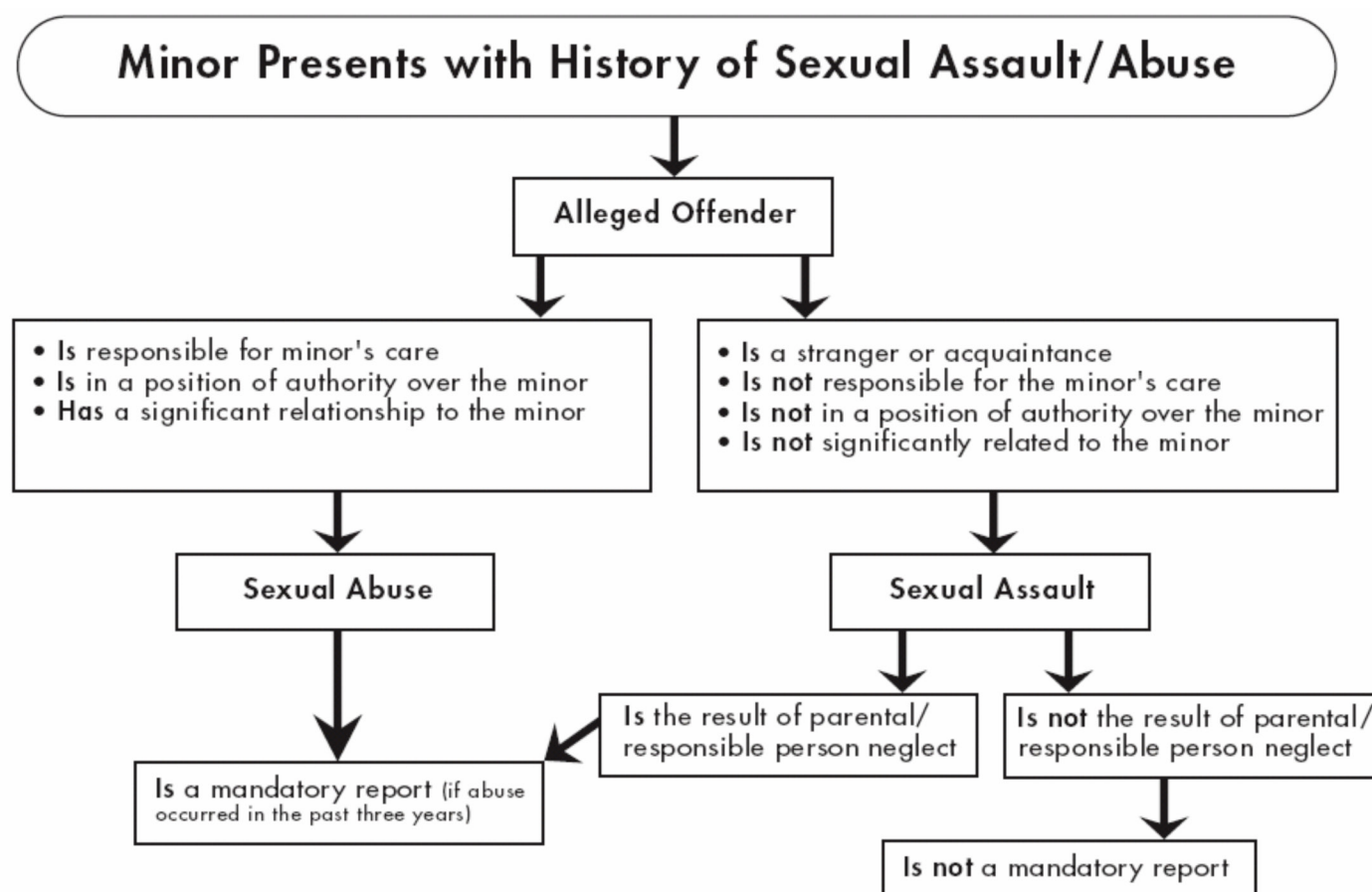
A report must be filed with law enforcement or the appropriate state licensing agency if:

- the offender is an employee or representative of the licensed facility, or
- the sexual contact is an indication of failure to protect on the part of the licensed facility, and
- the criminal sexual conduct occurred within the past 3 years.

For criminal sexual conduct meeting the above criteria in schools, reports are called to the Department of Families, Children and Learning (651-582-8546). In licensed health care facilities, reports are called to the State of Minnesota Health Facilities Complaints division (651-215-8713). The local county welfare agency is responsible for assessing or investigating allegations of maltreatment in child foster care, family child care, legally unlicensed child care, and in juvenile correctional facilities located in the county.

Reports must be called in within 24 hours and followed by a written report within 72 hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays. Written reports must identify the child, any person believed to be responsible for the abuse or neglect (if known), the nature and extent of the abuse or neglect, and the name and address of the reporter [Minn Stat. §626.556].

Sexual Abuse/Sexual Assault Reporting Algorithm



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Consent and Confidentiality

Legal Guidelines for Professionals, Revised 2002

The Safe Harbors Youth Intervention Project (SHYIP) Protocol Guidelines

SHYIP Resources

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Resources for Youth: The Our Guide (Standalone Copies Available) / 180

SHYIP
Resources

SHYIP Resource Guide

Resource Rationale

The SHYIP Resource Section has been divided into two sections: A Youth Oriented Section and a Provider Oriented Section.

The youth section is a reproduction of content from the Our Guide: Resource for Young Adults in the Twin Cities. Stand-alone copies of the Our Guide can be obtained by contacting Streetworks at 612-252-2735 or www.streetworksmn.org. The Provider Oriented Section is a combination of resources gathered by the SHYIP during the Inventory of Existing Services and the Sexual Offence Services resource manual.

Depending on the nature of the situation and the services needed, individual providers should determine which section will be most useful. The sections are meant to complement each other, and both are useful when working with homeless runaway youth at risk for sexual exploitation.

Special thanks to the Streetworks Collaborative for the content of the Youth Oriented Section from the Our Guide: Resource for Young Adults in the Twin Cities, and Ashley M. Gulden for compiling the content of the Provider Resource Section.

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When a Youth Needs to Talk to Someone

Acute Psychiatric Services

PH: 612-873-3161
WEB: www.hcmc.org/depts/psych/cic.htm
WHO: Anyone in crisis; adolescent (up to 18 yrs) and adult program
WHAT: They provide a 24-hour walk-in crisis intervention and treatment of behavioral emergencies; Crisis intervention phone service for assessment, information, and referral for psychiatric emergencies.
WHERE: 701 Park Ave South, Minneapolis
WHEN: Immediate services are 24 hours; adolescent program hours are Mon/Tues/Wed 8am – 5pm; Thurs noon – 5pm; Fri Closed
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you are under 18, parents have access to your records and you will be transferred to the adolescent program.

RA.I.N.N (Rape Abuse Incest National Network)

PH: 800-656-4673 (HOPE)
WEB: www.rainn.org
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Connects caller to closest rape crisis center in their area. Provides free, safe and confidential support and information
WHEN: 24 Hours

Aurora Center for Advocacy and Education

PH: 1-800-656-4673
WEB: www1.umn.edu/aurora/
WHO: Victims of sexual violence
WHAT: Provides crisis intervention and advocacy to victims of sexual and domestic violence, harassment and stalking

Children's Crisis Response

PH: 651-774-7000 (24 hours)
WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us/hs/ChildrenMentalHealth.html
WHO: Youth 0-18 yrs
WHAT: Provides crisis support, intervention, de-escalation, and mobile services for youth who are dealing with mental health or family issues.
WHEN: 24 hours

Ramsey County Mental Health Center, Crisis Center for Adults

PH: 651-266-7900 (24 hours)
WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us/hs/mhc/AdultMentalHealth.htm
WHO: Ages 18 and older
WHAT: Crisis support and intervention for adults suffering from mental illness and that are a danger to themselves or others. Outreach also available
WHEN: 24 hours

Regions Hospital Crisis Program

PH: 651-254-1000 (24 hours)
WEB: www.regionshospital.com
WHO: 18 yrs and older
WHAT: 24 hour mental health intake through emergency room. No adolescent inpatient psychiatric beds.
NOTE: United Hospital is the only hospital in Saint Paul that has adolescent inpatient psychiatric beds.

When a Youth Needs to Talk to Someone

Access Program

PH: 651-228-9544 (24 hours)
651-228-4713 (non-emergencies)
WHO: Ages 18 and older
WHAT: Provides outreach to persons experiencing chronic, persistent mental illness, chemical dependency and/or homelessness.

Carver and Scott County Crisis Line

PH: 952-442-7601
WEB: www.co.scott.mn.us
WHO: Carver and Scott county residents
WHAT: To reach Social workers 24-hours a day.
WHEN: 24 hours

Dakota County Crisis Response

PH: 952-891-7171
WEB: www.co.dakota.mn.us
WHO: Dakota county residents
WHAT: A 24 hour crisis line

Washington County Crisis Line

PH: 651-777-4455
WEB: www.co.washington.mn.us
WHO: Washington County residents
WHAT: A 24 hour crisis line

Catholic Charities

PH: 651-215-2209 (Intake Line)
WEB: www.ccspm.org
WHO: Anyone

WHAT: Individual, family and group counseling and therapy. Nondenominational services.
WHERE: Call for nearest location, multiple locations throughout metro.

Chrysalis

PH: 612-871-0118
612-824-2780 TTY
WEB: www.chrysaliswomen.org
WHO: 18 yrs and older
WHAT: Group and individual counseling and therapy, legal clinic, chemical dependency, couples/uncoupling, adult survivors, support groups, general information and referrals.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Childcare may be available, must call to arrange.

C.L.U.E.S. (Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio)

PH: Office: 612-746-3500
Crisis Line: 612-746-3537
WEB: www.clues.org
WHO: Culturally appropriate for the Spanish speaking community.
WHAT: Individual, family and group counseling in Spanish and English.
WHERE: 720 East Lake Street, Minneapolis

When a Youth Needs to Talk to Someone

Jewish Family Service

PH: 651-698-0767
 WHO: Culturally appropriate services for Jewish clients
 WHAT: Counseling, family life education, services and case management for elderly, resettlement and training services.
 FEE: Sliding fee scale

Lutheran Social Services

PH: 612-879-5320 (Intake Line)
 WHO: Ages 3 to 90 yrs of age
 WHAT: Individual, family and couples counseling. Nondenominational services.
 WHERE: Call intake line for nearest location, multiple locations in metro area.
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Sliding fee scale and insurance accepted.

Mental Health Resources, Inc.

PH: 651-266-7890 (Intake Line)
 WHO: Adults recovering from mental illness
 WHAT: Counseling services for Ramsey, Hennepin and Dakota County. Intake through Ramsey County Mental Health Services

National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline

PH: 1-866-331-9474
 1-866-331-8453 TTY
 WEB: www.loveisrespect.org
 WHAT: Information, resources, hotline, online live chat rooms for teens

Phyllis Wheatley Community Center

PH: 612-638-0700
 WHO: Culturally appropriate for African American community
 WHAT: Counseling, classes, nursery, after school program, information and referrals.

Ramsey County Mental Health Clinic

PH: 651-266-7999 General
 651-266-7960 Intake
 651-266-7900 Crisis
 WHAT: Counseling available for wide variety of issues including, physical and sexual abuse, depression, anxiety, transitions, etc.

Southwest Family Services

PH: 612-825-4407 Intake for all locations
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Individual, couples and family therapy.
 WHERE: Call intake line for nearest location, multiple metro locations.

Walk-In Counseling Center

PH: 612-870-0565
 WEB: www.walkin.org
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: Individual, couples and family short term counseling and crisis intervention.
 WHERE: 2421 Chicago Ave, Minneapolis
 WHEN: Call for hours, day or evening
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Services are free; donations accepted. Childcare usually available, walk-in okay for 1st session with therapist.

When a Youth Needs to Talk to Someone

Wilder Child Guidance Clinic

PH: 651-642-4001
WHO: Children and families
WHAT: Counseling for child victims of abuse and their families.

White Bear Areas Community Counseling Center

PH: 651-429-8544
WHO: Residents of White Bear Lake, White Bear Township, Vadnais Heights, Birchwood, and Mahtomedi ONLY.
WHAT: Individual, couples, family and group counseling. Psychiatric services and parenting classes.
FEE: Sliding fee scale.

Family Service

PH: 651-635-0095
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Individual, family and group counseling and therapy services.
FEE: Sliding fee scale.

Family & Children's Service

PH: 612-339-9101
WEB: www.famchildserv.org/
WHO: Individuals, families and children
WHAT: Counseling and Support Groups
WHERE: 4123 East Lake Street Minneapolis MN;
 414 S. 8th Street Minneapolis;
 6900 78th Avenue N Brooklyn Park,
 9201 E. Bloomington Freeway, Suite Q, Bloomington

WHEN: Downtown: Wed until 8pm
 Lake Street: Mon/Tues/Thurs until 8pm
 Brooklyn Park: Mon/Tues/Wed until 8pm
 Thurs until 5pm, Fri until 4pm
 Bloomington: Mon/Wed until 8pm
 Tues/Thurs until 5pm. Staff is also available evenings and weekends.
 Call 612-339-9101.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Services offered on sliding fee scale; may need to be 18 yrs. of age to be seen without parent/guardian permission.

Project Pathfinder, Inc.

PH: 651 – 644-8515
WEB: www.projectpathfinder.org
WHO: Children under age 18 with sexual behavior problems or who have been sexually abused. Adolescents and adults who have engaged in harmful or abusive sexual behaviors.
WHAT: Provides evaluation, individual, family and group counseling programs, both short and long term to individuals who have committed sexually abusive behaviors. Also provides services to children who have been sexually abused and their families.
WHEN: Monday through Friday. To make an appointment call 651-644-8515, ask for intake.
WHERE: 1821 University Ave. West N385, Saint Paul
FEE: Vary according to services provided.

When a Youth Needs to Talk to Someone

La Familia Guidance Center, Inc.

PH: 651-221-0913
 WEB: www.lafamiliaguidance.org
 WHO: Youth, families and adults
 WHAT: Mental health counseling; youth intervention; parent and family counseling
 WHERE: 155 S. Wabasha Street Suite #120, Saint Paul and 2217 Nicollet Avenue South in Minneapolis
 LANGUAGE: Fluent in Spanish and English; has multicultural mental health clinic
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must have insurance; agency works to keep children in the family.

Lao Family Community of Minnesota, Inc.

PH: 651-221-0069
 WEB: www.laofamily.org
 WHO: Youth and Families
 WHAT: Offers culturally-specific education and support to youth and families to help them cope with the particular social and cultural issues that affect them. Provides case management
 WHERE: 320 University Ave East, Saint Paul
 LANGUAGE: Hmong and English
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: This agency is education based, and does not provide crisis work or intervention

Neighborhood Involvement Program (N.I.P.) Community Counseling Clinic

PH: 612-374-4601
 WEB: www.neighborhoodinvolve.org
 WHO: Women, men 18 yrs and older; may see youth (age 17) with parental consent
 WHAT: Mental health supportive counseling; GLBTQ friendly

WHERE: 2431 Hennepin Ave South, Minneapolis
 WHEN: Mon-Thurs: 8:30am – 8pm; Friday 8:30am – 5pm
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Counseling based on sliding fee scale based on income

Neighborhood Involvement Program – Youth Program

PH: 612-276-1522
 WEB: www.neighborhoodinvolve.org
 WHO: Youth, up to 18 yrs.
 WHAT: After school programs; summer programs; children's mental health counseling
 WHERE: 3333 North 4th St, Minneapolis
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need parental or guardian consent for services; services based on sliding fee and income of family.

Neighborhood Involvement Program (N.I.P.) Community Clinic

PH: 612-374-4089
 WEB: www.neighborhoodinvolve.org
 WHO: Women, men and children of all ages by appointment. Must be uninsured for services and fees are based on income level.
 WHAT: Primary medical care; STI and pregnancy testing; HIV testing; GYN exams and services; dental exams and filings.
 WHERE: 2431 Hennepin Ave South, Minneapolis
 WHEN: Mon-Thurs: 9am – 5pm and 6pm – 8:30pm
 Friday 9am-5pm
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Medical and dental services based on sliding fee scale and only provide services to uninsured individuals and families.

When a Youth Needs to Talk to Someone

Rape and Sexual Abuse Center, Neighborhood Involvement Program

PH: 612-825-4357
WEB: www.neighborhoodinvolve.org/rsac
WHO: Youth, men and women who have been sexually abused, assaulted, raped or sexually harassed; any victim of sexual violence
WHAT: 24 hour crisis line; mental health counseling; supportive confidential services
WHERE: 2431 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis
WHEN: Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm; evening appointments available, 24 hour crisis line
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: all phone services are free and confidential; mental health counseling is based on sliding fee scale

Sexual Offense Services of Ramsey County

PH: 651-643-3006 (24 hour)
 651-643-3022 (business line)
WEB: www.ramsey.mn.us/ph/yas/sos.htm
WHO: Anyone (primary or secondary) that is a victim of sexual violence
WHAT: Crisis supportive counseling for victims, friends and families that are affected by sexual violence; advocacy, referrals, emergency services, medical outreach to Regions Hospital, support groups, 24 hour crisis line
WHERE: 1619 Dayton Ave Suite #201, Saint Paul
WHEN: 24 hour crisis line; office open 8:30am – 5pm, 24 hour medical outreach
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: All services are free and confidential

Sexual Violence Center

PH: 612-871-5111
WEB: www.sexualviolencecenter.org
WHO: Anyone a victim of sexual violence
WHAT: Rape crisis program that provides support, crisis counseling, support groups, referrals
WHERE: 3757 Fremont Ave. North, Minneapolis
WHEN: 24 hour crisis line; call anytime 612-871-5111

Jewish Family and Children's Services of Minneapolis

PH: 952-546-0616
WEB: www.jfcsmpls.org
WHO: Children and Families
WHAT: Support groups; emergency financial services; counseling services; teen and adult programs
WHEN: Mon/Thurs 8:30am – 5:30pm;
 Tues/Wed: 8:30am – 8pm; Fri 8:30am – 4pm
WHERE: 13100 Wayzata Blvd, Minnetonka
BUS: On bus line, see website for bus route

Saint Paul Intervention Project

PH: 651-645-2824
WEB: www.stpaulintervention.org
WHO: Victims of domestic violence
WHAT: 24 hour response and service to victims of domestic violence, including youth
WHERE: 1509 Marshall Ave, Saint Paul

When a Youth Needs to Talk to Someone

Stop It Now! Minnesota, Prevention of Child Abuse

PH: 651-644-8515
1-888-773-8368

WEB: www.stopitnow.org

WHO: Anyone who has concerns about their own, or someone else's behavior towards children.

WHAT: Provides information and resources for anyone with any concerns about their own or someone else's behavior towards children, including: adults who are having sexual thoughts towards children, or have sexually abused a child ; parents concerned about their child's sexual behavior; parents concerned about someone's behavior towards their child; and adults who care about someone whose sexual behavior concerns them. The agency works to keep kids safe.

WHERE: 821 University Ave. West, Suite N385,
Saint Paul, MN 55104

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8am – 5pm

Self Help Resources

Adults Recovering From Incest Anonymous (ARIA)

PH: 763-591-5916
 WHO: Incest Survivors 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: 12 step style support group for female adult survivors of incest.
 WHEN: Call number and leave a message for someone to call you back.

AI-ANON & ALATEEN

PH: 651-771-2208 Saint Paul
 952-920-3961 Saint Louis Park/Minneapolis
 WHO: Primary and secondary people affected by alcoholism by self or family member. Both adult and teen support groups, call for more information.
 WHAT: Support groups for alcoholism

Alcoholics Anonymous

PH: 651-227-5502 Info on all Saint Paul area meetings
 952-922-0880 Info on Minneapolis area meetings

Anita Bendickson and Mary Brandl Self Defense and Personal Safety Courses

PH: 612-729-4621

Emotions Anonymous

PH: 651-647-4621—answering service
 WHAT: Assistance to people with emotional/living problems, mild or severe.

Feminist Eclectic Marital Arts (FEMA)

PH: 612-729-7233
 WHO: women or Transgender only
 WHAT: Self defense courses

Institute on Black Chemical Abuse; African American Family Services

PH: 612-238-2365
 WHO: Culturally appropriate for African Americans; Saint Paul or Minneapolis residents
 WHAT: Assistance coping with family pressure, anger management, chemical substance use and other resources.

Parent Warmline – Program of Children’s Hospital and Clinic

PH: 612-813-6336
 WHAT: Support and response to questions about child development.

Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota

PH: 651-523-0099
 1-800-621-6322
 WHO: Parents, caregivers or guardians
 WHAT: Self help for parents concerned about abusive behavior towards their children. Promotes positive parenting and healthy families.

Self Help Resources

Resources for Child Caring

PH: 651-641-0305
WHO: Parents, caregivers or guardians
WHAT: Childcare information and referrals.
Offers child care sliding fee program for eligible families.
WHEN: Mon-Fri 8:30am – 5pm

Survivors of Incest Anonymous (SIA)

PH: 651-291-0211

National Association to Prevent Sexual Abuse of Children (NAPAC)

PH: 651-215-9913
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Support for survivors of sexual abuse, their families and supporters, including peer counseling, support groups, information and referrals.

Youth Shelter

Arlington House

PH: 651-771-3040
WEB: www.arlington-house.org
WHO: Ages 11-17.
WHAT: Emergency shelter for Ramsey County (as well as other counties as space permits) adolescents for up to 90 days. 24-hour services and counseling services.
WHERE: 712 East Larpenteur Ave, Saint Paul
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Adolescents must be referred by county Social Service departments, Community Corrections and Law Enforcement; therefore, you must have a social service agency call 651-771-7504 or 651-774-3701 for admission to the shelter.

Booth Brown House (BBH)

PH: 651-646-2601
WEB: www.thesalarmy.com/bbh.htm
WHO: The Foyer Program, a transitional living program for 16-25 year-olds and a Girls Shelter program for 11-17 year-olds
WHAT: Emergency shelter. Counseling and Case Management
WHERE: 1471 Como Ave. West, Saint Paul
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must be sober and willing to participate in counseling and consultation.

Home Free Shelter

PH: 763 – 559-4945
WEB: www.homefreeprograms.org
WHO: Women and their children
WHAT: Emergency shelter for domestic violence; all services are free
WHERE: 3405 East Medicine Lake Blvd, Plymouth, MN
WHEN: 24 hour services
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must be involved in a domestic abuse relationship or part of violent family and must be 18 years or older.

Community Services Agencies

Family & Children's Service

PH: 612-339-9101
WEB: <http://www.famchildserv.org/>
WHO: Individuals, families and children
WHAT: Counseling and Support Groups
WHERE: 4123 East Lake Street, Minneapolis;
 414 S. 8th Street, Minneapolis;
 6900 78th Avenue N, Brooklyn Park,
 9201 E. Bloomington Freeway, Suite Q, Bloomington
WHEN: Downtown: Wed until 8pm
 Lake Street: Mon/Tues/Thurs until 8pm
 Brooklyn Park: Mon/Tues/Wed until 8pm
 Thurs until 5pm, Fri until 4pm
 Bloomington: Mon/Wed until 8pm
 Tues/Thurs until 5pm. Staff is also
 available evenings and weekends.
 Call 612-339-9101.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Services offered on sliding fee scale; may need to be 18 yrs. of age to be seen without parent/guardian permission.

Jewish Community Center

PH: 651-698-0751
WEB: www.stpauljcc.org
WHO: Teens and Adults
WHAT: Community programs; teen "lounge" – drop in center; GLBTQ teen support group; childcare and fitness
WHEN: Teen Lounge: Mon-Thurs 6pm – 7pm;
 Sun 1pm – 5pm; GLBTQ support group is ongoing
 call for next meeting date

WHERE: 1375 Saint Paul Ave, Saint Paul
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: All GLBTQ and teen inquiries are confidential

Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA)

PH: 651-209-9993
WEB: www.mncasa.org
WHO: Service Providers for information
WHAT: Assist local programs in providing state of the art advocacy and prevention programming and to affect public perception and policy in relation to sexual assault.
WHERE: 161 Saint Anthony Ave Suite #1001, Saint Paul
WHEN: Business hours

Partners for Violence Prevention

PH: 651-241-8529
WEB: www.partnersforviolenceprevention.org
WHO: Collaborates with schools and social service agencies to educate, train and provide prevention opportunities for youth and families.
WHAT: Is a critical link for families, health care, and community organizations to develop and nurture a culture of peace in St. Paul and surrounding communities through collaboration and the provision of education and resources.
WHERE: 340 Walnut Street, Saint Paul

Community Services Agencies

Pillsbury United Communities, Pillsbury House

PH: 612-302-3400
WEB: www.puc-mn.org
WHO: Provides assistance to low income individuals and families as well as new immigrants to the United States
WHAT: Agency has 12 locations, including neighborhood centers, housing projects and employment and training center
WHERE: 1201 37th Avenue North, Minneapolis

Sexual Offense Services of Ramsey County

PH: 651-643-3006 (24 hour)
 651-643-3022 (business line)
WEB: www.ramsey.mn.us/ph/yas/sos.htm
WHO: Anyone (primary or secondary) that is victim of sexual violence
WHAT: Crisis supportive counseling for victims, friends and families that are affected by sexual violence; advocacy, referrals, emergency services, medical outreach to Regions Hospital, support groups, 24 hour crisis line
WHERE: 1619 Dayton Ave Suite #201, Saint Paul
WHEN: 24 hour crisis line; office open 8:30am – 5pm, 24 hour medical outreach
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: All services are free and confidential

Medical Resources

Children's Hospital

PH: 651-220-6911 (Emergency Room) 24 hours
 WEB: www.childrensmn.org
 WHO: Children 12 yrs. and younger
 WHAT: Emergency medical needs and sexual abuse evidentiary exams for children 12 yrs and younger
 WHEN: 24 hours
 WHERE: 345 Smith Street, Saint Paul

Community University Health Care Center (CUHCC)

PH: 612-638-0700
 WEB: www.ahc.umn.edu/CUHCC/
 WHO: Anyone in need of medical services
 WHAT: Primary medical care, mental health and dental and legal services
 LANGUAGE: Cambodian; English; Hmong; Laotian; Somali; Spanish; and Vietnamese.
 WHERE: 2001 Bloomington Ave South, Minneapolis
 WHEN: Mon-Fri 8am – 5pm; Walk-ins welcome!
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you are under 18, parents have access to your records. Fees based on sliding fee scale and have community programs to help with fees.
 BUS: 2, 14 and 24 bus lines and within walking distance of the Franklin Station Stop on the Hiawatha Light Rail and the 19 and 8 bus lines.

Family Medical Center, Hennepin County Medical Center

PH: 612-545-9000
 WEB: www.hcmc.org/depts/fmc.htm
 WHO: Anyone

WHAT: Affordable medical care, physical exams, pregnancy care, family planning, interpreters available, WIC program, social services and brief counseling.

Midwest Children's Resource Center (MCRC)

PH: 651-220-6750
 WEB: www.childrensmn.org
 WHO: Children/teens from 0 – 17 years old.
 WHAT: Provides care for children/teens for all forms of intrafamilial abuse (sexual, physical, and severe nutritional neglect) and provides care for all non-acute, extra-familial sexual assault for children/teens age 0 – 17 years old. Agency provides forensic interviews for teens who have been sexually exploited. These appointments need to be scheduled during office hours. MCRC sees all acute sexual assaults to children 12 years old and under, there is no appointment needed. MCRC has a number of counseling groups for sexually abused teens, including: violence prevention program, teen empowerment group for young runaways, cognitive behavior therapy group, and individual therapy. Therapy groups are free. MCRC provides comprehensive health assessments for runaways. Parental/Guardian permission is required, care is confidential.
 WHEN: A nurse case manager is on-call to answer questions 24 hours per day. Direct care for intrafamilial abuse is available 24 hours per day. However, when possible, an appointment should be made. Appointments need to be scheduled during office hours.
 WHERE: 347 Smith Street, Saint Paul (Garden view Medical Building, Suite 401)

Medical Resources

FEE: Insurance is billed when available and there is also a sliding scale fee.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Parental permission is needed for all of the therapy groups.

Family Tree Clinic

PH: 651-645-0478
WEB: www.familytreeclinic.org
WHO: Teens, men and women
WHAT: Sliding fee based medical and reproductive health services; STI testing; free birth control and family planning; annual exams; UTI and infection treatment; same day appointments
WHEN: Mon/Wed 8:30am – 8:30pm;
 Tues/Thurs: 8:30am – 5pm; Closed Fri
LANGUAGE: ASL and interpreter services
WHERE: 1619 Dayton Ave, Saint Paul

Regions ER Crisis Program

PH: 651-254-1000
WEB: www.regionshospital.com
WHO: Anyone in crisis age 18 and over.
WHAT: Crisis intervention and referrals
WHERE: 640 Jackson Street, Saint Paul
WHEN: 24 hour services
LANGUAGE: Staff spoken language interpreters are available weekdays in Cambodian/Khmer, Hmong, Oromo/Amharic, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Interpreters are available in other languages or after hours over the telephone or through a contracted agency. ASL interpretation is provided 24 hours.

Regions Hospital Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program (SANE)

PH: 651-254-1611
 651-254-5000
WEB: www.regionshospital.com
WHO: Youth 13 yrs. or older and adults who have been a victim of sexual violence.
WHAT: Crisis intervention, advocacy, resources and sexual assault evidentiary exams
WHERE: 640 Jackson Street, Saint Paul
WHEN: 24 hour services
LANGUAGE: Staff spoken language interpreters are available weekdays in Cambodian/Khmer, Hmong, Oromo/Amharic, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Interpreters are available in other languages or after hours over the telephone or through a contracted agency. ASL interpretation is provided 24 hours.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: The county which the crime occurred in (Ramsey, Hennepin, etc.) will PAY for the costs of the exam; not the county in which you reside. The evidentiary exam will be free; however, not the costs of injuries or further medical care.

Medical Resources

Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program (SAFE)

PH: 952-892-2714 Office voicemail
 WHO: 12 years and older
 WHAT: Medical, evidentiary exams after a sexual assault/abuse or rape has occurred
 WHERE: 201 East Nicollet Blvd, Burnsville, MN
 WHEN: 24 hour services, including:
 Fairview Ridges Hospital: 952-892-2021
 Lakeview Hospital: 651-439-5330
 Regina Medical Center: 651-480-4280
 St. John's Hospital: 651-232-7348
 St. Joseph's Hospital: 651-232-3348
 Woodwinds Hospital: 651-232-0348
 LANGUAGE: Staff spoken language interpreters are available in person and over the phone. All arrangements will be made as requested.
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: The county in which the crime occurred in (Ramsey, Hennepin, etc.) will PAY for the costs of the exam; not the county in which you reside. The evidentiary exam will be free; however, not the costs of injuries or further medical care.

Southside Community Health Services

PH: 612-822-3186
 WEB: www.southsidechs.org
 WHO: All ages
 WHAT: medical services, STI screening; mental health counseling; separate women's clinic and men's clinic; pregnancy testing; eye clinic; dental clinic; teen check-ups
 WHERE: 4730 Chicago Ave. South, Minneapolis
 WHEN: 8am – 5:30pm

Fremont Community Health Services

PH: 612-588-9411
 WEB: www.fremonthealth.org
 WHO: Teens and adults
 WHAT: Cost effective medical services including: STI testing, annual exams, immunizations; adult and pediatric care; minor surgical procedures
 WHERE: 3300 Fremont Ave, Minneapolis
 LANGUAGE: Competent service delivery through a skilled team of bilingual and bicultural provider staff, bilingual patient advocates as well as language interpreters.

Health Start Clinics

PH: 651-312-1995
 WHAT: Medical services for youth, located in several Saint Paul public schools

Teen Age Medical Services (TAMS)

PH: 612-813-6125
 WEB: www.teenhealth411.org/
 WHO: 11-25 yrs. of age
 WHAT: General medical services, pregnancy testing, STI testing, emergency contraception; mental health counseling, family planning, treatment of injuries; immunizations, etc.
 WHERE: 2425 Chicago Ave. South, Minneapolis
 WHEN: 8:30am – 5pm
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Youth under 18 yrs will receive confidential medical care under Minors Consent Law; Youth over age 18 are guaranteed confidential services.

Medical Resources

University of Minnesota Youth & AIDS Projects

PH: 612-627-6820

WEB: www.yapmn.com

WHO: 13-25 yrs.

WHAT: Has programming to prevent transmission of HIV to and from high-risk youth and to provide care to youth and families living with HIV infection. Supportive counseling; support groups; GLBTQ friendly and has support groups; HIV testing

WHERE: 428 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis

Sexually Transmitted Disease Testing Referrals

Room 111 of the Ramsey County Department of Public Health

PH: 651-266-1352
 WEB: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/hiv/testingsites.html#Room111
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Walk-in or by appointment STI/STD and HIV testing, treatment and prevention.
 WHERE: 555 Cedar Ave, Saint Paul
 WHEN: Mon/Tues/Wed 8:30am – 11am & 1pm – 3:30pm;
 Thurs 8:30am – noon & 4pm – 6pm;
 Fri 8:30am – noon
 HOW: Walk in for specific treatment or testing
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Donation is requested in place of fee, but not required. Come early otherwise wait could be several hours. Minors do not have to be accompanied and parents do not have to be notified.

Family Planning & STD Hotline

PH: 651-645-9360 (Metro)
 1-800-78-FACTS
 WEB: www.stdhotline.state.mn.us
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Free and confidential information about STDs, birth control, clinic referrals
 WHEN: Call Mon-Fri 8am – 10pm; Sat 9am – 3pm;
 Sun noon-4pm

Family Tree Clinic

651-645-0478; www.familytreeclinic.org
 WHO: Teens, men and women
 WHAT: Sliding fee based medical and reproductive health services; STI testing; free birth control and family

planning; annual exams; UTI and infection treatment; same day appointments
 WHEN: Mon/Wed 8:30am – 8:30pm;
 Tues/Thurs: 8:30 a.m. – 5pm, Closed Fri
 LANGUAGE: ASL and interpreter services
 WHERE: 1619 Dayton Ave, Saint Paul

Fremont Community Health Services

612-588-9411; www.fremonthealth.org
 WHO: Teens and adults
 WHAT: Cost effective medical services including: STI testing, annual exams, immunizations; adult and pediatric care; minor surgical procedures
 WHERE: 3300 Fremont Ave, Minneapolis
 LANGUAGE: competent service delivery through a skilled team of bilingual and bicultural provider staff, bilingual patient advocates as well as language interpreters.

HealthStart Clinics

PH: 651-772-9757
 WHO: Youth of all ages
 WHAT: Healthstart clinics are in Saint Paul high school and junior highs; has a Saint Paul central clinic

MN AIDS Project (MAP) AIDS Line

PH: 612-373-AIDS (2437) Metro area
 1-800-248-AIDS
 612-373-2465 TTY Metro
 1-888-820-2437 TTY Out of State
 WEB: www.mnaidsproject.org
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Information about AIDS, HIV, etc.
 LANGUAGE: Available in English, Hmong, Russian, Somali and Vietnamese

Sexually Transmitted Disease Testing Referrals

Planned Parenthood of M.N., N.D., S.D.

PH: 651-698-2406 (Highland Park)
 WEB: www.plannedparenthood.org/mn-nd-sd
 WHAT: STD and HIV testing, full reproductive health services.
 WHERE: Multiple metropolitan locations, call for information, location and to make an appointment

Southside Community Health Services

PH: 612-822-3186
 WEB: www.southsidechs.org
 WHO: All ages
 WHAT: medical services, STI screening; mental health counseling; separate women's clinic and men's clinic; pregnancy testing; eye clinic; dental clinic; teen check-ups
 WHERE: 4730 Chicago Ave. South, Minneapolis
 WHEN: 8:00am-5:30pm

University of Minnesota Youth & AIDS Projects

PH: 612-627-6820
 WEB: www.yapmn.com
 WHO: 13-25 yrs.
 WHAT: has programming to prevent transmission of HIV to and from high-risk youth and to provide care to youth and families living with HIV infection. Supportive counseling; support groups; GLBTQ friendly and has support groups; HIV testing
 WHERE: 428 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis

Teen Age Medical Services (TAMS)

PH: 612-813-6125
 WEB: www.teenhealth411.org/
 WHO: 11-25 yrs. of age
 WHAT: General medical services, pregnancy testing, STI testing, emergency contraception; mental health counseling, family planning, treatment of injuries; immunizations, etc.
 WHERE: 2425 Chicago Ave. South, Minneapolis
 WHEN: 8:30am – 5pm
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Youth under 18 yrs will receive confidential medical care under Minors Consent Law; Youth over age 18 are guaranteed confidential services.

West Side Community Health Services (La Clinica)

PH: 651-222-1816
 WEB: www.westsidechs.org
 WHAT: STD and HIV testing, pre-natal care and family planning
 WHERE: 153 Cesar Chevaz Street, Saint Paul

Birth Control and Pregnancy Options

Abortions or prenatal care and delivery may be paid for by the MN Crime Victims Reparation Board in cases of reported sexual assaults. If victim has insurance, she must use her insurance first before reparations would help. Call reparations board for more information: 651-201-7300 (metro); Out of state: 1-888-622-8799; TTY: 651-205-4827

Children's Home Society of MN

PH: 651-646-6393
 WEB: www.chsfs.org
 WHAT: Pregnancy counseling, crisis nursery, foster homes and adoption services.
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Crisis nursery is free

Emergency Contraception Hotline

PH: 1-888-NOT-2-LATE (888-668-2-5283)

Family Tree Clinic

PH: 651-645-0478
 WEB: www.familytreeclinic.org
 WHO: Teens, men and women
 WHAT: Sliding fee based medical and reproductive health services; STI testing; free birth control and family planning; annual exams; UTI and infection treatment; same day appointments
 WHEN: Mon/Wed 8:30am – 8:30pm;
 Tues/Thurs 8:30am – 5pm, Closed Friday
 LANGUAGE: ASL and interpreter services
 WHERE: 1619 Dayton Ave, Saint Paul

Ramsey County Department of Public Health

PH: 651-266-1272
 WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us
 WHAT: Family planning and women's health services
 WHERE: 555 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

Family Medical Center, Hennepin County Medical Center

PH: 612-545-9000
 WEB: www.hcmc.org/depts/fmc.htm
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Affordable medical care, physical exams, pregnancy care, family planning, interpreters available, WIC program, social services and brief counseling.

Midwest Health Center for Women

PH: 612-332-2311 or 1-800-998-6075;
 WEB: www.midwesthealthcenter.org
 WHO: Women
 WHAT: OB/GYN care, emergency contraception, abortion information, low cost birth control, and STD treatment. Fee negotiation possible when pregnancy is the result of reported sexual assault.
 WHERE: 33 South 5th Street, Minneapolis

Birth Control and Pregnancy Options

Planned Parenthood of M.N., N.D., S.D.

PH: 651-698-2406 (Highland Park)

WEB: www.plannedparenthood.org/mn-nd-sd

WHAT: STD and HIV testing, full reproductive health services.

WHERE: Multiple metropolitan locations, call for information, location and to make an appointment

Abortion Services

Meadowbrook Women's Clinic

PH: 612-376-7708
 WEB: www.meadowbrookclinic.com
 WHAT: Abortion information (not counseling). Some fee negotiation possible—have staff or victim contact the Clinic Administrator
 WHERE: 825 S. 8th St. #1018, Minneapolis

Midwest Health Center for Women

PH: 612-332-2311 or 1-800-998-6075
 WEB: www.midwesthealthcenter.org
 WHAT: OB/GYN care, emergency contraception, abortion information, low cost birth control, and STD treatment. Fee negotiation possible when pregnancy is the result of reported sexual assault.
 WHERE: 33 South 5th Street, Minneapolis

Planned Parenthood of M.N., N.D., S.D.

PH: 651-698-2406 (Highland Park)
 WEB: www.plannedparenthood.org/mn-nd-sd
 WHAT: STD and HIV testing, full reproductive health services and abortion services at the Highland Park clinic. Abortion information and planning.
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Very limited fee negotiation possible.

Robbinsdale Clinic

PH: 763-533-2534
 WEB: www.robbsdaleclinic.com
 WHAT: Abortion information and services
 WHERE: 3819 W Broadway Ave, Robbinsdale, MN

Pro-Choice Resources

PH: 612-825-8270
 1-888-439-0124 (toll free)
 WEB: www.prochoiceresources.org
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Provides sexuality education and financial assistance for abortions.
 WHERE: 250 3rd Ave North, Minneapolis
 WHEN: Business hours, but call until you reach someone
 LANGUAGE: English and Spanish speaking staff
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Assistance is usually available through no-interest loans for part or the total cost.
 Note: For minors, full grants may be available

Regions Hospital – GYN Special Services Clinic

PH: 651-254-9091 (call to schedule)
 WEB: www.regionshospital.com
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Abortions through 21 weeks 6 days gestation
 WHERE: 640 Jackson Street, Saint Paul
 WHEN: Call the office M-F 8AM – 3:30 PM
 FEE: Insurance is billed, or abortion is prepaid if no insurance (there may be financial assistance available – talk directly to clinic for information)
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: No age restrictions, but there are laws governing parental notification. On occasion the clinic will help the teen through the process of judicial bypass if they are unable to talk to their parents.

Youth Mental Health and Other Youth Programs

Children's Crisis Response

PH: 651-774-7000 (24 hours)
WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us/hs/ChildrenMentalHealth.htm
WHO: Youth ages 0-18 yrs.
WHAT: 24 hour intervention services—will go to youth and family's homes to provide services for youth in coping with mental health/family issues. Provides crisis de-escalation, safety assessment, referrals and services to youth and their families.
LANGUAGE: Staff available in Hmong, Spanish and English

District 202

PH: 612-871-5559
WEB: www.dist202.org
WHO: GLBT youth and under 21 yrs
WHAT: Coffee shop, social events, groups, programming for youth and supportive friends
WHERE: 1601 Nicollet Ave. South, Minneapolis

Face to Face

PH: 651-772-5555
WEB: www.face2face.org
WHO: Ages 12-23 yrs.
WHAT: Counseling, therapy, and support groups for adolescents and their families. Also provides specialized services to Hmong girls through girls' empowerment groups. Onsite medical clinic, program for pregnant young women/young moms, charter schools. Face to face also runs SafeZone for homeless youth.
WHERE: 1165 Arcade, Saint Paul
FEE: Sliding fee scale
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must begin services between ages of 12 to 23 yrs and then may continue until age 27 yrs.

Family and Children's Service

PH: 612-339-9101
WEB: www.familychildrenservice.nonprofitoffice.com
WHO: Youth and families
WHAT: Provides counseling and therapy services for children, youth and families. GLBT and community specific services, also services available for survivors of physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

Neighborhood Involvement Program Youth Program

PH: 612-276-1522
WEB: www.neighborhoodinvolve.org
WHO: Youth, up to 18 yrs.
WHAT: After school programs; summer programs; children's mental health counseling
WHERE: 3333 North 4th Street, Minneapolis
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need parental or guardian consent for services; services based on sliding fee and income of family.

TeenPRIDE (Family and Children's Services)

PH: 612-728-2062
 1-888-PRIDE-99 Toll free
WEB: <http://familychildrenservice.nonprofitoffice.com>
WHO: Women ages 13-18
WHAT: Counseling, advocacy, referrals to women teens. 24 crisis line that accepts collect calls. Free services, support groups, transportation to those who are at risk for sexual exploitation and/or who have been sexually exploited or victims of prostitution.

Youth Mental Health and Other Youth Programs

WHERE: Support groups are held at
 Mondays from 5:00-7:00 pm at Project Offstreets
 (41 N 12th Street in Minneapolis) Tuesdays from
 5:00-7:00 at the Lake Street Branch (4123 East
 Lake Street)
HOW: Call 24 hour line; drop in
WHEN: Lake Street Open: Mon/Tues/Thurs 8am – 8pm
 Wed/Fri 8am – 4:30pm

GLBT KidsLine

PH: 1-877-452-8543

Northwest Youth and Family Services

PH: 651-486-3808
WEB: www.nyfs.org
WHO: Ages 5 to 18 yrs of age and youth's families
WHAT: Youth based services in Roseville, Mounds View
 and Shoreview areas, call for locations nearest you.
 Agency provides individual services to youth and
 parents; services to youth include, summer camp,
 counseling, employment help and resources.
WHERE: 3490 Lexington Ave. North, Shoreview, MN

180 Degrees, Inc. Boys and Girls Resiliency Mentoring Program

PH: 651-772-5562
WEB: www.180degrees.org
WHO: Youth between 9-17 yrs of age.
WHAT: Program works in collaboration with social
 workers, probation, and families to provided
 mentoring services for adolescent females and
 males involved with Children's Mental Health, Child

Protection, Probation, and other Social Services
 Programs. This strength based program offers
 groups and one-on-one mentoring for both male
 and female adolescents and provides a safe place
 for them to address their needs, develop their own
 identity, and build self-esteem.

WHERE: 1165 Arcade Street, Saint Paul

Storefront Group

PH: 612-861-1675
WEB: www.storefront.org/
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Youth and family counseling, support and
 referrals. Programs with schools.
WHERE: 6425 Nicollet Ave, Richfield MN

People Serving People

PH: 612.332.4500
WEB: www.peopleservingpeople.org
WHO: Children ages 3-17
WHAT: Educational programs, family programs and child
 development programs. Agency primarily serves
 homeless families and has many resources for
 homelessness.
WHERE: 614 South Third Street, Minneapolis

Youth Mental Health and Other Youth Programs

Teens Alone

PH: 952-988-8338
WEB: www.teensalone.org
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Free confidential crisis line, counseling, support and referrals. Primary serve West Suburban areas of Minneapolis/Saint Paul. Anyone can call.
WHERE: 915 Main Street, Hopkins MN
HOW: Call hotline: 952-988-TEEN
WHEN: Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

Volunteers of America

PH: 763-753-7310 Anoka
763-225-4052 (Mental Health) Golden Valley
WEB: www.voamn.org
WHO: Children and adolescents age 0-21
WHAT: Mental health services, case management, services for deaf/hard of hearing, residential treatment, therapy, family services, referrals, mentoring programs, school programs, programs for families.
WHEN: Call to schedule: Mon-Fri 8am – 6pm,
Clinic appointments are flexible.
WHERE: Anoka Office:
22426 St. Francis Boulevard, Anoka MN 55303;
Golden Valley Office:
5905 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley MN 55422
FEE: Fees for mental health services are reimbursable by Medical Assistance, third party insurance payers and contractual agreements with counties.

Amherst Wilder Foundation

PH: 651-280-2000
WEB: www.wilder.org
WHO: Youth ages 5-18 yrs. In addition works with families. GLBTQ friendly
WHAT: Provides residential therapeutic treatment, works with foster care, and works with youth in schools.
WHERE: 451 Lexington Parkway North, Saint Paul
LANGUAGE: Wilder provides language interpretation services as needed

Saint Paul Youth Services

PH: 651-771-1301
WEB: www.spys.org
WHO: All youth, under the age of 18
WHAT: 24 hour crisis response from mental health counselors; court diversion programs; community education; behavior education
WHERE: 2100 Wilson Ave, Saint Paul

Youth Service Bureau, Stillwater

PH: 651-439-8800
WEB: www.ysb.net
WHO: Washington county youth and their families
WHAT: Individual and family counseling; primarily youth focused problems, parent education, crisis intervention; educational and diversion groups.
WHEN: Call during daytime hours, Monday through Friday
WHERE: 101 Pine St West, Stillwater MN 55082

Youth Mental Health and Other Youth Programs

Youth Service Bureau, Forest Lake

PH: 651-464-3685
WEB: www.ysblakesarea.org
WHO: Youth and their families
WHAT: Individual and family counseling; primarily youth focused problems.
WHEN: Call during daytime hours, Mon-Fri
WHERE: 244 Lake St North, Forest Lake MN 55025

Wilder Child Guidance Clinic

PH: 651-642-4001
WEB: www.wilder.org/clinic
WHO: Children and families
WHAT: Counseling for child victims of abuse and their families.

Male Adult Survivors

John Driggs, Licensed Therapist

PH: 651-699-4573
 WHO: Adult and adolescent male victims and also works with male offenders
 WHAT: Individual and group counseling/therapy
 FEE: Sliding fee scale

Men's Center

PH: 612-822-5892
 WHO: Adult male victims of sexual violence
 WHAT: Individual and group counseling. Offers male Survivors of Sexual Assault support group.

Mic Hunter

PH: 651-224-4335
 WHO: 18 yrs and older; Adult survivors of sexual violence
 Individual, couples and group therapy for adult survivors and also provides chemical dependency/abuse treatment.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Center, Neighborhood Involvement Program

PH: 612-825-4357
 WEB: www.neighborhoodinvolve.org/rsac
 WHO: Youth, men and women who have been sexually abused, assaulted, raped or sexually harassed; any victim of sexual violence
 WHAT: 24 hour crisis line; mental health counseling; supportive confidential services
 WHERE: 2431 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis
 WHEN: Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm; evening appointments available, 24 hour crisis line
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: all phone services are free and confidential; mental health counseling is based on sliding fee scale.

Law Enforcement and Other Legal Services

For any sexual assaults that have recently happened, (within the last 24 hours) and if you need immediate assistance from police, always dial 911.

Law Enforcement:

Anoka County Police Department

PH: 763-427-1212 Anoka, Non-Emergency

Carver County Police Department

PH: 952-361-1231 Chaska, Non-Emergency

Dakota County Police Department

PH: 651-437-4211 Hastings, Non-Emergency

Maplewood Police Department

PH: 651-777-8191

Minneapolis Police Department

PH: 612-348-2345, Non-Emergency

Mounds View Police Department

PH: 651-484-9155

New Brighton Police Department

PH: 651-767-0640

North Saint Paul Police Department

PH: 651-747-2406

WEB: www.ci.north-saint-paul.mn.us/

WHO: For anyone who needs information on crimes and/or in need of law enforcement assistance

WHERE: 2400 Margaret Street, North Saint Paul

Ramsey County Sheriff Department

PH: 651-266-9333 General Law Enforcement Center
Information to confirm service delivery of harassment restraining orders and order for protections.

PH: 651-767-0640 Twenty-Four Hour Dispatch

FOR: Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Gem Lake, Lauderdale, Little Canada, North Oaks, Shoreview, Vadnais Heights

Roseville Police Department

PH: 651-792-7008

WEB: www.ci.roseville.mn.us

WHO: Anyone in need of police support or assistance

WHAT: 24 hour response from Roseville police

WHERE: 2660 Civic Center Drive, Roseville MN
Saint Paul or Minneapolis Police 911

Saint Paul Police Department

PH: 911

651-291-1111 for non-emergency, delayed reports

Saint Paul Sex Crimes Unit

PH: 651-266-5685 For cases that have been reported and assigned to an investigator.

Washington County Sheriff

PH: 651-439-9381 Stillwater

White Bear Lake Police Department

PH: 651-429-8511

Law Enforcement and Other Legal Services

Other Legal Services:

Anoka County Community Corrections

PH: 763-712-2900
WEB: www.co.anoka.mn.us/v2_dept/comm-corr/index.asp
WHO: Anyone needing information about criminal, probation or court services that are within Anoka County facilities.
WHAT: For assistance with probation, information on criminal cases in Anoka County and listings of incarcerated individuals in Anoka County facilities.
WHERE: 325 East Main Street Anoka MN and various Anoka County juvenile and adult locations.
WHEN: Mon-Fri 8am – 5pm

Battered Women's Legal Advocacy Project

PH: 612-343-9842 Local
1-800-313-2666 MN wide
WHO: Any women
WHAT: Team of attorneys providing legal assistance and advocacy for women who are battered. The project has an "Immigrant Initiative" that assists battered immigrant women and children with issues of legal status, immigrant rights, Visas, etc. City of Minneapolis, Human Resources

Affirmative Action Division

PH: 612-673-2282 Minneapolis
651-266-8550
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Investigates and resolves complaints of discrimination brought against the City of Minneapolis

Chrysalis Law Clinic

PH: 612-871-0118 TTY
612-824-2780
WEB: www.chrysaliswomen.org
WHO: Women
WHAT: Offers one half hour of legal advice from attorneys on a sliding fee scale. Specializes with family issues such as divorce and/or domestic violence; assists with filing Order For Protection reports.

Crime Victims Justice Unit

PH: 612-282-6256
1-800-247-0390
WEB: www.dps.state.mn.us
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Investigates victim's right violations

Domestic Abuse Project, Ramsey County

PH: 651-266-5130
WHO: Anyone in need of protection to ensure their safety.
WHAT: Orders For Protection and Harassment Restraining Orders.
WHEN: Call to make an appointment. Mon-Fri daytime hours.
WHERE: 25th West 7th Street, Saint Paul; located inside the Juvenile Detention Center
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Harassment Restraining Orders cost a large amount of money; some agencies will assist with the fee. Order For Protection (OFP) do not cost money but the victim must have a relationship with (mother, father, partner, sibling) the person who is harassing or threatening the victim.

Law Enforcement and Other Legal Services

General Crime Victim Services

PH: 612-340-5400 (24 hour services)
 WEB: www.ojp.state.mn.us
 WHO: Support for victims of crime
 WHAT: Crisis counseling, advocacy, court advocacy, financial assistance

Hennepin County Attorney's Office Victim/Witness Program

PH: 612-348-5561
 WHO: Victims/witness of crime who will be a part of the criminal justice system.
 WHAT: Advocacy, support and referrals. Ensures victim's rights throughout the legal process.
 Hennepin County Bar Association
 PH: 612-752-6666
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Information and lawyer referrals for residents in Hennepin County

Immigrant Law Center of MN

PH: 651-641-1011
 WEB: www.immigrantlawcentermn.org
 WHO: All individuals of any nationality; primarily serves immigrants
 WHAT: Provides help with citizenship, immigration, violence against women, legal information for low-income individuals
 WHERE: 450 North Syndicate Street Suite 175
 Saint Paul, 55104
 WHEN: Mon-Thurs business hours

Legal Aid of Hennepin County

PH: 612-334-5970
 612-332-1441
 WEB: www.midmnlegal.org
 WHO: Anyone over 18 yrs.
 WHAT: Legal services for low-income people.
 WHERE: 430 1st Avenue N, Suite 300 Downtown
 Minneapolis Office, Call for other locations
 WHEN: Hours Mon-Fri 9:30am – 11:30am & 1:30pm – 3:30pm
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Always call before going

Legal Services (SMRLS)

PH: 651-222-4731
 WEB: www.hbci.com
 WHO: Must be 18, or have parental consent
 WHAT: Legal services for low-income people of Ramsey County
 WHERE: 66 East Third Street, Suite 204, Winona MN
 WHEN: 9am-12noon and 1pm-3pm
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must call number to complete a screening before assistance is provided.

Minnesota Department of Corrections

PH: 651-361-7200
 WHAT: To find the status of a convicted person held in the state prison system

Minnesota Department of Human Rights

PH: 1-800-657-3704
 WEB: www.humanrights.state.mn.us
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Investigates complaints of discrimination
 LANGUAGE: Bilingual and ASL interpreters available

Law Enforcement and Other Legal Services

Minnesota Department of Public Safety

PH: 651-296-4544
WEB: www.dps.state.mn.us
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Provides protection to people and property in MN through prevention, regulation, enforcement, information, and service

Minnesota Law Help

WEB: LawHelpMN.org
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Online legal information, guidance and attorney referrals for low income MN residents.

Minnesota Office of Crime Victim Ombudsman

PH: 1-800-247-0390
WEB: www.ojp.state.mn.us
WHO: Any crime victim
WHAT: Provides advice about crime victim rights and criminal justice procedure. Helps victims with reparations and financial assistance as a victim of crime.

Minnesota Office of Crime Victims Reparations Board

PH: 651-201-7300
 651-205-4827 TTY for deaf
WEB: www.ojp.state.mn.us/MCCVS/
WHO: Any victim of crime
WHAT: Will provide financial assistance for expenses to victims as a result of crime
WHERE: Bremer Tower, Suite 2300, 445 Minnesota Street, MN

Minnesota Office of Justice Programs, Dept. of Public Safety

PH: 651-201-7300
WEB: www.ojp.state.mn.us
WHO: Minnesota crime victims
WHAT: Providing resources to reduce crime in Minnesota and to assist crime victims.
WHERE: 444 Cedar Street Suite #100, Saint Paul

Mujeres Unidas (Women United)

PH: 218-236-9884 Moorhead MN
WEB: www.mujeresunidaswomenunited.org
WHO: Chicana/Latina women, particularly single mothers
WHAT: Information and referrals, advocacy and support working with law enforcement, legal information.

Neighborhood Justice Center, Inc.

PH: 651-222-4703
WEB: www.njcinc.org
WHO: Anyone in Ramsey, Washington and Dakota counties.
WHAT: Provides criminal defense and referrals, serving low income and minority populations in Ramsey, Washington and Dakota counties.

Ramsey County Adult Detention Center and Workhouse

PH: 651-266-9352
 651-266-9350 General Information
 651-266-1400 Workhouse
 For public information on someone who is in jail or the workhouse

Law Enforcement and Other Legal Services

Ramsey County Bar Association

PH: 651-224-1775 or 651-222
WEB: ramseybar.org
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Information and lawyer referrals for residents of Ramsey County

Ramsey County Probation/Parole

PH: 651-266-2300
WHAT: For public information on someone on probation, parole or being held in county prison system.

Saint Paul City Attorney, Criminal Division

PH: 651-266-8740
WEB: www.stpaul.gov
WHO: Anyone looking for information on Gross Misdemeanors and Misdemeanors only
WHAT: For information regarding cases that have been reported and charged.

Saint Paul Intervention Project

PH: 651-645-2824
WEB: www.stpaulintervention.org
WHO: Victims of domestic violence
WHAT: 24 hour response and service to victims of domestic violence, including youth
WHERE: 1509 Marshall Ave, Saint Paul

Tel-Law

PH: 612-752-6699 Voicemail
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Free recorded general legal information.

Victim/Witness Program

PH: 651-266-3222
WHO: Victims/witness of crime who will be a part of the criminal justice system.
WHAT: Advocacy, support and referrals. Support and counseling.

VineLink

WEB: vinelink.com
WHAT: Online current status of offenders

County Based Services

Carver County Public Health

PH: 952-361-1329
 WEB: www.co.carver.mn.us
 WHO: Anyone looking for resources (emergency services, emergency financial resources) who has relations in Carver County
 WHAT: Emergency services
 WHEN: Mon-Fri 8am – 5pm
 WHERE: 600 East 4th Street, Chaska MN
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Most likely need to be 18 yrs old to receive services

Hennepin County, Children and Family Services

PH: 612-348-4111
 WHAT: Child protection, social services for teen parents, mental health services, emergency social services; Spanish speaking staff available.

Ramsey County Department of Public Health

PH: 651-266-1263
 WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us
 WHERE: 555 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

Ramsey County Depart. of Public Health Teen Parent Program

PH: 651-266-2400
 WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us
 WHERE: 1670 Beam Ave #101, Maplewood MN

Ramsey County Human Services

PH: 651-266-4444
 WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us
 WHAT: For emergency assistance in regards to housing (rental or owned homes)
 WHERE: 160 East Kellogg Blvd, Saint Paul
 WHEN: Daytime hours, Monday-Friday

Sexual Offense Services of Ramsey County

PH: 651-643-3006 (24 hour)
 651-643-3022 (Business Line)
 WEB: www.ramsey.mn.us/ph/yas/sos.htm
 WHO: Anyone that is victim of sexual violence
 WHAT: crisis supportive counseling for victims, friends and families that are affected by sexual violence; advocacy, referrals, emergency services, medical outreach to Regions Hospital, support groups, 24 hour crisis line
 WHERE: 1619 Dayton Ave Suite #201, Saint Paul
 WHEN: 24 hour crisis line, 24 hour medical outreach
 Office hrs 8:30am – 5pm
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: All services are free and confidential

Minnesota Department of Health

PH: 651-201-3627
 WEB: www.health.state.mn.us/youth
 WHO: Resources for teens and adults
 WHAT: Information for youth, adolescents and adults regarding general public health information and current topics related to youth development
 WHERE: 85 East 7th Place, Saint Paul

County Based Services

Crisis Nurseries

PH: 651-641-1300
WEB: www.crisisnursery.org
WHO: Residents of Ramsey, Dakota and Washington Counties
WHAT: Provides help for parents with children under age 12 yrs. Short term child care, call for information. Services are free.

Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery

PH: 763-591-0100
WEB: www.crisisnursery.org
WHAT: Emergency child care for children through age 6, up to 72 hours at a time, up to 30 days within one year.

Adult Shelter/Housing

Ascension Place

PH: 612-588-0861
WEB: www.ascensionplace.org
WHO: 18 yrs and older
WHAT: Sober transitional housing for women in Minneapolis. Appropriate for women experiencing mental health problems, domestic violence, or chemical dependency. This shelter does not take children.
WHEN: 24 hour shelter, must call before you go. Chemical and substance free shelter.
WHERE: 1803 Bryant Ave North, Minneapolis

Theresa Living Center (Caroline Family Services)

PH: 651-772-1344
WHO: 18 yrs and older
WHAT: Program for single parent families. Will help find housing and provides on going support and assistance to families in the program.
WHERE: 1526 6th St E, Saint Paul

Catholic Charities

PH: 612-664-8500
WEB: www.ccspm.org
WHO: Children, adults and families.
WHAT: Provides emergency food shelf, homeless shelter, physical and mental health care and help for children in crisis.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Agency most likely will not provide shelter assistance to youth.

Emergency Social Services

PH: 651-291-6795
WHO: 18 yrs and older
WHAT: Food, shelter, and other assistance after 5pm and weekends
WHEN: Call this number Mon-Fri 5pm – 8pm and all day on weekends

Ethel Gordon Community Center

PH: 651-222-3838 (24 hours)
WHO: Homeless women, both single and with children.
WHAT: Agency provides emergency, temporary, safe, sober housing for homeless single women and women with children. Program assists residents with becoming self-sufficient and finding housing.
WHEN: Call number 24 hours for assistance
WHERE: 148 Bates Ave, St Paul

Families Moving Forward

PH: 612-529-2185
WEB: www.familiesmovingforward.org
WHO: Homeless families and adults
WHAT: Emergency and transitional housing, advocacy for homeless families; faith based organization.
WHERE: 1808 Emerson Ave N, Minneapolis

Family Place Shelter, Catholic Charities

PH: 651-225-9357
WEB: www.ccspm.org
WHO: Adults and families
WHAT: Emergency 30-day shelter for women.
WHERE: 244 East 10th Street, Saint Paul

Adult Shelter/Housing

Hennepin County Assistance

PH: 612-348-9410
 WEB: www.co.hennepin.mn.us
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: Assists adult individuals in obtaining shelter and emergency assistance in Hennepin County and surrounding areas.
 WHEN: Call this number between 7:30am – 5pm

Hewitt House, People Incorporated

PH: 651-645-9779—24 Intake
 WEB: www.peopleincorporated.org
 WHO: Adults in mental health crisis
 WHAT: Provides short term (1-5 days) shelter for adults experiencing mental health crisis. Referral needed from an ER or Ramsey County Mental Health Crisis Intake.
 WHEN: Call 24 hours
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must have referral from hospital or crisis intake line, must be sober, and must call intake line before being admitted.

Mary Hall, Catholic Charities

PH: 651-227-2637
 WEB: www.ccspm.org
 WHO: 18 yrs and older;
 WHAT: Emergency Shelter for Men only; provides transitional housing and single room occupancy housing for women and men.

Mary's Place, Sharing and Caring Hands

PH: 612-338-4640
 WEB: www.sharingandcaringhands.org
 WHO: Families with two or more children in Minneapolis
 WHAT: Emergency shelter for families in Minneapolis
 WHEN: Call Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4pm

Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program

PH: 651-266-6626
 WEB: www.hocmn.org
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: Assistance for mortgage problems in Ramsey County

Neighborhood House

PH: 651-789-2500
 WEB: www.neighb.org/default.asp
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: Assistance with basic needs like clothing, diapers, furniture and other essentials.
 LANGUAGE: Assistance available in Hmong, English, Somali and Spanish

People Serving People

PH: 612-332-4500
 WEB: www.peopleservingpeople.org
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: Emergency housing for families with children, some transitional housing; provides food, clothing, daily necessities.
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If unable to pay for services, a voucher from Hennepin County Emergency Assistance is required.

Adult Shelter/Housing

Rose Center

PH: 651-690-0625
 WEB: www.mnhomelesscoalition.org
 WHO: Single women ages 18-24 years
 WHAT: Low cost, transitional housing for single women working or who are in school.
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Maximum stay is two years.

Simpson Women's Shelter; Community Emergency Services

PH: 612-870-1330 after 5pm
 612-874-8683 Main office
 WEB: www.simpsonhousing.org
 WHO: Women and families
 WHAT: Emergency shelter in the Twin Cities serving homeless single women and families.
 WHEN: Call numbers for more information anytime

St. Anne's Place

PH: 612-521-2128
 WEB: www.mnhomelesscoalition.org
 WHO: Adult families in Hennepin County
 WHAT: Emergency shelter for residents of Hennepin County
 WHERE: 634 Russell Ave. N, Minneapolis

Saint Paul Public Housing Agency – Rental Office

PH: 651-298-5158
 WEB: www.stpaulpha.org/agcyplan.html
 WHO: Elderly, handicapped and disabled, singles and families
 WHAT: Public housing applications and placement; will take applications
 WHEN: 8am – 4:30pm
 WHERE: 555 N. Wabasha Street Suite 400, Saint Paul

Saint Stephen's Shelter

PH: 612-874-9292
 WEB: www.ststephensmpls.org
 WHO: Adult males
 WHAT: Emergency shelter; has 40 beds for men
 WHERE: 2211 Clinton Ave, Minneapolis

Financial, Rental and Emergency Assistance Referrals

Minnesota Crime Victims Reparations Board

PH: 651-201-7344
1-888-622-8799;
WEB: www.ojp.state.mn.us
WHO: Victims of as a result of a reported crime
WHAT: Financial assistance for expenses to victims of crime.
WHEN: Call during business hours
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO/CALL: Will not cover moving expenses/rent. Processing claims may take up to 4 months, unless the need is urgent.

General Crime Victim Services

PH: 612-340-5400 (24 hour services)
WEB: www.ojp.state.mn.us
WHO: Support for victims of crime
WHAT: Crisis counseling, advocacy, court advocacy, financial assistance

Catholic Charities

PH: 612-664-8500
WEB: www.ccspm.org
WHO: Individuals and families
WHAT: Provides emergency services including, food, shelter, homeless shelter, physical and mental health care, and help for children in crisis.

Neighborhood House

PH: 651-789-2500
WEB: www.neighb.org
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Childcare center, emergency assistance, food shelf and referrals.
LANGUAGE: English, Hmong, Somali and Spanish

Community Stabilization Project

PH: 651-642-0102
WEB: www.hppinc.org
WHO: 18 yrs and older; must be a resident of Saint Paul, MN
WHAT: Emergency rental assistance for residents in Saint Paul. Funds are available on first come basis beginning the 1st of every month
WHEN: Call at 8am the 1st of every month for rental assistance, or leaving a voicemail the night before is recommended.

Council for Crime and Justice

PH: 612-348-7874
WEB: www.crimeandjustice.org
WHO: For general crime victims
WHAT: Provides some financial assistance and emergency lock changes are available. Does not typically assist with expenses related to Domestic Violence. May assist with rent or moving expenses in general crime, like homicide; not sexual or domestic violence.
WHERE: 822 S 3rd St # 100, Minneapolis

Financial, Rental and Emergency Assistance Referrals

Emergency Assistance Ramsey County Human Services

PH: 651-266-4444
 WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us/hs/financialassistance
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: General financial assistance for rent or other expenses.
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must make an appointment and meet with someone for a screen/intake person. Individuals may access this money only one time per year. Time period to receive assistance may vary with urgency of situation.

Emergency Social Services

PH: 651-291-6795
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: Food, shelter, and other assistance after 5pm and weekends
 WHEN: Call this number after 5pm-8pm Mon-Friday and all day on weekends

Emergency Assistance Hennepin County Human Services

PH: 612-596-1300
 WEB: www.co.hennepin.mn.us
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: General financial assistance for rent or other expenses
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Individuals may access this money only one time per year. Time period to receive assistance may vary with urgency of situation.

Keystone Community Services Midway Family Center

PH: 651.645.0349
 WEB: www.keystonecommunityservices.org
 WHO: Only the following Saint Paul zip codes: 55108, 55114 and part of 55104 (west of Lexington)
 WHAT: Emergency rental assistance for residents in parts of Saint Paul.
 WHERE: 2000 St. Anthony Ave, St. Paul
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Call to schedule an appointment.

Pillsbury United Communities Pillsbury House

PH: 612-302-3400
 WEB: www.puc-mn.org
 WHO: Provides assistance to low income individuals and families as well as new immigrants to the United States
 WHAT: Agency has 12 locations, including neighborhood centers, housing projects and employment and training center
 WHERE: 1201 37th Avenue North, Minneapolis

Financial, Rental and Emergency Assistance Referrals

Sharing and Caring Hands

PH: 612-338-4640
 WEB: www.sharingandcaringhands.org
 WHO: Individuals meeting low income, poverty line
 WHAT: Financial assistance available for expenses due to poverty, need, etc. Also provides meals, shelter, etc.
 WHERE: 525 N. 7th Street, Minneapolis
 WHEN: Mon-Thurs 10am – 11:30am and 1:30pm – 3:30pm
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must wait in line and ask Mary Jo directly for funds. Mary Jo is able to receive requests 10am – 11:30am and 1:30pm – 3:30pm Mon-Thurs.

Sexual Offense Services of Ramsey County

PH: 651-643-3006
 WEB: www.ramsey.mn.us/ph/yas/sos.htm
 WHO: Victims of crime
 WHAT: Financial assistance to help meet victim's needs, amount depends on funds available. Victim can speak with staff during business hours for assistance.
 WHEN: 8:30am-5:00pm Monday-Friday

Saint Paul Urban League

PH: 651-291-0504
 WEB: www.spul.org
 WHO: Saint Paul residents in the following zip codes: 55101, 55102, 55103 and 55104 (east of Lexington)
 WHAT: Emergency rental assistance
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must call to schedule an appointment
 WHERE: 401 Selby Avenue, Saint Paul

The Salvation Army, East Side

PH: 651-776-2653
 WEB: www.usc.salvationarmy.org
 WHO: Saint Paul zip codes: 55101 and 55106 ONLY
 WHAT: Emergency rental assistance
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must call to schedule an appointment

The Salvation Army, West 7th

PH: 651-224-6946
 WEB: www.usc.salvationarmy.org
 WHO: Saint Paul zip codes: 55102 (West of Kellogg) 55105 and 55107 ONLY
 WHAT: Emergency rental assistance
 WHERE: 401 West 7th Street, Saint Paul
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must call to schedule an appointment

Child Abuse Victims

Midwest Children's Resource Center (MCRC)

PH: 651-220-6750
WEB: www.childrensmn.org
WHO: Children/teens from 0 – 17 years old.
WHAT: Provides care for children/teens for all forms of intrafamilial abuse (sexual, physical, and severe nutritional neglect) and provides care for all non-acute, extra-familial sexual assault for children/teens age 0 – 17 years old. This agency provides specialized forensic interviews for teens that have been sexually exploited. These appointments need to be scheduled during office hours. MCRC sees all acute sexual assaults to children 12 years old and under, there is no appointment needed. MCRC has a number of counseling groups for sexually abused teens, which include, violence prevention program, teen empowerment group for young runaways, cognitive behavior therapy group, and individual therapy. The therapy groups are free. MCRC provides comprehensive health assessments for runaways. Parental/Guardian permission is required but all care is confidential.
WHEN: A nurse case manager is on-call to answer questions 24 hours per day. Direct care for intrafamilial abuse is available 24 hours per day. However, when possible, an appointment should be made. Appointments need to be scheduled during office hours.
WHERE: 347 Smith Street Saint Paul (Garden view Medical Building, Suite 401)
FEE: Insurance is billed when available and there is also a sliding scale fee.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Parental permission is needed for all of the therapy groups.

Catholic Charities

PH: 612-664-8500
WEB: www.ccspm.org
WHO: Children, adults and families.
WHAT: Provides emergency food shelf, homeless shelter, physical and mental health care and help for children in crisis.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Agency most likely will not provide shelter assistance to youth.

Children's Crisis Response

PH: 651-774-7000 (24 hours)
WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us/hs/ChildrenMentalHealth.htm
WHO: Youth 0-18 yrs
WHAT: Provides crisis support, intervention, de-escalation, and mobile services for youth who are dealing with mental health or family issues.
WHEN: 24 hours

Children's Home Crisis Nursery

PH: 651-641-1300
WEB: www.chsfs.org
WHO: Residents with children under the age of 12 in Ramsey, Dakota or Washington County
WHAT: Provides help for parents with children under the age of 12 yrs. Short-term childcare, call for information
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Crisis nursery is free

Child Abuse Victims

Cornerhouse

PH: 612-813-8300
 WEB: www.cornerhousemn.org
 WHO: Must be referred from Child Protection or Police
 WHAT: Provides child abuse assessment for Hennepin County
 WHERE: 2502 10th Ave South Minneapolis, MN

Face to Face Counseling Center

PH: 651-772-5555
 WEB: www.face2face.org
 WHO: Ages 12-23 yrs.
 WHAT: Counseling, therapy, and support groups for adolescents and their families.
 WHERE: 1165 Arcade Saint Paul
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must begin services between ages of 12 to 23 yrs and then may continue until age 27 yrs.

Family Service

PH: 651-635-0095
 WEB: www.chsfs.org
 WHO: Anyone
 WHAT: Individual, family and group counseling and therapy services.
 FEE: Sliding fee scale

Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery

PH: 763-591-0100 (24 hours)
 WEB: www.crisisnursery.org
 WHO: Residents of Hennepin County
 WHAT: Emergency child care for children through age 6, up to 72 hours at a time, up to 30 days within one year. Services are free.

Hennepin County

Children and Family Services

PH: 612-348-4111
 WEB: www.co.hennepin.mn.us
 WHAT: Child protection, social services for teen parents, mental health services, emergency social services

Ramsey County Mental Health Clinic

PH: 651-266-7999
 651-266-7960 Intake
 651-266-7900 Crisis
 WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us
 WHAT: Counseling available for abused children and their families

Wilder Child Guidance Clinic

PH: 651-642-4001
 WEB: www.wilder.org/clinic
 WHO: Children and families
 WHAT: Counseling for child victims of abuse and their families.

Violence Prevention and Intervention Services – Wilder Child & Family Services

PH: 651-287-2400
 WHO: Abused Children and families
 WHAT: Provides counseling and therapy services to abused children and their families. Anger management and domestic abuse counseling for both victims and perpetrators.

Child Abuse/Neglect Reporting

Hennepin County Child Protection

PH: 612-348-3552 (24 hours)
WEB: www.co.hennepin.mn.us
WHO: Anyone who would like to make a report, individuals, professionals and mandated reporters.
WHAT: County agency receiving reports of abuse or neglect of children. Assesses families for services.

Ramsey County Child Protection

PH: 651-266-4500 (24 hours)
WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us
WHO: Anyone who would like to make a report, individuals, professionals and mandated reporters.
WHAT: County agency receiving reports of abuse or neglect of children. Assesses families for services.

Stop It Now! Minnesota Prevention of Child Abuse

PH: 651-644-8515 or 1-888-773-8368
WEB: www.stopitnow.org
WHO: Anyone who has concerns about their own, or someone else's behavior towards children.
WHAT: Provides information and resources for anyone with any concerns about their own or someone else's behavior towards children, including: adults who are having sexual thoughts towards children, or have sexually abused a child ; parents concerned about their child's sexual behavior; parents concerned about someone's behavior towards their child; and adults who care about someone whose sexual behavior concerns them. The agency works to keep kids safe.
WHERE: 821 University Ave. West, Suite N385
 St. Paul
WHEN: Mon-Fri 8am – 5pm

Vulnerable Adult/Adult Mental Illness

Mental Health Association of Minnesota

PH: 612-331-6840
 WEB: www.mentalhealthmn.org
 WHAT: Community ed. and advocacy for people with mental illness
 WHERE: 2021 East Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis

Ramsey County Mental Health Center Crisis Center for Adults

PH: 651-266-7900 (24 hours)
 WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us/hs/mhc/AdultMentalHealth.htm
 WHO: Ages 18 and older
 WHAT: 24 hour crisis support and intervention for adults suffering from mental illness and that are a danger to themselves or others. Outreach also available

Regions Hospital Crisis Program

PH: 651-254-1000 (24 hours)
 WEB: www.regionshospital.com
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: 24 hour mental health intake through emergency department.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)

PH: 651-645-2948
 WEB: www.namimn.org
 WHAT: Public policy, advocacy, education and support groups for people with mental illness and for their families, information and referrals.

REACH—Mental Health Association of Ramsey County

PH: 612-331-6840
 WEB: www.mentalhealthmn.org
 WHAT: Support groups for people with mental illness and their families.

Access Program

PH: 651-228-9544 (24 hours)
 651-228-4713 (non-emergencies)
 WHO: Ages 18 and older
 WHAT: Provides outreach to persons experiencing chronic, persistent mental illness, chemical dependency and/or homelessness.

Acute Psychiatric Services

PH: 612-873-3161
 WEB: www.hcmc.org/depts/psych/cic.htm
 WHO: Anyone in crisis; adolescent (up to 18 yrs) and adult program
 WHAT: They provide a 24-hour walk-in crisis intervention and treatment of behavioral emergencies; Crisis intervention phone service for assessment, information, and referral for psychiatric emergencies.
 WHERE: 701 Park Ave South, Minneapolis
 WHEN: Immediate services are 24 hours; adolescent program hours are Mon/Tues/Wed 8am – 5pm; Thurs noon – 5pm; Fri Closed
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you are under 18, parents have access to your records and you will be transferred to the adolescent program.

Vulnerable Adult/Adult Mental Illness

Vulnerable Adult Neglect Reporting

Ramsey County Adult Protection

PH: 651-266-4012 M-F day hours
651-291-6795 nights and weekends
WEB: www.co.ramsey.mn.us
WHO: Anyone who would like to make a report of abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult.

Hennepin County Adult Protection

PH: 612-348-8526 (24 hours)
WEB: www.co.hennepin.mn.us
WHO: Anyone who would like to make a report of abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult.

Sexual Harassment Reporting and Exploitation Reports

Sexual Harassment Reporting

Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

PH: 612-335-4040 Voice
612-335-4045 TTY
WEB: www.eeoc.gov
WHAT: Filing sexual harassment reports and information

Minnesota Department of Human Rights

PH: 651-296-5663
1-800-657-3703
WEB: www.humanrights.state.mn.us
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Sexual harassment reports and other discrimination reports.
WHEN: Mon – Fri 8am – 4:30pm
LANGUAGE: Phone assistance in English, Hmong and Spanish.

Exploitation

Board of Psychology

PH: 612-617-2230
Call to file a sexual exploitation report against a licensed psychologist.

MN Board of Medical Practice

PH: 612-617-2130
Call to file a sexual report against psychiatrist and other physicians

MN Board of Nursing

PH: 612-617-2270
Call to file a sexual exploitation report against a nurse.

MN Board of Social Work

PH: 612-617-2100
612-617-2166 Fax
Sexual exploitation complaints against licensed social workers. Not all social works need or have state licenses.

MN Office of Mental Health Practice

PH: 612-617-2105
Sexual exploitation complaints against unlicensed mental health professionals.

Battered Women/Domestic Violence Services/Shelter

Asian Women United of Minnesota

PH: 612-724-8823 (24 hours)
 WEB: www.awum.org
 WHO: Asian women and their families
 WHAT: Shelter, advocacy, information and domestic violence services for Asian women and their children.
 LANGUAGE: Hmong, Vietnamese, Japanese and Cambodian languages spoken by staff.

Battered Women's Legal Advocacy Project

PH: 612-343-9842 (metro)
 1-800-313-2666
 WEB: www.bwlap.org
 WHO: Anyone in need of legal advice or services
 WHAT: Staff of attorneys provide legal assistance and advocacy.
 WHERE: 1611 Park Ave Suite 2 Minneapolis, MN

Chrysalis Law Clinic

PH: 612-871-0118 TTY
 612-824-2780
 WEB: www.chrysaliswomen.org
 WHO: 18 yrs and older
 WHAT: Legal assistance for women, call to schedule an appointment
 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Childcare may be available, must call to arrange.

National Domestic Abuse Hotline

PH: 1-800-799-7233
 1-800-787-3224 TTY
 WHAT: National number that provides support, information and referrals.

Day One Center

PH: 1-866-223-1111 (24 hours)
 WEB: www.dayonecenter.com
 WHAT: Allows clients to make a single call to access shelter availability for all domestic violence shelter throughout the state of Minnesota. The number connects to the MN Crisis Line and they are able to access the Day One Center if unable to place them elsewhere.

Domestic Abuse and Harassment Office, Ramsey County

PH: 651-266-5130
 WEB: www.mncourts.gov/district/2/?page=45
 WHO: Anyone who needs to file an Order for Protection and Harassment Restraining Order
 WHAT: Office for filling Order for Protection and Harassment Restraining Orders. Call to make an appointment.
 WHEN: Open Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30pm

Domestic Abuse Project

PH: 612-874-7063
 WEB: www.mndap.org
 WHO: For battered women and offenders
 WHAT: Legal advocacy in court, counseling programs for batters and victims.
 WHERE: 204 West Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis

Battered Women/Domestic Violence Services/Shelter

Domestic Abuse and Harassment Office, Hennepin County

PH: 651-348-5073
 WEB: www.mncourts.gov/
 WHO: Anyone who needs to file an Order for Protection and Harassment Restraining Order
 WHAT: Office for filling Order for Protection and Harassment Restraining Orders. Call to make an appointment.
 WHEN: Open Monday-Friday, daytime hours

Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women

PH: 651-646-6177
 WEB: www.mcbw.org
 WHO: Survivors of domestic violence
 WHAT: Survivors network, information and referral.
 WHEN: 8:30am-4:30pm Monday through Friday

Minnesota Crisis Line for Battered Women

PH: 651-646-0994 Business line
 651-222-5836 (24 hours) Women of Nations line
 WHO: Women
 WHAT: 24 hour crisis intervention and counseling, provides shelter space information and locations of shelters, information on lesbian battering.

Saint Paul Intervention Project

PH: 651-645-2824
 WEB: www.stpaulintervention.org
 WHO: Victims of domestic violence
 WHAT: 24 hour response and service to victims of domestic violence, including youth
 WHERE: 1509 Marshall Ave. Saint Paul, MN

Tubman Family Alliance

PH: 651-770-8544 West Administration
 612-825-3333 West location
 651-770-0777 East (24 hours)
 612-825-0000 West (24 hours)
 612-821-4754 TTY
 WEB: www.harriettubman.org
 WHO: Battered women
 WHAT: Provides legal advocacy, information, counseling services and referrals. Services for survivors and offenders. Tubman Family Alliance runs multiple shelters, call for locations. Also has a legal department within one or more locations.

Women's Rural Advocacy Program (WRAP) Marshall, MN

PH: 507-532-9532 Business Line
 507-532-2350 (24 hours)
 1-800-639-2350 (24 hours)
 WEB: www.letswrap.com
 WHO: Women
 WHAT: Advocacy and safe housing for women of domestic violence. Services Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Redwood and Yellow Medicine counties.

Battered Women/Domestic Violence Services/Shelter

Battered Woman Shelters

Day One Center

PH: 1-866-223-1111 (24 hours)
WEB: www.dayonecenter.com

Allows clients to make a single call to access shelter availability for all domestic violence shelter throughout the state of Minnesota. The number connects to the MN Crisis Line and they are able to access the Day One Center if unable to place them elsewhere.

Hennepin County Assistance

PH: 612-348-9410 (Families)
612-348-3007 (For singles with no children)
WEB: www.co.hennepin.mn.us
WHO: Hennepin County residents
WHAT: Assists residents in obtaining shelter in Hennepin County and local areas. Must meet eligibility requirements, call for requirements.

Alexandra House

PH: 763-780-2330 (24 hours)
763-780-2332 (Business)
WEB: www.alexandrahouse.org
WHO: Women and Children
WHAT: Domestic abuse shelter for women, shelter in Blaine (Anoka County).
WHERE: 10065 3rd St NE Blaine, MN 55434

Casa de Esperanza (House of Hope)

PH: 651-772-1611 (24 hours)
651-772-1723 (Business)
WEB: www.casadeesperanza.org
WHO: Culturally appropriate for Latinas, however services available to all women and children.
WHAT: Shelter with Spanish-English bilingual staff. Provides certain legal, housing, employment and domestic violence advocacy exclusively to the Latina community.
WHERE: 1515 East Lake Street, Minneapolis

Cornerstone

PH: 952-884-0330 (24 hours)
952-884-0376 (Business)
WEB: www.cornerstonemn.org
WHO: Women and their children
WHAT: Shelter in Bloomington, MN; provides shelter, information and referrals.

Dwelling Place

PH: 651-776-4805
WEB: www.thedwellingplaceshelter.org
WHO: Battered women and their children
WHAT: Christian based shelter and ministry for battered women and their children, call to complete intake.
WHEN: Call Monday-Friday for intake, 9am-5pm

Women's Legal Advocate, Inc.

PH: 651-227-8284 (24 hours)
WHO: Women and children, Ramsey County
WHAT: Provides shelter to women and their children

Battered Women/Domestic Violence Services/Shelter

Harriet Tubman, Tubman Family Alliance

PH: 612-825-0000 (24 hours)
612-821-4754 TTY
WEB: www.harriettubman.org
WHO: Battered women
WHAT: Provides legal advocacy, information, counseling services and referrals. Services for survivors and offenders. Tubman Family Alliance runs multiple shelters, call for locations and services.

Home Free

PH: 763-559-4945 (24 Hours)
763-545-7080 (business)
WEB: www.homefreeprograms.org
WHO: Women of Hennepin County
WHAT: Plymouth based domestic violence shelter; support groups for immigrant women, moms with children who have witnessed domestic violence, women's empowerment group.

Sojourner Project, Inc.

PH: 952-933-7422 (24 hours)
952-933-7433
WEB: www.sojournerproject.org
WHO: Women and children
WHAT: Shelter in Hopkins (Hennepin County).
Shelter and advocacy for women and children

Asian Women United (House of Peace Shelter)

PH: 612-724-8823 (24 hours)
WEB: www.awum.org
WHO: Anyone, but culturally appropriate for Asian and Asian American women.
WHAT: Provides shelter, advocacy, information and domestic violence services for Asian women and their children.

LANGUAGE: Hmong, Vietnamese, Japanese and Cambodian languages are spoken by staff.

Women of Nations—Eagles Nest

PH: 651-222-5836 (24 hours)
WEB: www.women-of-nations.org
WHO: Culturally appropriate for Native American/ Alaskan Native women, but services available to all women and children
WHAT: Provides temporary shelter and legal advocacy for women who have experienced domestic violence, sexual violence and women who have been prostituted.

Lewis House, Community Action Council

PH: 651-452-7288 (24 hours)
1-800-336-7233
WEB: www.communityactioncouncil.org
WHO: Women and children, primarily serves Dakota County
WHAT: Provides shelter, counseling, case management, legal and employment assistance to battered women. Offers support groups. Also has a sexual assault service program in the shelter.
WHERE: Eagan MN

Battered Women/Domestic Violence Services/Shelter

Anne Pierce Rogers Home, Tubman Family Alliance

PH: 651-770-0777 (24 hours)
651-768-0216 (24 hour shelter line)
WEB: www.harriettubman.org
WHAT: Saint Paul Park, Washington County shelter to women and children

Lewis House, Community Action Council

PH: 651-437-1291 (24 hours)
WEB: www.communityactioncouncil.org
WHO: Women and children, primarily serves Dakota County
WHAT: Provides shelter, counseling, case management, legal and employment assistance to battered women. Offers support groups.
WHERE: Hastings MN

Hill Home, Tubman Family Alliance

PH: 651-770-0777 (24 hours)
651-653-6305 (business line)
WEB: www.harriettubman.org
WHAT: Lake Elmo, Washington County shelter to women and children

Womansafe Center, Hope Center

PH: 800-607-2330 (24 Hours)
507-332-0882 (Business)
WEB: www.hopecentermn.org
WHO: For battered women in, or wanting to be in a safe place. Located in Faribault, MN
WHAT: Battered women's program, outreach and sexual assault services.
WHERE: 303 1st Avenue NE, Faribault MN 55021

Prostitution and Sex Trafficking Survivors

Breaking Free

PH: 651-645-6557
 WEB: www.breakingfree.net
 WHO: Prostituted women and girls
 WHAT: Agency fights commercial sexual exploitation through direct services to prostituted women and girls, community education on prostitution as systematic violence, case management, support groups, housing, mentorship programs, community court and “school for johns” Will soon be starting a transitional housing program.
 WHERE: 770 University Ave Saint Paul

PRIDE and TeenPRIDE (Family and Children’s Services)

PH: 612-728-2062
 1-888-PRIDE-99 Toll free
 WEB: www.familychildrenservice.nonprofitoffice.com
 WHO: Women ages 13-18
 WHAT: Counseling & advocacy to women teens. 24 crisis line that accepts collect calls. Free services, support groups, transportation to those who are at risk for sexual exploitation and/or who have been sexually exploited or victims of prostitution. Can assist with housing, both teen and adults.
 WHERE: Support groups are held at Mondays from 5pm – 7pm at Project Off streets:
 41 N 12th Street in Minneapolis
 Tuesdays from 5pm – 7pm at the Lake Street Branch:
 4123 East Lake Street
 HOW: Call 24 hour line; drop in
 WHEN: Lake Street Hours
 Mon/Tues/Thurs 8am – 8pm
 Wed/Fri 8am – 4:30pm

Adults Saving Kids

PH: 612-872-0684
 WEB: www.adultssavingkids.org
 WHO: Professional educational outreach program.
 WHAT: Presentations about commercial sexual exploitation in prostitution, stripping and pornography. No direct services.
 WHERE: 1901 Portland Ave, Minneapolis

Project Pathfinder, Inc.

PH: 651 – 644-8515
 WEB: www.projectpathfinder.org
 WHO: Program for men who have paid for sex with prostitutes and want to stop. Self referred or referred by the criminal justice system.
 WHAT: Intervention Program – For Men Who Use Prostitutes. A brief group based program that provides information and brief therapy for men who have been arrested or who have engaged in sex with prostitutes and want to stop.
 WHEN: Mon-Fri... To make an appointment call 651-644-8515, ask for “Intervention Program” intake.
 WHERE: 1821 University Ave. West N385, Saint Paul
 FEE: \$500 for 6 sessions.

Prostitution and Sex Trafficking Survivors

Volunteers of America Women's Recovery Center

PH: 612-721-6327

WEB: www.voamn.org

WHO: Prostituted women and teens who also have chemical dependency issues

WHERE: North Oaks MN

WHAT: 90 day residential program by referral only, for women who have been used in prostitution who are also dealing with chemical dependency programs, trauma, mental illness, etc.

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8am – 4:30pm

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Residential program by referral only from corrections or Rule 25.

African and African American Community Resources

Phyllis Wheatley Community Center

PH: 612-374-4342
WEB: www.pwccenter.org
WHO: Culturally appropriate for African American and African community
WHAT: Counseling, classes, nursery, after school program, information and referrals.
WHERE: 1301 10th Ave North, Minneapolis

African American Family Services

PH: 612-813-0782
WEB: www.aafs.net
WHO: Culturally appropriate for African American adults and adolescents
WHAT: Adult and adolescents; domestic violence and anger management support groups for women and men, services to both victims and abusers, and provides free individual therapy.
WHERE: 1041 Selby Ave, Saint Paul

Community University Health Care Center (CUHCC)

PH: 612-638-0700
WEB: www.ahc.umn.edu/CUHCC/
WHO: Anyone in need of medical services
WHAT: Primary medical care, mental health and dental and legal services
LANGUAGE: Cambodian; English; Hmong; Laotian; Somali; Spanish; and Vietnamese.
WHERE: 2001 Bloomington Ave South, Minneapolis
BUS: 2, 14 and 24 bus lines and within walking distance of the Franklin Station Stop on the Hiawatha Light Rail and the 19 and 8 bus lines.
WHEN: Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm; Walk-ins welcome!
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you are under 18, parents have access to your records. Fees based on sliding fee scale and have community programs to help with fees.

Thad Wilderson & Associates

PH: 651-225-8997
WHO: Culturally appropriate for African and African Americans.
WHAT: Provides individual, general therapy for Ramsey County residents. Case managers are onsite.
WHERE: 475 University Ave, Saint Paul

Asian and Asian American Community Resources

Asian Women United of Minnesota (House of Peace Shelter)

PH: 612-724-8823
WEB: www.awum.org
WHO: Anyone, but culturally appropriate for Asian and Asian American women.
WHAT: Provides shelter, advocacy, information and domestic violence services for Asian women and their children.

LANGUAGE: Hmong, Vietnamese, Japanese and Cambodian languages are spoken by staff.

Community University Health Care Center (CUHCC)

PH: 612-638-0700
WEB: www.ahc.umn.edu/CUHCC/
WHO: Anyone in need of medical services
WHAT: Primary medical care, mental health and dental and legal services
LANGUAGE: Cambodian; English; Hmong; Laotian; Somali; Spanish; and Vietnamese.
WHERE: 2001 Bloomington Ave South Minneapolis
WHEN: Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm; Walk-ins welcome!
BUS: 2, 14 and 24 bus lines and within walking distance of the Franklin Station Stop on the Hiawatha Light Rail and the 19 and 8 bus lines.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you are under 18, parents have access to your records. Fees based on sliding fee scale and have community programs to help with fees.

Hmong American Family Counseling Services

PH: 651-343-5929
WHO: Culturally appropriate services for Hmong individuals and families
WHAT: Mana Vue offers individual, couple and family therapy in English and in Hmong.
FEE: Accepts self pay, medical assistance and some HMOs. Sliding fee scale is available.

Lao Family and Community of Minnesota

PH: 651-221-0069; www.laofamily.org
WHAT: Employment assistance, legal advice, counseling services and support for women and senior citizens.
WHERE: 320 University Ave W, St Paul

Southeast Asian Refugee Community Home

PH: 612-673-9388
WHO: Asian refugees individual and families
WHAT: General social services agency, offering counseling services, victim services, employment assistance, youth prevention program, childcare program and juvenile delinquency assistance for families
WHERE: 1113 E Franklin Ave, Minneapolis

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community Resources

Sexual Offense Services of Ramsey County

PH: 651-643-3006 (24 hours)
WEB: www.ramsey.mn.us/ph/yas/sos.htm
WHO: Anyone (primary or secondary) that is a victim of sexual violence
WHAT: Crisis supportive counseling for victims, friends and families that are affected by sexual violence; advocacy, referrals, emergency services, medical outreach to Regions Hospital, support groups, 24 hour crisis line; services using a TTY and MN relay service for deaf and hard of hearing victims
WHERE: 1619 Dayton Ave Suite #201, Saint Paul
WHEN: 24 hour crisis line; office open 8:30am – 5pm, 24 hour medical outreach
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: All services are free and confidential

Emergency On-Call Sign Language Interpreters

PH: 651-224-6548 (24 hours)
WHAT: 24 hour services to deaf and hard of hearing individuals.
FEE: Billing information is provided on call after determination of where and for how long an interpreter is needed.

Communication Services for the Deaf (CSD)

PH: 651-297-6700 (Metro, voice & TTY business line)
 877-456-7589 (MN wide, voice, & TTY)
 651-224-6548 (Metro, voice & TTY, 24 hours)
WHO: Culturally appropriate services for deaf and hard of hearing individuals and refugees.

WHAT: Information, referrals, social services, domestic violence programming and interpreting services. Also have a refugee service, adult education, recreation and other programs. Emergency on-call interpreters for medical, legal and advocacy services.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Social Services

PH: 651-297-1316-Voice
 1-888-206-6513 TTY
WEB: www.dhs.state.mn.us
WHAT: Information and referrals to deaf and hard of hearing persons.

National Crisis Line for the Deaf

PH: 1-800-380-3323 (24 Hours) Toll Free, TTY, Voice
WHAT: A database for the deaf and hearing individuals to find resources and service providers.

Disability Awareness Project

PH: 651-646-6177 Voice/TTY
 651-646-0994 Voice/TTY for metro shelter crisis line
WHAT: Provides information to disabled women about domestic violence. Emphasis on access and education for women with hearing loss.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community Resources

Family Tree Clinic

PH: 651-645-0478 Voice
651-379-1458 TTY
WEB: www.familytreeclinic.org
WHO: Teens, men and women
WHAT: Sliding fee based medical and reproductive health services; STI testing; free birth control and family planning; annual exams; UTI and infection treatment; same day appointments. Also provides medical services and educational programs (health/sexuality education, family planning) to the Deaf, Deaf/Blind and Hard of Hearing community. Health education programs are free.
WHEN: Mon/Wed 8:30am – 8:30pm;
Tues/Thurs 8:30am – 5pm; Closed Fri
LANGUAGE: ASL and interpreter services
WHERE: 1619 Dayton Ave, Saint Paul

ASL Interpreting Services at Dynamic Communications

PH: 763-478-8963 Voice
763-478-3093 TTY/Fax
WEB: www.aslis.com
WHAT: Information and referrals to deaf and hard of hearing persons.
WHERE: 6517 Hunter Road Corcoran, MN 55340

Health and Wellness Program Regions Hospital

PH: 651-254-4786 Voice/TTY
651-254-1888 TTY
WEB: www.regionshospital.com
WHO: Anyone in need of specialized mental health

treatment, specifically the deaf/hard of hearing community.

WHAT: Consultation services provided on chemical dependency treatment. Comprehensive mental health services for children and adults Individual, couple, family and groups available. Inpatient (18 yrs and older) and Outpatient services (all ages).
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Individuals seeking services for inpatient **MUST** be 18 yrs or older; outpatient services are for all ages.

Minnesota Chemical Dependency Program

PH: 612-273-4402 Voice/TTY
WEB: www.mncddeaf.org
WHO: Deaf/Hard of hearing individuals in need of chemical dependency treatment.
WHAT: Individualized in-patient chemical dependency treatment program designed for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.
WHERE: 2450 Riverside Avenue South, Minneapolis

Minnesota Relay Service

PH: 711 (24 hours)
1-800-627-3529 TTY (use this number if you have any problems with #711)
WEB: www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/content.do?id=-536881376&agency=Commerce
WHAT: Provides voice and TTY relay for hearing and hearing impaired people to communicate via telephone. No fee except for long distance relay call.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community Resources

Volunteers of America

- PH:** 763-753-7310 Anoka
763-225-4052 Golden Valley (Mental Health)
- WEB:** www.voamn.org
Ask for Karen Otis, Program Assistant: 1-866-400-8229
(toll-free voice) or 763-225-4064 (voice), email address:
kotis@voamn.org
- WHO:** Children, adolescents ages 0-22 who are deaf,
blind or hard of hearing who experience significant
difficulty due to emotional or behavioral problems,
and their families.
- WHAT:** Mental health services, including therapy, case
management, residential treatment, family
services, group therapy, skill building and parent
support groups.
- WHEN:** Call to schedule: Mon-Fri 8am to 6pm
Clinic appointments are flexible.
- WHERE:** Anoka Office:
22426 St. Francis Boulevard, Anoka MN 55303
Golden Valley Office:
5905 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley MN 55422
- FEE:** Fees for mental health services are reimbursable
by Medical Assistance, third party insurance
payers and contractual agreements with counties.

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer/Questioning (LGBTQQ) Community Resources

Chrysalis

PH: 612-871-0118
612-824-2780 TTY
WEB: www.chrysaliswomen.org
WHO: 18 yrs and older
WHAT: Group and individual counseling and therapy, legal clinic, chemical dependency, couples/uncoupling, adult survivors, support groups, general information and referrals.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Childcare may be available, must call to arrange.

District 202

PH: 612-871-5559
WEB: www.dist202.org
WHO: GLBT youth and under 21 yrs
WHAT: Coffee shop, social events, groups, programming for youth and supportive friends
WHERE: 1601 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis MN

Community University Health Care Center (CUHCC)

PH: 612-638-0700
WEB: www.ahc.umn.edu/CUHCC/
WHO: Anyone in need of medical services
WHAT: Primary medical care, mental health and dental and legal services
LANGUAGE: Cambodian; English; Hmong; Laotian; Somali; Spanish; and Vietnamese.
WHERE: 2001 Bloomington Ave South, Minneapolis
BUS: 2, 14 and 24 bus lines and within walking distance of the Franklin Station Stop on the Hiawatha Light Rail and the 19 and 8 bus lines.

WHEN: Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm; Walk-ins welcome!
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you are under 18, parents have access to your records. Fees based on sliding fee scale and have community programs to help with fees.

GLBT Kids Line

PH: 1-877-452-8543

TeenPRIDE (Family and Children's Services)

PH: 612-728-2062
1-888-PRIDE-99 Toll free
WEB: www.familychildrenservice.nonprofitoffice.com
WHO: Women ages 13-18
WHAT: Counseling, advocacy, referrals to women teens. 24 crisis line that accepts collect calls. Free services, support groups, transportation to those who are at risk for sexual exploitation and/or who have been sexually exploited or victims of prostitution
WHERE: Support groups are held at Mon 5pm – 7pm at Project Off streets (41 N 12th Street in Minneapolis) Tues 5pm – 7pm at the Lake Street Branch (4123 East Lake Street)
HOW: Call 24 hour line; drop in
WHEN: Lake Street Open: Mon, Tues and Thurs: 8:00am – 8:00pm. Wed and Fri: 8:00am – 4:30pm.

Family Service

PH: 651-635-0095
WEB: www.chsfs.org
WHO: Anyone
WHAT: Individual, family and group counseling and therapy services.
FEE: Sliding fee scale

LGBTQQ Community Resources

Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women

PH: 651-646-6177 (office)
651-646-0994 (24 hours in metro)
1-800-289-6177 (state wide 24 hrs)
WEB: www.mcbw.org
WHAT: Resources, information and referrals.
Advocacy and safe home access for victims
of abuse.
WHERE: 590 Park Street, Suite 410, Saint Paul

Out for Equity

PH: 651-603-4942
WEB: outforequity.spps.org
WHAT: Program of Saint Paul school district, sponsoring
Gay-Straight Alliances, support groups and
services to students and staff.
WHERE: 1495 Rice Street Saint Paul, MN

Jewish Community Resources

Jewish Family Service

PH: 651-698-0767
WEB: www.jfcsmpls.org
WHO: Culturally appropriate services for Jewish clients
WHAT: Counseling, family life education, services and case management for elderly, resettlement and training services.
FEE: Sliding fee scale

Jewish Community Relations Council

PH: 612-338-7816
WEB: www.minndakjcrc.org
WHAT: Social justice, advocacy, no direct services, literary services—most services address anti-Semitism.
WHERE: 12 N. 12th Street #480, Minneapolis

Latina/Latino Community Resources

C.L.U.E.S.

(Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio)

PH: 612-746-3500 Office
612-746-3537 Crisis Line
WEB: www.clues.org
WHO: Culturally appropriate for the Spanish speaking community.
WHAT: Individual, family and group counseling in Spanish and English.
WHERE: 720 East Lake Street, Minneapolis

Casa de Esperanza (House of Hope)

PH: 651-772-1611 (24 hours)
651-772-1723 (Business)
WEB: www.casadeesperanza.org
WHO: Culturally appropriate for Latinas, however services available to all women and children.
WHAT: Shelter with Spanish-English bilingual staff. Provides certain legal, housing, employment and domestic violence advocacy exclusively to the Latina community.
WHERE: 1515 East Lake Street, Minneapolis

Community University Health Care Center (CUHCC)

PH: 612-638-0700
WEB: www.ahc.umn.edu/CUHCC/
WHO: Anyone in need of medical services
WHAT: Primary medical care, mental health and dental and legal services
LANGUAGE: Cambodian; English; Hmong; Laotian; Somali; Spanish; and Vietnamese.

WHERE: 2001 Bloomington Ave South, Minneapolis

BUS: 2, 14 and 24 bus lines and within walking distance of the Franklin Station Stop on the Hiawatha Light Rail and the 19 and 8 bus lines.

WHEN: Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm; Walk-ins welcome!

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you are under 18, parents have access to your records. Fees based on sliding fee scale and have community programs to help with fees.

Esperanza Para Mujeres Sexual Assault Services

PH: 1-800-630-1425
WHO: Any resident of Saint Peter, MN serving Nicollet, Blue Earth, Brown and Sibley counties and who is a sexual assault victim.
WHAT: Crisis intervention, crisis counseling for sexual assaults.

La Familia Guidance Center, Inc.

PH: 651-221-0913
WEB: www.lafamiliaguidance.org
WHO: Youth, families and adults
WHAT: mental health counseling; youth intervention; parent and family counseling
WHERE: 155 S. Wabasha Street Suite #120, Saint Paul and 2217 Nicollet Avenue South in Minneapolis
LANGUAGE: Fluent in Spanish and English; has multicultural mental health clinic
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must have insurance; agency works to keep children in the family.

Latina/Latino Community Resources

La-Mano, Inc.

PH: 507-244-8361 (Mankato)
1-800-519-8988 (Crisis line)
WEB: lamanomn.org
WHO: Latin American community living in Mankato,
Faribault and Owatonna, MN
WHAT: Provides services for abused children, general
and sexual assault crimes and provides advocacy,
legal aid, reparations, support groups and referrals.
WHERE: 1400 Madison Avenue Suite 218, Mankato MN

Mujeres Unidas (Women United)

PH: 218-236-9884 (Moorhead MN)
WEB: www.mujeresunidaswomenunited.org
WHO: Chicana/Latina women, particularly single mothers
WHAT: Information and referrals, advocacy and support
working with law enforcement, legal information.

Susana De Leon

PH: 612-822-6269
WHO: Anyone, culturally appropriate for Latina
community.
WHAT: Lawyer specializing in domestic violence and
immigration related legal work.
WHERE: 547 Cedar Avenue South, Minneapolis

West Side Community Health Services (La Clinica)

PH: 651-222-1816
WEB: www.westsidechs.org
WHAT: STD and HIV testing, pre-natal care and family
planning
WHERE: 153 Cesar Chevaz Street, Saint Paul

Native Americans Community Resources

Ain Dah Yung

PH: 651-227-4184
 WEB: www.aindahyung.com
 WHO: Youth
 WHAT: Emergency shelter for runaway and homeless American Indian youth, accepts all youth from diverse backgrounds. Also offers other youth programming and support.
 WHERE: 1089 Portland Ave, Saint Paul

Division of Indian Work

PH: 612-722-8722
 WEB: www.gmcc.org
 WHO: Girls in Daughters in Transition Program, 8 to 12 yrs of age. Must have referral to be in program from Child Protective Services
 WHAT: No direct services without referrals, with referral from Child Protection Services, probation, etc. they offer counseling and support groups as part of the Family Violence Program. Also offers a food shelf.
 WHERE: 1001 East Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN


Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition, MN Indian Women's Resource Center

PH: 612-728-2028
 WEB: www.miwsac.org
 WHO: Culturally appropriate for Native American/Alaskan Native women
 WHAT: Offers support groups, supportive counseling, legal and medical advocacy, information and referrals.
 WHEN: Monday-Friday day hours
 WHERE: 1619 Dayton Ave, Saint Paul

Women of Nations—Eagles Nest

PH: 651-222-5836 (24 hours)
 WEB: www.women-of-nations.org
 WHO: Culturally appropriate for Native American/Alaskan Native women, but services available to all women and children
 WHAT: Provides temporary shelter and legal advocacy for women who have experienced domestic violence, sexual violence and women who have been prostituted.

* * *



OUR GUIDE

Resources for Young Adults
in the Twin Cities




HOTLINES

Ambulance, Fire, Police
911

United Way 211
211 OR 651-291-0211

A 24 hour referral to community agencies including food and shelter. Spanish—Para que le ayuden en español llame al 2-1-1 o al: **1-800-543-7709**
Hmong—Xav tau tus neeg pab txhais lus hmoob thov hu 2-1-1 los: **1-800-543-7709**

The Bridge for Runaway Youth
612-377-8800

A 24 hour crisis line providing support and referrals for homeless youth.

YMCA Point Northwest
763-493-3052

A 24 hour crisis line providing support and referrals for homeless youth in the Northwest Suburbs.

Ramsey County Mobile Crisis Team
651-771-0076

Dakota County Crisis Intervention and Response Unit
952-891-7171

PRIDE
612-728-2062 or
1-888-774-3399

A 24 hour crisis line for women, girls and transgender youth who are victims of prostitution; collect calls are accepted.

Battered Women's Hotline
651-646-0994

A 24 hour crisis line providing support and referrals for men and women.

Suicide Prevention
612-873-2222

A 24 hour telephone crisis counseling, information and referral line.

Council on Crime and Justice Victim Services
612-340-5400

A 24 hour advocacy and support for victims of any crime.

Sexual Violence Center
612-871-5111

A 24 hour crisis counseling line providing immediate support and resources for survivors of sexual violence, their families, friends and other concerned persons.

Crisis Connection
612-379-6363

A 24 hour telephone crisis counseling, information and referral line.

Crisis Connection—Men's Line
612-379-6367

A 24 hour counseling line for men and others who want to talk about issues of abuse and violence in their lives.

OutFront Minnesota
612-824-8434

A 24 hour crisis hotline providing advocacy, information, support and counseling for victims of domestic violence in same-sex relationships.

Youth Runaway Switchboard Hotline
1-800-RUNAWAY

Call if you are thinking of running from home, have a friend who has run or if you are a runaway ready to go home through the Home Free Program.

Neighborhood Involvement Program—Youth Program
A 24 hour helpline: **612-825-4357**
612-374-9077
www.neighborinvolve.org
Rape and sexual assault.



HOW TO

USE THIS GUIDE

If you are having an emergency, call one of the hotline numbers on the inside cover. Otherwise, find what you need in the table of contents. The bold titles are good starting points if you don't know exactly what you are looking for. Follow the page numbers to specific types of services.

In each section, there is a list of services and advice about how to use them. Check for these symbols under each entry:



This agency is really good at helping gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning people.



This agency does not require you to have an ID.



This agency has free condoms and/or lube and dental dams if you need them.



This agency can work with immigrants who are not in the US legally (undocumented).



CHECK OUT THE "TIPS" IN EACH SECTION. THEY COME FROM YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE YOU!

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Outreach workers are always a good place to start. Most outreach workers in the Twin Cities work for StreetWorks.

STREETWORKS

612-252-2735; www.streetworksmn.org

WHO: Ages 12-21.

WHAT: Outreach workers (OWs) are safe people on the streets. When they are working, they carry big green StreetWorks bags. Inside the bags are basic supplies such as condoms, snacks, bus tokens, hygiene supplies, clothing and diapers. OWs can also help you out with other things like finding a job, getting a GED, getting an ID, Rental Assistance, getting a bus ticket to go live with your family, getting into shelter, housing and more.

HOW: Call StreetWorks to find out who is working and their phone number. Give them a call and see if they can talk to you or meet you. If you see an OW on the street, ask them for help.

LANGUAGE: One Spanish speaker and one Hmong speaker.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you call StreetWorks after 5 PM, the answering machine will list numbers for the OWs out that night and other emergency numbers.



DROP-IN CENTERS

Drop-in centers are safe places young people can go to get lots of different kinds of help. Whether you need a place to be for a while, get a bite to eat or talk to someone about your options, they are a good place to be.

SAFEZONE

651-224-9644; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHAT: A drop-in center that offers case management, independent living skills classes, GED tutoring, employment services (including Twin Cities Rise, Youth-LEAD, bus cards and other assistance), a small clothing closet, an emergency food shelf, GLBTQ groups, a youth clinic on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 to 5:30 PM that offers HIV testing (results in 20 minutes), answers to health questions and referrals to other health care services, an open kitchen with snacks, a hot meal, computer with internet access, a phone, help getting ID and birth certificates, Rental Assistance through case managers (first month or deposit), YMCA trips and Friday cooking classes. It's OK to go there and hang out, but the staff will want to talk to you or help you work on something while you are there.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Call to get information and times of specific programs. You must be sober while you are there. The first time you are there they will give you a tour and do a quick intake. They will want to know your name, age, address and a little about your current situation. They might ask for ID, but you don't need it. Wheelchair accessible. No warrant or background checks.



SUMMIT UNIVERSITY TEEN CENTER—THE LOFT

651-644-3311

WHO: Ages 13-19, focus on African American youth.

WHAT: Drop-in center offering informal counseling, recreation, a youth leadership training program, job help, health education and a pregnancy prevention program. Has open gym, teen nights, computer lab and TV area.

WHERE: 1063 Iglehart Avenue, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri noon-7 PM.



YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-20 can access all services. Ages 12-20 can access clinic. Ages 16-21 can access transitional housing.

WHAT: Drop-in center with kitchen, hot showers, free laundry, health clinic, clothing, limited household goods, personal hygiene products, help getting haircut, independent living skills classes, a GED program, a transitional housing program through St. Barnabus and Archdale Apartments with 24 hour crisis support, group residential housing (for youth diagnosed with mental illness, HIV or chemical dependency), legal clinic on Monday, GLBTQ groups and safe space, help getting into shelter and housing, help getting Social Security cards, state ID and birth certificate. Other activities include karaoke and open mic night, youth advisory board, cultural celebrations/dinners, peer support groups, chef training program, social activism, health advisory board, sex education, teens in prostitution support group and sports activities.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM. Hot meal served at 5 PM. Kulture Klub (youth art group) meets Tue and Thu 5-7 PM. Youth Law Clinic on Mon 3:30-5 PM.

HOW: You only get a case manager if you ask for one and do an intake.

LANGUAGE: One Spanish speaker.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: All services are free. Call for information about specific programs. They may ask you for ID, but you don't need it.

YOUTH SAY: GED program is good, and you get an award when you finish.



COMMUNITY CENTERS

These places aren't just for youth. Instead, they are places where all members of the community can come together. They often have youth programs with different forms of assistance for people who need help. They are safe and fun places to hang out. A staff person can tell you more about the programs they have.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE (WELLSTONE CENTER)

651-789-2500 (main), 651-789-2531 (Life Connections) and 651-789-2517 (Youth Leadership); www.neighb.org

WHO: Anyone, but mostly residents of West St. Paul. Food shelf is for 55107 residents or people in crisis. Youth programs are for youth ages 6-18 who are in school.

WHAT: Food shelf. Youth leadership programs: health education, indoor athletics, computer skills classes and internet access. New immigrants: English classes, coaching on how to get a library card, driver's license, use public transportation, enroll children in school, banking, saving, leasing, buying and groups for East African refugees and immigrants. Parents: early childhood education programs and childcare is available for when you are in the building.

WHERE: 179 Robie Street E., St. Paul

WHEN: Call for hours.

HOW: Call to make an appointment for the food shelf. Drop by and hang out in Youth Center. Case managers and social workers available by referral.

LANGUAGE: Staff speak 19 different languages including Spanish, Hmong

and Somali.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: To register for Youth Center, need form signed by parent. If homeless, talk to director for special provisions.



BRIAN COYLE CENTER

612-338-5282; www.puc-mn.org

WHO: Residents of Cedar-Riverside neighborhood. Mainly Somali, Ethiopian, Oromo and other East African immigrants. Youth programs for 18 and under.

WHAT: A number of programs including after school and summer youth programs with recreation (including basketball and soccer), leadership and academic support. Also have FANS (college preparation program), a food shelf and basic computer skills training. Confederation of Somali Communities and the Oromo Community Center are in the same building. Gym has open hours, especially on hot days.

WHERE: 420 15th Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8 AM-8:30 PM. Call for specific program times.

BUS: 55

LANGUAGE: Somali, Oromo, Swahili Amharic, Hmong, English and others.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Some programs have a low cost (\$10-\$25). They emphasize parental involvement and prefer that your parents know you are there.



OAK PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

612-377-7000; www.puc-mn.org

WHO: Residents of North Minneapolis.

WHAT: A variety of programs including an education scholarship program, a clothing closet, Rental Assistance, a women's walking club and basic computer training.

WHERE: 1701 Oak Park Avenue N., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 8:30 AM-6 PM, Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

BUS: 19

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID. No undocumented youth.

PILLSBURY HOUSE

612-824-0708; www.puc-mn.org

WHO: Community center for neighborhood residents.

WHAT: Has a public computer lab (8 AM-5:30 PM), a clothing closet, emergency rental assistance, information, referrals and other programming.

WHERE: 3501 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue 8 AM-9 PM, Fri 8 AM-6 PM, Sat 9 AM-2 PM, Sun 10 AM-noon.

HOW: Come in and fill out an application. They will call you if you qualify.

BUS: 5

LANGUAGE: Spanish and Somali.

SABATHANI COMMUNITY CENTER

612-827-5981; www.sabathani.org

WHO: Residents of South Minneapolis.

WHAT: Offers youth programming, a clothing closet, free used furniture, a food shelf, garden plots, tax preparation assistance, education and employment services.

WHERE: 310 East 38th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 7:30 AM-9 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Call for program hours.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

612-521-4859; www.seacc-mn.org

WHO: Ages 12-18.

WHAT: Cultural programs including martial arts and theater. Youth leadership program helps youth find a job and explore post secondary options, including careers and college opportunities. Also have teen pregnancy prevention and tobacco prevention programs.

WHERE: 1827 44th Avenue N., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call for more information about meeting times for specific programs.

BUS: 724 LTD, 5M

LANGUAGE: Hmong, Laotian, Thai, English and others.



WAITE HOUSE

612-721-1681; www.puc-mn.org

WHO: Phillips community.

WHAT: Youth employment program helps with job searching, résumés, portfolios and opening bank accounts (ages 14-21). Youth leadership program (grades K-12) creates murals and has service learning, academic support, technology, sports and dance. Teen nights have salsa dance, soccer and other activities. They can refer you to other services if you need help.

WHERE: 2529 13th Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 2-7 PM during the school year. Mon-Fri 12:30-6 PM during the summer. Not open weekends.

HOW: Drop-in or call to find out what is going on.

YOUTH SAY: There can be a long waiting time.



IDENTIFICATION

Before you start finding help for other needs, it's a good idea to think about your ID. Do you have one? Can you get your birth certificate, green card or other papers from home? If not, read this section.

Many agencies require you to have some form of identification. They often want a state ID (such as a driver's license), Social Security card, school ID or passport. If you need a new copy of an identifying document, these places can help you apply and pay for one.

ALLIANCE OF THE STREETS

612-870-0529

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: Assists housing and job seekers with résumés, voicemail boxes and getting your birth certificate.

WHERE: 330 E. 22nd Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 10 AM-4 PM.

HOW: Call to ask if voicemail boxes are available.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: This agency makes the "Handbooks of the Streets" so they know a lot of resources to help you find other things you need.



BASILICA OF SAINT MARY (see Clothes section, pg. 12)

612-317-3477 (if no answer, press 0 and get redirected); www.mary.org

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: Help get green card, INS (USCIS) documentation, finger printing, state ID and birth certificate.

WHERE: Corner of Hennepin and N. 17th Street, Minneapolis. Services in church basement.

WHEN: Tue and Thu 9:30-11:30 AM, Sat and Mon 9:30-11 AM. Come early! Closed holidays.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Disability accessible. All faiths welcome. There is no charge for the parking lot on weekends, but there is on weekdays—so park on the street.



SAFEZONE (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

651-224-9644

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.



YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-20.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM.



If you don't have much money and are having trouble getting by, the places in this section might be able to help you get things you need.

In Minneapolis, Mary Jo Copeland provides many different things at Sharing and Caring Hands.

SHARING AND CARING HANDS/MARY JO'S

612-338-4640; www.sharingandcaringhands.org

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: Free meals Mon-Thu at 10 AM, noon and 4 PM. Free clothes, showers and laundry. Family shelter. Help with getting ID, birth certificate, *dental work*, furniture, family reunification, bus tokens and money for other needs. Help is dependent on what is available and is not guaranteed.

WHERE: 525 N. 7th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 10-11:30 AM and 1:30-3 PM. Come early!

HOW: Wait in line to talk to Mary Jo.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: When asking for things, you really have to make your

case. Whether or not you receive help is totally up to Mary Jo. Sharing and Caring Hands is a Christian organization.

YOUTH SAY: Go as early as 6:30 AM and get a handful of bus tokens. It's a good place to volunteer.



TIP: VOLUNTEER AT AGENCIES SO YOU CAN GET HELP FROM THEM WHEN YOU NEED IT. I VOLUNTEERED AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND THEY SAVED ME A SPOT IN THE SHOWER AND LAUNDRY LINE. YOU CAN EVEN VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT AT SMALL LOCAL BUSINESSES TO GET WHAT YOU NEED.



FOOD

FYI: EATING HEALTHY ON A LOW BUDGET

You can eat healthy without spending much money.

- Dry beans and rice are cheap and a good way to get protein.

- Buy fresh produce that's in season.

- Canned vegetables are a healthy choice.

If you have to eat out, eat these healthier fast food options:

- Taco Bell: get a bean burrito with cheese and extra salsa or a vegetable fajita.

- KFC: roasted chicken is much better than fried chicken. Get greens, slaw, corn, potatoes or rice as a side.

- McDonald's: get a salad, chicken breast or fish sandwich. Ask for extra onions, lettuce and tomato.

- Wendy's: the baked potato with broccoli and cheese is nutritious, cheap and filling.

- Subway: many healthy options. Pile on lettuce and other veggies. Choose whole wheat bread for fiber.

Free Meals

If all you need is a free meal, you can go to any of the places on the meal schedule (pg. 74). A good spot for young people to eat is:

MONDAY NIGHT YOUTH DINNER (ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL)

612-870-7800

WHO: Ages 25 and under.

WHAT: Free meal with really good food.

WHERE: 519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis (across from Loring Park)

WHEN: Mon 6 PM.

YOUTH SAY: They treat youth very well and have lots of good tasting, healthy food.

Young people can also eat at one of these drop-in centers during their open hours. You can learn more about these agencies on pg. 6.

YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-20.

WHAT: Drop-in center that offers a hot meal.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM. Hot meal served at 5 PM.

YOUTH SAY: YouthLink has good food, big meals and variety. Plus, it's served by youth cooks!



SAFEZONE

651-224-9644; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHAT: Hot meal set out between 2 and 4 PM on days it is open. They also make some sandwiches and put them in the fridge for people to take, but they run out fast. There is an open kitchen and a small emergency food shelf (talk to a case manager if you want to access the food shelf).

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.

YOUTH SAY: Food is healthy, but it is often the same meal.



If you need groceries, you can go to a food shelf. Most food shelves require an ID and proof of residency. However, these two youth food shelves do not:

GROVELAND FOOD FOR YOUTH

612-718-7521 (ask for Matt)

WHO: Ages 23 and under without proof of residency or identification.

WHAT: Two grocery bags full of food. Food and parenting supplies (diapers, formula) when available. A StreetWorks outreach worker is available to help you with other needs. Call on Monday before 10 AM for the opportunity to work for \$10/hr for a three hour shift. It may take a few weeks of calling before you can get a shift (it's not a part-time job).

WHERE: 1900 Nicollet Avenue S., Minneapolis in the basement of the Plymouth Congregational Church (on the Groveland side)

WHEN: Tue, Thu 4-7 PM, Fri 10 AM-1 PM

HOW: Drop-in. No appointment.

YOUTH SAY: You can get a lot of food and interaction with the people packing your bags. You get to pick what you want and see what you are getting.



PRISM FOOD FOR YOUTH

763-529-1350

WHO: Ages 21 and under.

WHAT: Free food, baby formula and supplies.

WHERE: 730 Florida Avenue S., Golden Valley

WHEN: Mon 5-9 PM.

BUS: 643 LTD

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: No ID or appointment required. It doesn't matter where you live. You can come every two weeks. You will have to do a short registration the first time you go. Shuttles are provided from the Brookdale Transit Center at 4:30 PM and 6:30 PM.



If you can't go to these youth food shelves, call the **EMERGENCY FOOD NETWORK** at 763-450-3860 or visit www.mnhungerpartners.org online to find another food shelf close to you. You will probably need picture ID and proof of residence (electric bill, gas bill, medical card, etc.) to go to these food shelves. If you are a family of two or more, Pastor Paul's food shelf is another option.

PASTOR PAUL'S

612-521-4665; www.pastorpaul.org

WHO: Families of two or more or single disabled persons living anywhere.

WHAT: About 165 pounds of food can be picked up once a month. Dry goods, cereal, breads, fruits, vegetables, dairy, meats, frozen foods, hygiene and cleaning products are often included.

WHERE: 1000 Oliver Avenue N., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9:30-11:20 AM; new registration closes at 11 AM.

HOW: You should call the day before you want to go and pre-register. When you go the next day, you will need to fill out a six-page document and bring a current piece of mail, picture IDs and Social Security cards of all household members to finish registering. After that, the head of household can pick up food once a month by bringing IDs of each household member and a current piece of mail.

BUS: 19

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Pastor Paul's usually gives you more food than one person can carry without a car.

If you have some money for groceries, this program can help you buy them at a big discount:

FARE FOR ALL

763-450-3880 or 1-800-582-4291

WHO: Anyone who can afford it.

WHAT: Discounted produce, frozen meat and dry goods that are dropped off at distribution sites once a month. Packages range from \$10 to \$20.

WHERE: Dozens of local distribution sites.

WHEN: Call for distribution times.

HOW: Call the month before and order with a credit card, money order or check. To pay with cash or EBT, pay in advance at your local distribution site (call to find it).



TIP: IF YOU ALWAYS NEED FOOD, JOIN A PROGRAM LIKE PROJECT SOLO (PG. 42) SO THAT YOU CAN ACCESS IT EVERY DAY AND MEET SOME OF YOUR GOALS.

Meal sites and food shelves are great for emergencies. But if you need money for food every week, you should think about getting Public Assistance. See pg. 19.



CLOTHES

There are many free stores and clothing closets that can help you build a wardrobe. It is often a good idea to call ahead if you are looking for something specific, like formal clothing.

BASILICA OF SAINT MARY

612-317-3477 (if no answer, press 0 and get redirected); www.mary.org

WHO: Clothes, food and ID help for anyone. Financial assistance for residents of zip codes 55403 or 55401. Shoe Ministry for 55401, 55402, 55403, 55405 or 55411 residents.

WHAT: Free clothes. Shoe Ministry gives vouchers for Kmart to buy new shoes (no size over 14). Have bus cards for people without jobs. Continental breakfast served in the morning and always sandwiches in the rectory. Limited financial assistance for people living in 55403 or 55401 for car repair, rent, uniform, etc. Help get green cards, INS (USCIS) documentation, finger printing, state IDs and birth certificates. Give out vouchers for their thrift store.

WHERE: Corner of Hennepin and N. 17th Street in Minneapolis; in the basement of the church

WHEN: Tue-Thu 9:30-11:30 AM, Sat and Mon 9:30-11 AM. Closed holidays. Shoe Ministry Mon and Sat. Come early!

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must have picture ID for services, or they will help you get one. Disability accessible. All faiths welcome. There is no charge for the parking lot on weekends, but there is on weekdays—so park on the street.



CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

612-870-4416; www.centralmpls.org

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: Free clothing. Hot meal served at 10:30 AM on Mon for two to 400 people.

WHERE: 333 South 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon 10 AM-noon, Thu 1-2:30 PM



CORNERSTONE MINISTRY-PARK AVENUE CHURCH

612-825-6863

WHO: Anyone from 55404, 55406, 55407, 55408 or 55409 zip codes.

WHAT: Clothing and house wares sold for \$1 per bag.

WHERE: 3400 Park Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Tue 1-4 PM, Thu 2-5 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID.

HALLIE Q. BROWN MLK CENTER

651-251-9015; www.maccalliance.org

WHO: Anyone can get clothes. 55104 zip code residents can get food.

WHAT: Free food and clothing. Any amount of clothing.

WHERE: 100 N. Oxford, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 10 AM-2 PM.

HOW: Food by appointment. Walk in for clothes.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need proof of residency and picture ID for food; you only need money for clothes.

JOSEPH'S COAT

651-291-2472; www.josephscoatmn.org

WHO: Anyone 16 and over. If you are under 16, you need a parent, guardian or responsible adult like a case manager or outreach worker.

WHAT: Free store that provides clothing, household items, small appliances, personal hygiene products and children's items. Staff can also help you find other resources. Limit of one bag each week for each person 14 or older.

WHERE: 1107 West 7th Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon and Wed 9 AM-4:30 PM; can only shop once a week.

BUS: 54, 74

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID. Handicap accessible.

OAK PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER (see Community Centers section, pg. 7)

612-377-7000; www.puc-mn.org

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: Can get one bag of clothes at a time. Have a range of seasonal clothes and often have formal clothes usable for job interviews.

WHERE: 1701 Oak Park Avenue N., Minneapolis

WHEN: Tue-Thu 10 AM-4 PM.

BUS: 19



PILLSBURY HOUSE CLOTHING CLOSET

(see Community Centers section, pg. 7)

612-824-0708; www.puc-mn.org

WHAT: Free clothing. Allowed 15 minute appointment.

WHERE: 3501 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 9 AM-3 PM or by appointment.

BUS: 5
LANGUAGE: Spanish and Somali.



SABATHANI COMMUNITY CENTER (see Community Centers section, pg. 7)

612-827-5981; www.sabathani.org
WHO: Residents of South Minneapolis.
WHAT: Clothing and household items. You can go four times each month.
WHERE: 310 East 38th Street, Minneapolis
WHEN: Mon-Thu 9:30 AM-noon and 1-3:30 PM. Third Saturday of the month 10 AM-2 PM.

ST. STEPHEN'S FREE STORE

612-874-0311; www.ststephenscommunity.org
WHO: Anyone.
WHAT: Free clothing, shoes, linens and house wares. All in season and mostly used. Shop for a reasonable amount as often as you like.
WHERE: 2211 Clinton Avenue S., Minneapolis
WHEN: Hours may change in next year, so call for hours.
BUS: 2, 11
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Spanish and Somali.



HAIRCUT

If you have a case manager (pg. 53) at a program she or he might be able to help you pay for a haircut or to get your hair done. Here's a place for men to get a free haircut.

LISTENING HOUSE OF ST. PAUL

WHO: Men.
WHAT: Free haircuts once a week.
WHEN: Wed 9 AM.
WHERE: 215 9th Street W., St. Paul



TRANSPORTATION

The bus is a great way to get around the Twin Cities. It will cost \$1.50-\$2 for most rides. However, by being enrolled in a program (including Project SOLO, Project Offstreets or transitional living programs) you can often get bus tokens or cards from your case manager.

If you are stuck somewhere, you can call StreetWorks at 612-252-2735. They will give you the number of an outreach worker who might be able to come and give you a token or give you a ride if you are in a bad situation.

For long-term transportation, you can get your own bike and learn how to fix it here:

FULL CYCLE
612-718-7521 (ask for Matt)
WHO: Ages 23 and under.

WHAT: Free bike program which helps homeless and street dependent youth learn how to build and maintain their own free bike.

WHEN: Anytime.

HOW: Call to meet Matt at the bike shop by appointment.



If you are on GAMC or Medical Assistance or if you have medical insurance, you may be eligible for free transportation to medical appointments. Call your provider to find out!

GUARANTEED RIDE HOME PROGRAM (GRH)

612-349-7370

WHO: Anyone who gets to work or school by bus, carpool, bicycle or walking at least three days per week.

WHAT: Free emergency ride home program. You get two coupons for a ride home every six months. Coupons are good for up to \$25 in cab fare, a bus or a train ride.

HOW: Register for the program by filling out the online form at <http://www.metrotransit.org/riderPrograms/grh.asp>.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Lost or stolen coupons are not replaced. You need an address and phone number for home and work/school.

BASILICA OF SAINT MARY (see Clothes section, pg. 12)

612-317-3477 (if no answer, press 0 and get redirected); **www.mary.org**

WHO: Anyone without a job.

WHAT: Limited supply of bus cards/tokens for people without jobs.

WHERE: Corner of Hennepin and N. 17th Street, Minneapolis. Services in the basement.

WHEN: Tue-Thu 9:30-11:30 AM, Sat and Mon 9:30-11 AM. Come early! Closed holidays.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Will serve anyone with an ID (or they can help you get an ID).



TIP: SCHOOL COUNSELORS OFTEN HAVE BUS TOKENS FOR KIDS HAVING A HARD TIME.

HEALTH CARE

FYI: YOUTH DO NOT NEED PARENTAL PERMISSION FOR MEDICAL CARE IF...

- It is for pregnancy, childbirth, care for your child, an STI (sexually transmitted infection) or drug and alcohol treatment (see Abortion Providers section pg. 25 if under 18).
- You live on your own and support yourself. It does not matter how you support yourself; it can be with work, General Assistance (GA) or Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP).
- It is an emergency and getting your parents' consent delays your care.
- You have been married or have a child.

If you can't go to the clinics below, call **THE NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CARE NETWORK** at 651-489-2273 or 1-866-489-4899 (toll free) to get referrals to nearby community clinics with general health, dental and mental health care. They will refer you to clinics seeing uninsured patients on a sliding fee scale.

You can also get information about applying for Minnesota State Health Care Programs, including Medical Assistance, General Assistance, MinnesotaCare and MSHO. This information is also available at www.nhcn.org.



GENERAL MEDICAL

These youth clinics offer general medical services. They are either free or have a sliding fee scale based on income.

FACE TO FACE MEDICAL (see Education section, pg. 39)

651-772-5555; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 11-23.

WHAT: Doctor on Thursdays. At all other times there are nurse practitioners who do sexual and reproductive health care. They are here for you if you have a cough or rash, want an STI check, need a pregnancy test or have other health concerns. HIV test results in five to six days. Not a free clinic: accepts all insurances or sliding fee without insurance. Will not turn people away if they cannot pay.

WHERE: 1165 Arcade Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon and Wed 1-5 PM, Tue 9:30 AM-7 PM, Thu 1-8 PM, Fri 9:30 AM-3 PM (winter 9:30 AM-5 PM) and Sat 10 AM-1 PM.

HOW: Call 651-224-9644 to schedule an appointment.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Face to Face has a ton of services under one roof and is connected to SafeZone drop-in center.



FAMILY TREE CLINIC

24 hour helpline: 612-825-4357; www.familytreeclinic.org

WHAT: Free low cost medical services, rapid HIV/STI testing, pregnancy testing and planning.

WHERE: 1619 Dayton Avenue, St. Paul, 55103

WHEN: Mon and Wed 8:30 AM-8:30 PM, Tue and Thu 8:30 AM-5 PM, Fri-Sun closed.

FREMONT CLINIC

612-588-9411; www.fremonthealth.org

WHAT: "Scene on the Streets"—a local youth outreach program offering free testing for gonorrhea and chlamydia. Sliding scale medical services.

WHERE: 3300 Fremont Avenue, north Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri 8 AM-5 PM, Tue 8 AM-7 PM.

LA CLÍNICA

651-222-1816; www.westsidechs.org

WHO: Anyone. Need note from parent or bring adult if you are under 18.

WHAT: Adolescent, *dental*, diabetes, family planning and pregnancy testing, family support, mental health counseling, HIV care, nutrition services, pharmacy services, children's health services, immunizations and women's health. Accepts most insurance. Sliding scale fee based on income.

WHERE: 153 Cesar Chavez Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Fri 8 AM-5 PM, Wed and Thu 8 AM-8 PM, Sat 8 AM-noon.

BUS: 68, 71

LANGUAGE: Spanish, English and Hmong.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Will consider parent's income for sliding fee.



SAFEZONE (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)
651-224-9644; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHAT: Free clinic that offers HIV testing and results in 20 minutes, answers to health questions and referrals to other health care services.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You must be sober while you are there. The first time you are there they will give you a tour and do a quick intake. They will want to know your name, age, address and a little about your current situation. They might ask for ID, but it is OK if you don't have it. Wheelchair accessible. No warrant or background checks.

YOUTH SAY: The same day HIV test results are great.



SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

612-822-3186; www.southsidechs.org

WHAT: STI screening, dental services, vision care, men's clinic, sliding fee, discount if income, walk-ins welcome.

WHERE: 4730 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8 AM-7 PM and 1 Saturday per month.

TEENAGE MEDICAL SERVICE (TAMS)

612-813-6125; www.teenhealth411.org

WHO: Ages 10-22.

WHAT: Teen Clinic provides primary medical care (exams, common health problems), family planning (birth control, pregnancy tests, abortion referrals), nutrition counseling, mental health services and health education. Sliding fee scale is based on income (parent's income may affect the fee); they don't turn anyone away who can't pay.

WHERE: 2425 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8:30 AM-5:30 PM, Wed 8:30 AM-8:30 PM.

HOW: Call for appointment and ask what documents you need. Call to register for birth control classes.

BUS: 2, 5, 8

LANGUAGE: Front desk employee speaks Spanish. Translation is available.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You may have to wait up to a week for an appointment unless it is an emergency. If you are over 18 and working, you need a check stub. Bring health insurance info if you have it.

YOUTH SAY: TAMS is great with pregnancy and counseling.



YOUTHLINK HEALTH AND WELLNESS CLINIC

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1258; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 12-20.

WHAT: Outreach site of Community University Health Care Center. Complete health care for homeless youth and young adults. You can access STD testing and treatment, birth control, pregnancy testing and prenatal care, immunizations and illness and injury check-ups. Services are free. They will help you apply for insurance.

WHERE: YouthLink: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for hours.



ACUPUNCTURE

If you are interested in acupuncture, you can get it for free at the **Salvation Army Harbor Light Center**, which is an adult shelter at 1010 Currie Avenue in Minneapolis. Ask at the front desk or call 612-338-0113 for more information.



CHILDREN'S DENTAL SERVICES

612-746-1530; www.childrensdentalservices.org

WHO: Youth 17 and under (accompanied by an adult) and pregnant women.

WHAT: Free or reduced cost dental care. Accepts insurance or uses sliding fees based on income.

WHERE: 636 Broadway Street NE, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Thu, Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM, Tue and Wed 10:30 AM-7 PM, every other Sat 9 AM-1 PM.

BUS: 17

LANGUAGE: Spanish, Arabic, Somali, Hmong, Russian, French, Oromo, Vietnamese, Ukrainian and others.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need state plan insurance number or Social Security number or other form of ID.



LA CLÍNICA, in the General Health section, pg. 17, also has dental care.



In crisis situations, call **CRISIS CONNECTION** at 612-379-6363 for 24 hour telephone crisis counseling, information and referral. Or call **SUICIDE PREVENTION** at 612-873-2222.

For non-crisis mental health services, try these agencies:

AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY SERVICES

612-871-7878; www.aafs.net

WHO: Anyone, focus on African Americans.

WHAT: Mental health: individual and group counseling. No male counselors and no prescriptions. Sliding fee. Chemical health: Rule 25 and outpatient treatment. Free if in Hennepin or Ramsey County and low-income. Groups: SAFE—Sistas Advocating For Empowerment—domestic violence and anger management focus for women (18+), MOVE—Men Opposing Violence—anger management for men (18+). Family services: help with child protection and welfare, parent assessments, family group counseling.

WHERE: 2616 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis. There is also one more office in Minneapolis and one in St. Paul.

WHEN: Mon and Tue 8 AM-7 PM, Wed and Thu 8 AM-9 PM. Closed Fri.

HOW: Call main number. Walk-ins in morning and appointments in afternoon. Confirm office location.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID or documentation. If you have insurance, bring information. They have a list of felony-friendly jobs at the front desk. Come in and ask to see it.

YOUTH SAY: They have a great anger management program.

COMUNIDADES LATINAS UNIDOS EN SERVICIOS (CLUES)

(see Culturally Specific Agencies section, pg. 58)

612-746-3500 (Minneapolis), 651-379-4200 (St. Paul);

www.clues.org

WHO: Anyone, especially Latinos/as.

WHAT: Mental health: counseling, case management. Youth development program, sexual assault advocacy and education and parent education and assessments. Chemical health: Rule 25 for any age. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings, reintegration support for families, outreach/case management for homeless persons, tobacco prevention and intervention projects and the Latino Resource Center. Accepts insurance. Sliding scale fee based on income.

WHERE: 720 E. Lake Street, Minneapolis and 797 E. 7th Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Thu 8:30 AM-7 PM, Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call for appointment.

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Go to the Minneapolis office if you live in Hennepin or Dakota County and go to the St. Paul office if you live in Ramsey or Dakota County. Otherwise, you will have to pay full price for services.



FACE TO FACE MENTAL HEALTH AND COUNSELING

(see Education section, pg. 39)

651-772-5555; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 11-23.

WHAT: Counseling and mental health services. Don't offer chemical health services or Rule 25 assessments. Sliding fee scale based on income. Will not turn anyone away who can't pay.

WHERE: 1165 Arcade Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Call intake worker at 651-772-5620 with questions or to schedule an appointment. There can be a long waiting list. Therapist does own schedule anytime Mon, Wed, Fri 8 AM-5 PM or Tue and Thu 10 AM-7 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Face to Face has a ton of services under one roof and is connected to SafeZone drop-in center.



WEST SUBURBAN TEEN CLINIC (see General Medical section, pg. 16)

952-474-3251; www.westsuburbanteenclinic.org

WHO: Ages 12-23.

WHAT: Teen clinic that provides short-term crisis counseling and therapy.

WHERE: 478 2nd Street, Excelsior

WHEN: Mon, Thu, Fri noon-5 PM, Tue noon-8 PM, Wed 10 AM-8 PM and Sat 10 AM-2 PM.

HOW: Call to make appointment. Emergency spots available for urgent care.

LANGUAGE: Translation available.



ST. PAUL YOUTH SERVICES CHILDREN'S CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM

24 hour crisis response 651-771-1301; www.spys.org

WHAT: Mobile Crisis Mental Health Response team for youth and their family.

WHERE: 2100 Wilson Avenue, St. Paul

If you have been diagnosed with a serious mental illness and are 18 or older you are eligible for:

SPECTRUM COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

612-752-8200 (Minneapolis), 612-752-8350 (Bloomington),

612-752-8300 (Crystal); www.resource-mn.org/spectrum

WHO: 18 and older with serious and persistent mental illness.

WHAT: Community based drop-in centers that provide support for people with serious and persistent mental illness. Services offered include case management, educational and vocational support, help finding supportive housing, recreation and social activities, as well as arts programs.

WHERE: The LightHouse, 1825 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis
Charaka Community Support Program, 7830 Fifth Avenue S., Bloomington
Northwest Community Support Program, 5510 W. Broadway, Suite 112-A, Crystal
WHEN: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call to find out if you need a diagnosis to participate in a specific program.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Many programs are free, but some require a co-pay.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Everyone has the right to apply for public assistance. Public assistance is available to people who can't pay for needs like food, housing and medical care. There are different types of assistance, and each program has its own requirements and limits on income/assets.

Call **HENNEPIN COUNTY EASY INFO LINE** at **612-596-1300** 24 hours a day to find out about food stamps, checks and check replacement, the electronic benefit system and your financial worker's name and phone number.

What you need: An original ID or a birth certificate and your Social Security number. Contact 612-596-1300 or 651-266-4444 to see what other forms of ID are acceptable.

The county will help you get a birth certificate, but you will have to wait longer for assistance.

Other useful information:

- You can't get benefits during your first 30 days in Minnesota.
- There is a five-year lifetime limit on getting cash assistance.
- If you violate the terms of your parole, you can't get General Assistance.
- You must have a place to live to get assistance. You can be in a shelter but not on the street.
- *Emergency Assistance is limited to one use during a 12 month period.*
- Expect to wait in line (or several lines) for a very long time!
- If you are applying for Emergency Assistance you will be expected to sit through an hour seminar on how to fill out the application forms. This is required.



TIP: ALWAYS ASK, "AM I ELIGIBLE FOR ANY OTHER BENEFITS?"

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE: Provides emergency financial assistance for those experiencing a crisis such as eviction, fire, utility shut-off, theft, immediate need for food or a crisis which threatens to displace a person or family from a home or apartment. You must meet income and resource eligibility requirements.

MN FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM (MFIP): Provides monthly assistance for men and women with children, pregnant women and two parent families that have little or no income. If you have been convicted of a drug felony, you are not eligible from the date of your conviction through five years after completion of your sentence.

You will be put on the Diversionary Work Program (DWP) for four months before you can access MFIP. DWP will help you find work and childcare. The point of this program is to prevent you from getting MFIP if you don't need it. DWP will

decide whether or not you need MFIP.

FOOD SUPPORT: Monthly grants for food can be used at a grocery store. The amount of the grant depends on the monthly income of each person in the family/household and your housing costs.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE (GA): General Assistance provides monthly assistance to single persons and childless couples who have little or no income and who meet eligibility requirements.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA): Provides assistance with payment of medical bills for persons and families who meet income eligibility requirements. People on GA are automatically put on GA Medical Care (GMAC).

ENERGY ASSISTANCE: Provides financial assistance to pay utility or heat bills from October 1 to May 30. You must have a shut-off notice.

SOCIAL SECURITY: Provides monthly assistance for persons who are disabled and unable to work for a year or more. Disability is defined as a mental or physical problem which prevents an individual from gaining and/or holding employment. Examples include: chronic back pain, arthritis, bad knees, seizures, chronic depression or mental illness. Call 1-800-772-1213 and apply at 1811 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis or 316 Robert Street, St. Paul.

APPLY FOR ALL PROGRAMS EXCEPT SSI AT THESE LOCATIONS.

CALL BEFORE YOU GO!

Hennepin County Human Services Department

330 S. 12th Street (Century Plaza)

612-596-1300

612-335-5837 (residents of Minneapolis)

952-930-3541 (suburban Hennepin County)

OR

Ramsey County Human Services

160 E. Kellogg

651-266-4444

Open 8 AM-5:45 PM

APPEALS: You have the right to appeal any decision about your benefits. To appeal means to have your case reviewed and your benefits reconsidered. *You must appeal a decision within 30 days. However, if you receive a termination notice, you need to appeal within 10 days.*

If you want your grant to continue, you will need to request that in writing within 10 days or it will NOT continue. Any benefits received during an appeal will be considered an overpayment if you lose the appeal.

Call a **CENTURY PLAZA ADVOCATE** at **612-348-8263** or call Ramsey County at 651-266-4444 and ask for a benefit appeals advocate.



TIP: THERE ARE SATELLITE OFFICES FOR THESE SERVICES IN SUBURBS. CALL THE COUNTY TO SEE IF THERE IS ONE CLOSE TO YOU.

WAYS TO GET CASH

It's hard to get cash. Here are a few ideas we've come up with.

GROVELAND FOOD FOR YOUTH

612-718-7521 (ask for Matt)

WHO: Age 23.

WHAT: Call on Monday before 10 AM for the opportunity to work for \$10/hour for a three hour shift. It may take a few weeks of calling before you can get a shift. This is not a part time job.

WHERE: 1900 Nicollet Avenue S., Minneapolis—in the basement of the Plymouth Congregational Church (on the Groveland Avenue side).

WHEN: Tue, Thu 4-7 PM, Fri 10 AM-1 PM



PLATO'S CLOSET

952-431-8494 or 952-941-6200; www.platoscloset.com

WHAT: Clothing store. Bring in gently used brand-name clothes and trade them for cash.

WHERE: Burnsville, Eden Prairie, Roseville, Minnetonka and others

HOW: Call for hours and closest location. Check out the Web site for a list of their "Most Wanted" items.



TIP: YOU CAN OFTEN TAKE A SURVEY AT THE MALL OF AMERICA OR SOUTHDAL MALL FOR CASH.

TEMP AGENCIES

For a list of temp agencies, go to www.puc-mn.org, click "News and Events" then "Community Resources" then "Employment."

AAA DAILY LABOR

612-871-2505

WHO: Anyone who is legal to work in the US and over 18. Must be able to do labor—some jobs require heavy lifting.

WHAT: Unskilled to semi-skilled temporary labor opportunities. Will transport worker to job if no bus access. On completion of job, get cash advance off check that day. Example: You will get \$30 that day if you worked 8 hours and get the rest of the money next Friday in a check.

WHERE: 1908 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: 365 days a year. Weekdays 5 AM-6 PM, weekends 5:30 AM-6 PM. *Best time to get work is early morning, between 5-7 AM.*

HOW: Come in and fill out an application anytime it's open. You're more likely to get work if you come in than if you call in or ask them to call you.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need government issued ID, Social Security card or work papers. Casual work dress (best: jeans, tennis shoes or work boots and T-shirt/sweatshirt). Does not drug test unless employer asks. Need minimal English.

LABOR ALL

651-917-5387

WHO: Anyone over 18 who is legal to work in the US.

WHAT: Unskilled to semi-skilled. Daily workers get a check that day. Longer term workers get a weekly check. Main skilled work is welding and construction.

WHERE: 2432 University Avenue, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 6 AM-4 PM. *Best time to come is early!*


HOW: Come in and fill out paperwork. Longer term work available depending on skills.

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need two forms of ID—state issued picture ID, Social Security card/birth certificate or passport.



FYI: SAFER SEX

- Every time you have sex you are putting yourself at risk for getting an STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection). Many STIs like chlamydia and gonorrhea can be cured with medicine and having your partner treated. Other STIs like herpes, genital warts and HIV have no cure.
- If you choose to have sex, always use a latex condom or dental dam with your partner when having vaginal, anal and oral sex. Condoms and dental dams work by protecting you from your partner's body fluids. Contact with infected body fluids and genital sores are the way STIs spread.
- Dental dams go over the vagina during oral sex; if you can't find a dental dam, cut the tip off of a condom and cut it down the side to make a protective sheet of latex.
- You can find out if you or your partner has an STI by getting tested regularly. Privacy laws at clinics will protect your personal information. Limiting your number of partners will also reduce risk.
- Agencies with this symbol  hand out free condoms, dental dams or lube.



These teen clinics only help you with sexual and reproductive health care.

ANNEX TEEN CLINIC

763-533-1316; www.mnteenhealth.org

WHO: Ages 12-23.

WHAT: Offers birth control, pelvic and STI exams and treatments, Plan B, pregnancy tests and all-options counseling, Depo-Provera shots, counseling, free hepatitis B vaccine and free birth control classes by appointment. You can pick up safer sex supplies without appointment. Sliding fee scale based on income for most services, but they do not turn people away who can't pay and do not bill them.

WHERE: 4915 42nd Avenue N., Robbinsdale, just west of the tracks between Hwys 100 and 81

WHEN: Mon, Wed, Fri 1-5 PM, Tue and Thu 1-8:30 PM. Closed most holidays. Wait time is usually five to seven days. Emergency appointments may be available.

BUS: 14, 52K

LANGUAGE: Basic Spanish and American Sign Language.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Can help with transportation if you have no other way. Not disability accessible, but will refer you to somewhere that is. If you have ID, you may qualify for the MN Family Planning program and get extra services free.



MN AIDS PROJECT

612-373-2437; www.mnaidsproject.org

WHAT: Provides information about HIV, including prevention, testing, treatment and general information. Information and referral to HIV and STD/STI testing,

prevention and services statewide. Chat line through Web site.

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-5:30 PM.

SAFEZONE (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

651-224-9644; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHAT: Free clinic that offers HIV testing and results in 20 minutes, answers to health questions and referrals to other health care services. Full STD/STI testing and pregnancy testing.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You must be sober while you are there. The first time you are there they will give you a tour and do a quick intake. They will want to know your name, age, address and a little about your current situation. They might ask for ID, but you don't need it. Wheelchair accessible. No warrant or background checks.



RED DOOR CLINIC OF THE HENNEPIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH CLINIC

612-543-5555; www.reddoorclinic.org

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: Walk-in clinic for HIV and STD testing, treatment and prevention. HIV test results in 20 minutes (\$20 donation suggested but not required). Ryan White Services for recently diagnosed HIV+ without insurance that gets you blood work and referrals. Support groups including Health Interventions for Men (HIM for gay and bisexual men), and the Sistas Intervention Services (SIS program for African American teen women). Services are either low-cost or free, based upon your ability to pay. No one is ever turned away for inability to pay.

WHERE: Health Services Building, 525 Portland Avenue, 4th Floor, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon 11 AM-7 PM, Tue-Fri 8 AM-4 PM.

HOW: Walk-in for treatment, call for specific program information.

BUS: 24, 5

LANGUAGE: Spanish and Somali.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Come 15 minutes before opening time; otherwise might have to wait over three hours. Minors don't have to be accompanied and parents don't have to be notified.



WEST SUBURBAN TEEN CLINIC

952-474-3251; www.westsuburbanteenclinic.org

WHO: Ages 12-23.

WHAT: Teen clinic that provides family planning (contraception, pregnancy tests, Plan B), HIV testing, short-term crisis counseling, health education, therapy, addiction intervention and assessment. Support program for pregnant and parenting women. Sliding fee based on income. No one is turned away for inability to pay. Give abortion referrals.

WHERE: 478 2nd Street, Excelsior

WHEN: Mon, Thu, Fri noon-5 PM, Tue noon-8 PM, Wed 10 AM-8 PM and Sat 10 AM-2 PM.

HOW: Call to make appointment for exams, counseling or classes. Walk-in for refills, Plan B, pregnancy test and information. Emergency spots available for urgent care.

LANGUAGE: Translation available.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must take a class and have exam to get the pill or the patch.



YOUTH AND AIDS PROJECT

612-627-6820; www.yapmn.com

WHAT: HIV Prevention education and case management services for HIV positive youth.

WHERE: 428 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis, 55403

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-5 PM, by appointment only.

YOUTHLINK HEALTH AND WELLNESS CLINIC

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1258; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 12-20.

WHAT: Outreach site of Community University Health Care Center. Complete health care for homeless youth and young adults. You can access STD testing and treatment, birth control, pregnancy testing and prenatal care, immunizations and illness and injury check-ups. Services are free. *Will help you apply for insurance.*

WHERE: YouthLink: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for hours.



This is not a youth specific clinic, but it is low-cost, offers many services (including abortion) and has multiple locations:

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

1-800-230-PLAN for a clinic; www.plannedparenthood.org

WHAT: Reproductive health services, including birth control, Plan B, safer sex supplies, STD testing and treatment, pregnancy testing, HPV vaccine, HIV testing, gynecological and male reproductive health services. Sliding fee scale is available for people without insurance or who are unable to pay.

WHERE: Many local clinics; call for locations, times and services.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Different clinics have different services; be sure to ask which clinic has the services you need. Also, ask about enrolling in the 4Now Plan, a way to get things like annual exams, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections identified during an annual exam, hormonal birth control and Plan B for free. Need picture ID of any kind.



If you are HIV+, check out this agency:

THE ALIVENESS PROJECT

612-822-7946; www.aliveness.org

WHO: Anyone who is HIV+.

WHAT: Hot, nutritious meals served six days a week, members-only food shelf (three to four days of meals for one person per week), acupuncture, Shiatsu Anma, Healing Touch, massage, chiropractic services, Reiki healing and help finding other forms of assistance for HIV+ members.

WHERE: 730 E. 38th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for program information.

HOW: Fill out a membership application by calling them or visiting their Web site. Then call the director of member services at 612-822-7946, ext. 202, and set up an orientation meeting and tour. They will verify your HIV status with your doctor or case manager, and then you will receive an Access Pass Card and number to present when using services.

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Sober space. Services are only available to registered

members. Require income verification and HIV+.



I'M PREGNANT OR A PARENT

PREGNANCY TESTING AND PRENATAL CARE

For pregnancy testing and prenatal care with all-options (including abortion) counseling, look in the last section.

This section has great resources to get a free pregnancy test and to get supplies for your baby. But they are anti-abortion agencies, *so if you are thinking about abortion they will try to convince you NOT to have one*. You may want support from somewhere else to help you make that decision, like the clinics in the last section.

CITY LIFE CENTER

612-874-1808; www.citylifecenter-mn.org

WHO: Any pregnant or parenting woman.

WHAT: Life Bags: diapers, sweaters, caps, soap, booties, blankets, bibles and food vouchers. Rental Assistance applications for pregnant women in crisis. Free pregnancy tests and free ultrasound. They can also refer you to other services.

WHERE: 1909 Nicollet Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Always call to set up an appointment and confirm eligibility.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need some sort of ID.



These agencies have many of the same services. Find the one closest to you:

MINNEAPOLIS:

BIRTHRIGHT: 612-338-2353

UNIVERSITY AREA NEW LIFE PREGNANCY CARE CENTER: 612-623-8378

SOUTH SIDE LIFE-CARE CENTER: 612-823-0301

NORTH SIDE LIFE-CARE CENTER: 612-522-6589

UNIVERSITY LIFE-CARE CENTER: 612-623-3211

ST. PAUL:

BIRTHRIGHT: 651-646-7033

LIFECARE CENTER EAST: 651-776-2328

HIGHLAND LIFE-CARE CENTER: 651-695-0111

PRO-LIFE ACTION MINISTRIES: 651-771-1500

NEW LIFE FAMILY SERVICES: 651-730-4342



ABORTION PROVIDERS

FYI: GETTING AN ABORTION IN MINNESOTA

In Minnesota, there is a mandatory waiting period for women who want an abortion. This means:

- A clinician must give a woman information about abortion either in person or

over the phone.

- The woman must then wait 24 hours before she can have an abortion.

If you are under 18, both of your parents must be notified before you can have an abortion. The clinic won't let you get an abortion without a note from at least one parent (and possibly both parents) saying that he/she/they are aware of your decision. You can get around this requirement with a judicial bypass, in which a judge rules that you are capable of making this decision without the informed consent or notification of your parents. For advice on how to get a judicial bypass, go to the Youth Law Clinic on Mondays 3:30-6 PM (see Legal Help section pg. 65).

There are many abortion providers, but this one is low-cost and does not require insurance. For other providers, call one of the reproductive health clinics in the last section and ask for a referral.

HIGHLAND PARK CLINIC—PLANNED PARENTHOOD

651-698-2406; www.plannedparenthood.org

WHAT: Abortion, tubal ligation, referral and patient education. Sliding fee based on income, family size and need.

WHERE: 1965 Ford Parkway, St. Paul

HOW: Call to make an appointment. Ask for an estimate of your fees at the time you make your appointment. Need state or foreign ID, school ID or a birth certificate.



PARENTING HELP

FYI: RIGHTS FOR UNDERAGE PARENTS

- Most low-income mothers will qualify for Medical Assistance (MA). If you are already receiving MFIP or General Assistance, you automatically qualify for MA.

- **Paternity** establishes the father of the child for legal purposes. Paternity can be established if both parents agree, or if the mother wins a paternity action in court. Fathers who have established paternity will probably be responsible for child support and/or visiting the child.

- Having a baby does not affect your rights in relation to your parent(s). You are not emancipated from them and cannot move out unless you have parental permission, a court order, are in the armed forces or are married. However:

- The mother of the child has legal and physical custody of the child. The mother can decide the child's name, as well. Additionally, the mother of the child can file assault charges or get an Order for Protection if someone is abusing her or the child.

FACE TO FACE CONNECT

651-772-5555 or 651-772-5590; www.face2face.org

WHO: Pregnant women ages 11-23 that are OB patients at the clinic.

WHAT: Classes for pregnant women about health, child birth, breast feeding, hospital tour and nutrition. If you complete a class, you get a pack and play crib. For every third appointment, get a \$5 gift card.

WHEN: Call to find out.

HOW: Meet with nurse practitioner and case manager and do a social and medical history intake.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Face to Face has a ton of services under one roof and is connected to SafeZone drop-in center.

YOUTH SAY: You get great supplies for participating.



FATHER PROJECT

612-724-3539;

<http://mnges.easterseals.com> (click "Services")

WHO: Men ages 16-30 who have a child or expect one and are not employed can be Father Project participants. All services are for participants only except parenting classes and GED program which are open to women. No active domestic abuse or sexual abuse charges.

WHAT: Parents: paternity establishment, parent and support groups (new topic every week like financial planning, health, discipline, relationships, mental illness, insurance, etc.), assistance with visitation or custody and child support assistance. **Education and employment:** GED and job search assistance (one-on-one job counseling). **Support:** one-on-one advocacy, counselor (sign up), empowerment group. **Health class:** attend three classes and get voucher for free care (one physical and one dental appointment).

WHERE: 1600 E. Lake Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-4:30 PM. Most intakes done Mon and Tue 10 AM-2 PM; otherwise you may have to wait. Orientation every other week Tue-Thu 9:45 AM-3 PM (light breakfast and lunch served). Drop-in for GED Tue-Thu 10 AM-4:30 PM. Call for parenting class times.

HOW: To become a Father Project participant, call or come in for 15 minute intake. If eligible, do three day orientation. Then you can do any program and have an advocate assigned to you. For GED and parenting class, anyone can drop-in.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need Social Security number. Do background checkups for domestic/sexual abuse charges. Other charges OK. Food always provided at groups. Participants get bus cards and tokens.

YOUTH SAY: They are a really helpful resource for fathers.

RAMSEY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TEEN PARENT PROGRAM

651-766-4062; www.co.ramsey.mn.us

WHAT: Teen and child health, effective parent-child interaction with positive parenting, assistance for high school and GED programs.

WHERE: 70 West County Rd B-2, Little Canada



BABY SUPPLIES

Baby supplies are available at many food shelves (mostly baby formula and often diapers). **GROVELAND FOOD FOR YOUTH** (pg. 11) and **PRISM FOOD FOR YOUTH** (pg. 11) both have these items. So do the pro-life clinics and parenting classes in the last section. Also, check out the MFIP assistance program on pg. 19 for long term assistance.



TIP: YOUTH RECOMMEND GETTING A SOCIAL WORKER SO YOU WILL HAVE HELP FINDING SUPPLIES FOR YOUR BABY.

For larger items like strollers and cribs:

MARIE SANDVIK CENTER

612-870-9617; www.mariesandvikcenter.org

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: Free store with ladies' clothing as well as baby supplies, often including

used strollers and cribs.

WHEN: Thu 1 PM.

WHERE: 1112 East Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis

BUS: 2

LANGUAGE: English, Spanish and American Sign Language.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: This is a Christian organization. They have a lot of programs that address spiritual needs. Handicap accessible.



LSS LIFE HAVEN SHELTER

651-776-9805

WHERE: 325 Jenks Street, St. Paul

WHAT: Sometimes have extra supplies. Call to find out.



TIP: DURING CHRISTMAS TIME, SIGN UP TO GET FREE SUPPLIES AND GIFTS FOR YOUR CHILDREN AT PLACES LIKE SALVATION ARMY OR CHURCHES.



CHILDCARE

Crisis nurseries are for parents who need short-term help immediately so they can get out of a bad situation.

GREATER MINNEAPOLIS CRISIS NURSERY

24 hour Parent Helpline: 763-591-0100

WHO: Legal guardians with children, newborn to 6 years old.

WHAT: 72 hour placement in the nursery. Can be used up to 30 days in a calendar year in three day intervals. If you use the crisis nursery more than three times you will be referred to the 4th Day Program, which provides access to more sustained support and case management for up to one and a half years.

WHEN: 24 hours a day.

WHERE: Multiple locations

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need some proof of county address. Need some sort of ID when picking up children to prove that you are the right person. No parent background checks.



For Crisis Nursery in Ramsey County, call 651-641-1300 or visit www.crisisnursery.org.

OAK PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER—PILLSBURY CRISIS NURSERY

24 hour crisis line 612-302-3500;

www.puc-mn.org/Default.aspx?tabid=347

WHO: Parents living in Hennepin County experiencing stress or crisis with children from 6 months to 12 years old.

WHAT: Temporary childcare. Day placements are at daycare centers or with home providers. Overnights are with foster parents. Advice is available on 24 hour crisis line.

WHERE: 1701 Oak Park Avenue N., Minneapolis

WHEN: Can do daytime placements every day and some overnight placements on Fri and Sat nights.

BUS: 19

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you can't speak English, you'll need to find a translator. Most providers only speak English. Need proof of address in Hennepin County.

No parent background checks.



INSTEP

612-871-1741; www.jabbokfamilyservices.org

WHO: Low income families with children ages 6 weeks to 12 years old living in the Whittier Neighborhood.

WHAT: Temporary drop-in center daycare for 40 kids. Families can use 22 hours per week. Costs 50 cents per hour. On-site workers can help you connect with other services. Provide breakfast and snacks.

WHERE: 2608 Blaisdell Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 8 AM-4 PM, Fri 8 AM-2:30 PM.

HOW: Call for appointment. Do half hour of paper work. Need child's immunization records.

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need Social Security number if you have one, MFIP or EBT case number, name and address of medical contacts and two emergency contacts. No parent background checks.



CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CCAP)

1-888-291-9811;

www.coveringallfamilies.org/Child_Care_Assistance_Program2.html

WHO: Low-income parents who make at least minimum wage if they are employed, work at least 20 hours a week, are job searching or are attending school.

WHAT: Helps families with the cost of childcare. Eligible families choose the type of care and provider that best meets their family's needs. The family pays a monthly co-payment based income.

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call 651-641-6665 to be screened for eligibility in Ramsey County. OR call 1-888-291-9811 to find the program in your area. Up to 30 days of wait after you have applied. *If you are on MFIP, ask your case manager about childcare assistance.*



TIP: MANY HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE TWIN CITIES HAVE FREE CHILDCARE CENTERS IN THEM. BROADWAY AND ARLINGTON SCHOOLS ARE GREAT SCHOOLS FOR PREGNANT OR PARENTING WOMEN.



This section can help you find a safe place to be if you can't live at home or if you have nowhere to go, for any reason.



SHELTER

FYI: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: YOUTH LIVING AWAY

FROM HOME

If you fear you will be hurt or neglected at home, tell that to the police or a county child protection worker. You can also call the agencies listed in this section. You can ask for a court order to let you live with someone else or on your own.

There are also certain legal procedures that allow you to live away from your parents.

- A **CHIPS** petition (Child in Need of Protective Services). The juvenile court can order you to live in foster care. If you are at least 16 years old, the court can order that you are allowed to live independently. The court decides what supervision you need. CHIPS cases are usually filed by the county, after child protection investigates, but you can file one with the help of a lawyer (see General Legal Services section, pg. 65).
- A **Delegation of Parental Authority (DOPA)**. Delegation means to give a right or duty to someone else. The DOPA is a paper your parents sign to let someone else act as the parent. It can last up to 12 months, and your parents can take it back at any time.
- An **Order for Protection (OFP)**. If your parents have abused you emotionally, physically or sexually, or contact with them is harmful, the court can order that they stay away from you or see you only under certain conditions. Some states have "emancipation" where a court orders that a youth is not under the parents' care or control and is on their own. There is no set process for emancipation in Minnesota, but emancipation is possible here. Call the Youth Law Project at 612-332-1441 to find out more.

FYI: HOW TO GET INTO SHELTERS

Shelters are safe places to stay for the night. Sadly, there are not enough shelters for all of the young people who need them. To get in a shelter, you may need to work very hard. You can try to get into shelter on your own or you can find someone to help you.

For help, call **StreetWorks** (612-252-2735) and tell them that you are trying to get into shelter. A StreetWorks outreach worker (OW) might be able to talk you through the process, help you make phone calls or give you bus tokens to get to a shelter. OR, go to a drop-in center (pg. 6). Someone there can sit with you and make phone calls.

If you want to do it on your own, **REMEMBER:**

- Be determined.
- Call as many places as you can.
- When people tell you "no," ask what your next steps should be.

WHO TO CALL

There are different types of shelter for different people. All of the shelters are described at the end of this section. Try calling shelters in this order:

FIRST RESPONSE FOR HELP: Call 211 or 651-291-0211 to find out which shelters you are eligible for and if they have space.

IF YOU ARE BEING ABUSED BY A PARTNER:

Domestic and sexual abuse shelters are for men, women and children who are being emotionally, physically or mentally abused. See pg. 30 for shelters.

YOUTH:

SINGLE YOUTH:

1. Call **The Bridge** and **Avenues** (Minneapolis) or **Ain Dah Yung** (St. Paul) or **YMCA Point Northwest** (in the NW Hennepin suburbs) because they take people 24 hours a day.
2. Next, try **Hope Street** (Minneapolis).
3. Next, call **LSS Safe House** (St. Paul) after 7 PM.
4. The last youth options are The Bridge, Hope Street and Avenues emergency spots (for crisis). Show up to The Bridge by 10 PM for a lottery for three spots or call Avenues by midnight to sleep on their couch.

MOMS WITH KIDS:

LSS Life Haven is the only youth shelter for moms with kids, but it has a long waiting list.

IF YOUTH SHELTERS ARE FULL:

Then, your next option is an adult shelter. Staying in an adult shelter can be scary or even dangerous for youth. Try to get into shelter in the order below to have the best experience. No matter where you stay, be safe. Demand extra attention because you are young. Find a staff person and tell them your name and age; ask them to watch out for you and check in with them. An adult staying at the shelter might try to help you out too but be careful; do not let them get too close to you. Try to get into a youth shelter the next night if you can.

SINGLE MEN:

1. Try **St. Stephen's**, **Simpson** or **Our Saviour's** in Minneapolis because these church shelters are smaller, safer and cleaner than other adult shelters. These three shelters have a lottery system.

THE LOTTERY for all three shelters is held at Simpson shelter (2740 1st Avenue) on Monday night at 6:30 PM. Arrive after 6 PM and sign up before 6:30 PM. You must be sober to sign up.

2. If you can't get to Minneapolis, try **Union Gospel Mission Hotel** in St. Paul (435 E. University Avenue). Sign up every night between 5:30 PM and 6:30 PM. You must attend a church service at 7:30 PM. There are 34 free beds and 55 \$6 beds.
3. If you do not get in, try to get vouchered into a shelter through the county.

THE VOUCHER SYSTEM can be very frustrating; this is something outreach workers can help you with.

Hennepin County: Before 5 PM, you will need to go down to Century Plaza (330 S. 12th Street, Minneapolis). After 5 PM, call 211 and ask for After Hours Shelter Team or 612-673-9138. At both places, you will have the best results if you say, "I am homeless in Hennepin County."

If you are under 18, you can still call the Shelter Team or call First Response at 612-821-4539. This local first response line helps youth who are abused or in crisis by working with Child Protection and shelter systems. No matter what, make it clear that you don't have anywhere else to go.

- Ramsey County: Intake is done in person at Family Place (244 10th Street) Mon-Fri 6:30 AM-6:30 PM and Sat/Sun 8:30 AM-6:30 PM. Last intake appointments are at 5 PM. Call 651-225-9357 to see if there are spaces.
4. If you can't get in a county shelter, then your last options are **Secure Waiting** and **Salvation Army Harbor Lights** in Minneapolis or **Dorothy Day** in St. Paul (see Shelter Details section below).

SINGLE WOMEN:

1. Try **Our Saviour's** in Minneapolis because this church shelter is smaller, safer and cleaner than other adult shelters. There are six beds for women in

a lottery system.

- THE LOTTERY** is for all three shelters is held at **Simpson** shelter (2740 1st Avenue) on Monday night at 6:30 PM. Arrive after 6 PM and sign up before 6:30 PM. You must be sober to sign up.
2. If you do not get in, try to get vouchered into a shelter through the county (see #3 in Single Men)
 3. If you can't get vouchered into a shelter, then your last options are Simpson's Women Shelter and **Salvation Army Harbor Lights**. Call nightly after 5 PM to reserve a bed at Simpson or show up around 4 PM to get into Harbor Lights (see Shelter Details section below).

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN:

1. First, try to get vouchered into a shelter through the county (see #3 in Single Men).
2. The last options are **Families Moving Forward** or **Mary's Place** in Minneapolis. Call FMF to set up an appointment for an intake (612-871-0095) Mon-Fri 8 AM-2 PM. Visit Sharing and Caring Hands (525 N. 7th Street) with your entire family Mon-Thu 10-11:30 AM or 1:30-3:30 PM to apply for shelter at Mary's Place.

IF YOU CAN'T GET INTO SHELTER AT ALL

If you are in danger in your home, you or an outreach worker can call **Child Protection Services** at 612-348-3552 in Hennepin County or 651-266-4500 in Ramsey County to report it. If you feel like you were wrongfully denied by Child Protection Services or the Shelter Team, call the **Youth Law Project** at 612-334-5970 in Hennepin County or **South Minnesota Regional Legal Services** at 651-222-4731 in Ramsey or other counties. Finally, see "Places to Hang Out at Night" on pg. 36 for a safe place to be.

SHELTER DETAILS



TIP: TO GET INTO SHELTER, ALWAYS CALL EARLIER THAN THEY TELL YOU TO. AND BE THERE WHEN THEY SAY TO OR SOMEONE ELSE WILL TAKE YOUR SPOT.

AIN DAH YUNG

651-227-4184; www.aindahyung.com

WHO: Single youth (without children) and pregnant women ages five to 17 with a focus on Native American youth. No youth who have history of sexual perpetration or arson, have been recently suicidal or have aggressive behavior.

WHAT: Emergency, short term shelter. Five male and five female beds. Fifteen-day stay during which they try to find you permanent housing and do family reunification and case management. Three meals a day plus snacks and small clothing closet. There are a lot of rules; all privileges (like phone access and outings) are decided by your legal guardian. Can use phone/address if job searching.

WHERE: 1089 Portland Avenue, St. Paul

WHEN: Call 24 hours a day for intake. Daytime is best time to call, especially if you need a ride. There is sometimes a waiting list.

LANGUAGE: Spanish and Ojibwa.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need to give name and birth date. You will be searched when you enter. Must be sober. Often do warrant checks. Staff follow the law and call police if need to. Trans can stay on the side they identify with. GLBTQ youth not common. Will run warrant if you leave without permission.

YOUTH SAY: There are a lot of rules, and staff are very involved in your personal issues. Staff will help you with whatever you need.



AVENUES FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

612-522-1690; www.avenuesforyouth.org

WHO: Single youth (without children) and pregnant women ages 15-20. No violent crime or sexual perpetration record.

WHAT: Emergency shelter: case management twice a week and pet therapy. No maximum stay. **Fifteen beds:** all doubles and one single. Weekly bus passes for clean room check. One chore per day. Meals provided. Small clothing closet with shoes and hygiene supplies. Storage space. Can use phone/address. Art club, large television, movies, weights, pool table and foosball table. Curfew and bedtime. Room checks every half hour at night. Get overnight passes from case manager. Free laundry, nice rooms and air conditioning. **Emergency bed:** couch reserved for crisis situation—show up at midnight.

WHERE: 1708 Oak Park Avenue N., Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for intake 24 hours a day.

BUS: 19

LANGUAGE: A few Spanish-speaking staff.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Automatic General Assistance paperwork at intake. Trans youth get own room or choose side. Sober. Need name and birthday for warrant check. No violent crime accepted; try to make arrangements for truancy or run warrants. Do not put out run warrant if you leave.

YOUTH SAY: It is a house so you feel like you are in a home, which is motivating.



THE BRIDGE

612-377-8800; www.bridgeforyouth.org

WHO: Single youth (no children) and pregnant women ages 10-17. No violent crime or sexual perpetration record.

WHAT: Emergency shelter: 14 emergency beds. Focus on family reunification. Open 24 hours a day. Provides meals, clothing, case management, life skills training, counseling and family reunification. Approximately three to five days. Meals served. **Emergency beds:** three late night beds. Arrive at 10 PM to get name in lottery. Must leave by 8 AM next morning. Storage for your stuff.

WHERE: 2200 Emerson Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: 24 hour intake, don't hold spots.

BUS: 6

LANGUAGE: Somali, Swahili and Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Outreach workers. Sober. No drug testing, but everyone is searched before entering. This shelter is for Hennepin County, so if you say you are from outside of Hennepin County, you may be billed. *Need ID for emergency beds.* Staff will check with parents of shelter residents. No warrant check. Hygiene and safer sex supplies. Don't have to get on GA. Will notify parents and police if you run.

YOUTH SAY: Good at reunifying you with your family or finding you somewhere else to stay.



HOPE STREET SHELTER

612-827-9372; www.cccspm.org/hope-street.aspx

WHO: Single youth (no children) or pregnant women ages 16-20.

WHAT: Emergency shelter: flexible 30-day stay. Case management, kitchen, day room with TV and pool table; culturally appropriate hair care, laundry and nurse. Curfew and bedtime. Support for any spiritual traditions. Bus tokens

provided every morning. Youth don't have to leave during day, but must be doing something constructive. Help getting on General and Medical Assistance if you want. Emergency bed reserved for crisis situations.

WHERE: 1121 East 46th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call 612-827-9372 for shelter. Between 1-7 PM call 612-729-9590.

HOW: Call to see if there is space. Intake when you arrive. You will be discharged if you don't show up for two days.

BUS: 5

LANGUAGE: Spanish and Somali speakers in building.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Trans youth can get their own room. No warrant checks.

YOUTH SAY: Case managers are flexible if you keep in contact with them. Three good meals a day.



LSS SAFE HOUSE

651-644-3446; www.lssmn.org

WHO: Single youth (no children) and pregnant women ages 16-20.

WHAT: Emergency shelter. Can stay 30 days and then reapply after three days. Clean place with dinner and breakfast, laundry, storage space and hygiene supplies. Chores and curfew. Bike library. Case managers help with goal setting, connecting to resources, health, education, employment and longer term housing. Use mailing address and phone. Get three tokens every morning.

WHERE: Private location.

WHEN: 7 PM-9 AM. You can't come until 8 PM.

HOW: First call first served. Call at 7 PM to see if there is space.

BUS: 21A

LANGUAGE: Two Spanish speakers and one Vietnamese speaker.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: No substances/weapons on property. Usually do not do warrant checks, but they can check. Staff will help take care of warrants but having one doesn't prohibit access. Criminal records considered case by case.

YOUTH SAY: It is a great place but small.



LSS LIFE HAVEN

651-776-9805; www.lssmn.org

WHO: Women ages 16 and 17 with children (if you are under 16, call to see if they can make an exception).

WHAT: Shelter in an air conditioned house with private bedrooms for six mothers and their children. Independent living skills (including cooking) and parenting classes are given. Fun activities in the house and in the community are arranged. Fridge is always full. Can stay three to six months. Clothing, blankets, baby supplies, a phone line and voicemail are provided. Curfew is 10 PM every day with one night out every other week.

WHERE: 325 Jenks Street, St. Paul

WHEN: 24 hours a day.

HOW: Call to get on list. Space varies. Sometimes people are placed quickly and other times the waiting list can be months long.

BUS: 71, 68

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Life Haven can help you get on MFIP. If you are on MFIP you have to be in school while you are there. Sobriety not required, but no chemicals allowed on the property. If you have a violent criminal history you need to be working on it somehow.



YMCA POINT NORTHWEST HOST HOME

763-535-4800;

www.ymcatwincities.org/locations/pnw_main.asp

WHO: Under 18. Need parent's permission. Residents of northwest Hennepin County only.

WHAT: Host home shelter program: stay for three to five days in a local family's home. Youth stay in home all day (except for school) and have to do activities with family. No chores.

HOW: Call 24 hour crisis line (763-493-3052) for 15 minute screening interview.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: No warrant or background checks. Will call police if leave without permission.



ADULT SHELTER DIRECTORY

You can get into these adult shelters on your own (see Who to Call on pg. 29).

MEN ONLY:

DOROTHY DAY CENTER: 651-293-1919,

183 Old 6th Street, Minneapolis

Arrive 8-10 PM. Open 9 PM-6 AM. Free mat on the floor with a wool blanket and no sheets.

YOUTH SAY: Most guests are older men so this can be a scary place for a single youth.

HENNEPIN COUNTY SECURE WAITING: 612-338-8093,

1000 Currie Avenue, Minneapolis

Open 5 PM-7 AM. Free mat on the floor, restrooms, showers and a light dinner. Beds upstairs for \$4 per night.

SIMPSON MEN: 612-874-8683 (day) 612-874-0306 (after 6 PM), 2740 1st Avenue, Minneapolis

See Lottery System on pg. 30. 45 beds for 28 days. Free hot dinner, simple breakfast, showers, laundry, storage, savings, health clinic, job prep/search and advocacy. Legal clinic on Monday nights. Guests who save 40 percent of their income can stay longer.

ST. STEPHEN'S: 612-874-9292,

2211 Clinton Avenue S., Minneapolis

See Lottery System on pg. 30. 43 beds for 28 days. Free breakfast, showers, weekend meals, laundry, medical care and job prep/search. Spanish speaking staff.

UNION GOSPEL MISSION HOTEL: 651-292-1721,

435 E. University Avenue, St. Paul

Sign up for shelter from 5:30-7:30 PM and must attend church service at 7:30 PM. 34 free emergency beds and 55 \$6 hotel beds. Free showers, breakfast and dinner. Free clothes from 5:30-7:30 PM.

WOMEN ONLY:

SIMPSON WOMEN: 612-874-8683 (day) 612-874-1330 (after 5 PM), 1900 11th Avenue S. (CES), Minneapolis

Twenty beds. Call nightly at 5 PM to save a spot. Free dinner, simple breakfast, shower, laundry and advocacy. Guests who save 40 percent of their income can stay longer. Note: most of the guests are older women with mental illness, so this can be a scary place for young girls to stay.

MEN AND WOMEN:

OUR SAVIOUR'S: 612-872-4193,

2219 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis

See Lottery System on pg. 30. 34 beds for men and six beds for women for 30 days. Longer stays possible. Free breakfast, dinner and showers.

SALVATION ARMY HARBOR LIGHTS: 612-338-0113,

1010 Currie Avenue, Minneapolis

Overnight for men: Free mat on the floor without blanket. Shower and food in the nutrition line. Show up around 7 PM to get in. Bed for the month costs \$8/night or \$50/week. Prefer ID and Social Security number. Can hold 130 clients in Safe Bay. No laundry. Pass out socks, underwear and T-shirts.

YOUTH SAY: Most guests are older men, so this shelter can be a scary place for a single youth. Not GLBTQ friendly.

Overnight for women (Sally's): Show up around 4 PM to get in. Free bed, shower, laundry and occasionally a locker.

FAMILIES:

FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD: 612-529-2185,

1808 Emerson Avenue N., Minneapolis

Beds for 32 single adults with children and couples with children for 45 days. Free meals, laundry and showers. Call for intake interview appointment Mon-Sun 7:30 AM-4:30 PM. Appointments are available Mon-Fri 11 AM-1 PM.

YOUTH SAY: This shelter is helpful, supportive and small.

MARY'S PLACE, SHARING AND CARING HANDS

612-338-4640; www.sharingandcaringhands.org

Shelter for families with two or more children for 30 days. Go to Sharing and Caring Hands (525 N. 7th Street) Mon-Thu 10-11:30 AM or 1:30-3:30 PM to apply for shelter. Must bring whole family to apply!

YOUTH SAY: Mary Jo loves kids.

You need to be vouchered into these adult shelters by the county (see *Voucher System* on pg. 30):

PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE: 612-277-0201,

614 S. 3rd Street, Minneapolis

The focus is on families with children, vulnerable women and youth. Single women share rooms.

ST. ANNE'S PLACE: 612-521-2128,

2634 Russell Avenue N., Minneapolis

Women and children. No men over age 18.

FAMILY PLACE/MARY HALL: 651-225-9357,

244 10th Street E., St. Paul

Women and children stay at Family Place in Maplewood and men stay at Mary Hall in St. Paul.

SALVATION ARMY—HARBOR LIGHTS: 612-338-0113,

1010 Currie Avenue, Minneapolis

Youth (18+) on GA or SSI should call Hennepin County to get first come first serve beds. You will have to pay for three to 19 days of one month stay depending on benefits.



FYI: WHAT IS ABUSE?

Call 911 if you are in immediate danger.

Domestic violence is when a family member or intimate partner hurts you or someone else in your family. The violence can be physical or emotional, it can be threats to you or people you love or it can be controlling behavior.

Sexual abuse is when someone does sexual things to you that you don't want them to do. This can include watching or touching you without your permission, forcing you to do sexual things that you don't want to do or having sex with you even though you say no or are under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Sexual

abuse is also called rape, sexual assault or date rape.

Anyone can be abusive and anyone can be abused. If you want to learn more about abuse, check out this Web site http://www.tubmanfamilyalliance.org/need_help/for_teens/index.html.

If you are in an abusive relationship or have been sexually abused, there are different shelters and agencies that can help you depending on your needs.

You can call the **BATTERED WOMEN'S HOTLINE** (even if you are not a woman) at 651-646-0994 for more information about abuse, crisis counseling and help finding shelter.

If you want to leave an abusive relationship or have left one and don't have anywhere to go, you can call the hotline or any of these shelters. If one is full, they will be able to help you find a shelter that isn't. Most shelters also offer legal and medical advocacy (help filing restraining orders or having a rape exam at a hospital), individual counseling, support groups and help finding financial assistance.

ALEXANDER HOUSE: 763-780-2330, Blaine
B. ROBERT LEWIS: 651-452-7288/651-437-129, Eagan/Hastings
CORNERSTONE: 952-884-0330, Bloomington **Serves men*
HOME FREE: 763-559-9008, Plymouth
SOJOURNER PROJECT: 952-933-7433, Hopkins
WOMEN'S ADVOCATES: 651-227-8284, St. Paul
EAGLE'S NEST/WOMEN OF NATIONS: 651-222-5830, St. Paul

AWU OF MN/HOUSE OF PEACE SHELTER, MINNEAPOLIS

CRISIS: 612-724-8823 or 612-724-4538

WHO: Any women and children (boys up to 15).

WHAT: Shelter for women and children in confidential location. Help filing orders for protection, getting financial assistance, legal referrals and advocacy. Refer to other shelters.

HOW: Call and do crisis intake.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You can stay here without ID for one night, but you will need ID or documentation after one day.

CASA DE ESPERANZA, ST. PAUL

CRISIS: 651-772-1611 or 651-772-1723; www.casadeesperanza.org

WHO: Any women with or without children. Male children up to age 18. Focus on Latinas.

WHAT: Shelter for women and children in confidential location. Help getting financial assistance and finding your own apartment. Shared rooms with other families. Can assign you an advocate without staying in shelter. Refer to other shelters if full.

HOW: Call crisis line 24 hours a day.

LANGUAGE: Spanish. They will find translators for other languages.



HARRIET TUBMAN, MINNEAPOLIS, LAKE ELMO, COTTAGE GROVE

CRISIS: 612-825-0000 or 612-825-3333;

www.tubmanfamilyalliance.org

WHO: Women and children can stay in the shelter. Support groups for men or women.

WHAT: 128 beds at three emergency shelters and 12 onsite transitional housing units. Makes referrals to other shelters when there is not space. Helps with orders for protection and other legal help. Support groups for people struggling with anger and violence—14 week program with couples counseling.

WHERE: 3111 1st Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: 24 hours a day.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Most of the guests are older women, so you may want to ask the Crisis Line worker for a more age-appropriate resource.

HCMC—SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCE SERVICE (SARS)

612-873-5832

WHO: Victims of rape and sexual assault.

WHAT: SARS provides a counselor to meet with rape and/or sexual assault victims and their families in the emergency department of HCMC and other participating hospitals to complete the evidentiary exam and to help them cope with the trauma and consequences of the assault.

RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE CENTER

612-374-9077; 24 crisis line 612-825-4357; www.neighborhoodinvolve.org

WHO: Ages 18 plus.

WHAT: Walk-in and phone crisis counseling related to rape and sexual abuse.

WHERE: 2431 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-5 PM, evenings by appointment.

SEXUAL OFFENSE SERVICES OF RAMSEY COUNTY

651-643-3006 (24 hour), 651-643-3022 (Business Line);

<http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/ph/yas/sos.htm>

WHO: Anyone (primary or secondary) that is a victim of sexual violence.

WHAT: crisis supportive counseling for victims, friends and families that are affected by sexual violence; advocacy, referrals, emergency services, medical outreach to Regions Hospital, support groups, 24 hour crisis line.

WHERE: 1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite #201, St. Paul

WHEN: 24 hour crisis line; office open 8:30 AM-5 PM, 24 hour medical outreach.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: All services are free and confidential.

Here are some support groups for survivors of domestic or sexual abuse:

AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY SERVICES

(see Mental Health section, pg. 17)

612-871-7878; www.aafs.org

WHO: Anyone, focus on African Americans.

WHAT: SAFE—Sistas Advocating For Empowerment: domestic violence and anger management focus for women (18+). MOVE—Men Opposing Violence: anger management for men (18+).

WHERE: 2616 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis (main office—two in Minneapolis and one in St. Paul).

WHEN: Mon and Tue 8 AM-7 PM, Wed and Thu 8 AM-9 PM. Closed Fri.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID or documentation. If you have insurance, bring information.

FACE TO FACE (see Education section, pg. 39)

651-772-5544

WHO: Girls ages 13-17.

WHAT: Gender Group: Thursday evenings Let's Talk and Safe Talk Support Groups: work with girls that have been sexually abused Tuesday afternoons. Safe Talk same thing. Open to anyone.



PLACES TO HANG OUT

Drop-in and community centers (pgs. 6 and 7) are great places to hang out and get connected with services. These are other safe places to go during the day that have more opportunities for recreation and connecting with your community; most are free and some are low-cost.

DURING THE DAY

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

www.boysandgirls.org

WHO: Ages 6-18.

WHAT: Clubs for youth include job skills, goal planning, leadership, homework help, health and life skills, art, sports, fitness, recreation, gang prevention and family support.

Membership is \$5 a year. No one has ever been turned away, and there are ways to "earn" membership. To register, bring your legal guardian to a Club and ask for an application.

WHERE: Visit the Web site to find the Twin Cities location near you.

WHEN: Club hours: 3-9 PM regularly and 11 AM-7 PM in the summer.

HOSPITALITY HOUSE

612-522-4485; www.hhyd.org

WHO: Anyone. Membership is \$30 a year but negotiable if you cannot pay. Can enroll without parents.

WHAT: Recreation: open gym, African drum and dance, baseball, basketball, track teams, movie nights on Saturday and midnight basketball for ages 16 to 22. Groups: Sista' to Sista' helps girls ages 11 to 17 improve their self-esteem, behavior in school, academic performance, social skills, personal relationships and emotional and spiritual development. Wise Guys is for 10 to 17 year old boys to help prevent teen pregnancy and teach about responsibility. Teen Mom Support Group.

WHERE: 1220 Logan Avenue N., Minneapolis

WHEN: Summer: 8 AM-5:30 PM. School year: 1-6 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Provide transportation and snacks at all groups and events.

JACK PINE COMMUNITY CENTER

612-729-2837; www.thejackpine.org

WHO: Anyone. Homeless and traveling youth are warmly welcomed.

WHAT: The Jack Pine is a family-friendly space for skill sharing, events, meetings and art. Collectively run community space with recreation, meeting space, workshops and events. Free internet and library. Call or check online for events. Events open and free to the public.

WHERE: 2815 East Lake Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Drop-in Mon noon-8 PM, Tue noon-6 PM, Wed 4 PM-midnight, Thu 4-8 PM, Fri midnight-4 PM, Sat noon-5 PM, Sun 5 PM-midnight.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: No drugs or alcohol allowed.



NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE (WELLSTONE CENTER)

651-789-2531 (Life Connections), 651-789-2517 (Youth Leadership)

WHO: Youth programs are for youth ages 6-18 who are in school.

WHAT: Youth leadership programs: health education and indoor athletics,

computer skills classes and internet access.

WHERE: 179 Robie Street E., St. Paul

WHEN: Neighborhood House Youth Center (ages 6-18) is open 1-7 PM, Neighborhood House is open 2-8 PM.

HOW: Drop by and hang out in Youth Center. Case managers and social workers available by referral.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: To register for Youth Center, need form signed by parent. If homeless, talk to director for special provisions.



AT NIGHT

At night most agencies are closed. Here are some safe places to go late at night if you have nowhere else to be. Remember, these are not social services and you'll need money to buy something.

HARD TIMES CAFÉ

612-341-9261

WHAT: Vegetarian, hangout for punkers, artists, students, etc. Good coffee for \$1.

WHERE: 1821 Riverside Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: 6 AM-4 AM.



PERKINS

Open all night. Call 612-866-4021 for locations. You will have to buy something to stay there.

BUS LINES 16 AND 5 RUN ALL NIGHT

The 16 goes between downtown St. Paul and downtown Minneapolis and the 5 runs in Minneapolis.



THE UPTOWN BUS SHELTER IS OPEN ALL NIGHT, AND IT IS HEATED.



SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY



YOU CAN GET A SHOWER AND DO LAUNDRY AT MANY DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE TWIN CITIES, INCLUDING ADULT SHELTERS. HOWEVER, MANY YOUNG PEOPLE FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE GOING TO YOUTH DROP-IN CENTERS BECAUSE THE SHOWERS ARE CLEANER AND YOU HAVE MORE PRIVACY.

SAFEZONE (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

651-224-9644; www.face2face.org

WHO: Youth ages 14-20.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.

YOUTH SAY: It is safe and clean.



YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-20.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM.

YOUTH SAY: It is safe and clean.



STORAGE

YouthLink and SafeZone offer small, secure storage lockers on a first come first served basis.



IF YOU ARE LEAVING OR WERE FORCED TO LEAVE A PROGRAM (SUCH AS A YOUTH SHELTER OR A TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM), ASK THE STAFF IF THEY CAN STORE YOUR THINGS UNTIL YOU HAVE A PLACE TO PUT THEM.



PHONE, VOICEMAIL AND ADDRESS

YouthLink and SafeZone also let you use their phone. Many agencies let you use their address to have things like an ID sent to you. Many agencies can hook you up with voicemail through this service.

TWIN CITIES VOICEMAIL (TCV)

651-643-0883

WHO: Low-income people looking for jobs or housing, survivors of domestic violence or abuse or people who need to stay in contact with their doctor.

WHAT: Free voicemail service.

HOW: Ask your case manager to sign you up. Or call TCV for a list of agencies that can sign you up.



A GOOD ADDRESS IS IMPORTANT. FIND A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN TRUST THE PEOPLE TO SAVE YOUR MAIL AND GET IT TO YOU.

I WANT TO GET BACK
IN SCHOOL. GET MY
GED OR FIND A JOB...



EDUCATION

FYI: YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ATTEND SCHOOL

Students in homeless situations have the right to:

- Go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there.
- Continue in the school they attended before they became homeless.
- Get transportation to the school they attended before they became homeless,

if possible.

- Get the same programs and services that are provided to all other youth.
- Automatically qualify for free breakfast and lunch.
- Enroll in a new school without immunization, proof of residential status, school records, proof of guardianship or other documents.
- Go to school with children who are not homeless.
- Get information and referrals to health, mental health, dental and other services.
- Have school enrollment disagreements settled quickly and go to the school they chose while disagreements are settled.

A **HOMELESS SCHOOL LIAISON** can help you enroll in school, retrieve records and find transportation, school supplies, homework help or other services. Call 651-632-3788 or 612-668-5480.

FYI: SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- You have to go to school if you are 16 or younger. If you skip school, you can be charged with truancy in juvenile court. Your school may drop you if you skip over 15 days in a year.
- If you are 16 to 18 years old and you want to drop out, you have to have a meeting with your parents and school staff. You and your parents have to sign a written statement.
- If you get MFIP, you must go to school until you graduate, get a GED or turn 18.
- If you are 18 to 20 years old and getting MFIP, you can decide if you want to keep going to school or go to work. You have to choose one or the other or you will lose your MFIP benefits.

FYI: GED

A GED is a General Education Development. It shows that you have an educational experience that is the same as earning a high school diploma. To earn a GED, you have to take a test. You are eligible to take the GED test if:

- You are at least 19.
- If you are age 16-18 and you meet certain requirements and submit an age waiver form. You are eligible if you have been out of school for at least a year, or if your high school class has graduated or in many other circumstances.

You can get an **Age Waiver Form** and find out more information about GED age waivers and test centers by calling GED Testing at 651-582-8445 or at this Web site <http://mnabe.themlc.org/GED>.

If you are working on your GED, these tutoring programs can help you prepare for the test. Most of the programs under the Education and Employment section also offer GED tutoring.



SOME EMPLOYERS PREFER A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OVER A GED, SO IF YOU HAVE A CHOICE, TRY AND FINISH YOUR DIPLOMA.

If you are in school and need help with your homework you can call the **HOMEWORK HELPLINE** at 1-800-866-BIGY. Teachers available Mon-Thu 4-7 PM.

SAFEZONE GED TUTORING (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

651-224-9644; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHAT: Mon-Thu a teacher can help you get back in school, provide homework help, earn your GED or anything educational.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul
WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.
BUS: 61, 64

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You must be sober while you are there. The first time you are there they will give you a tour and do a quick intake. They will want to know your name, age, address and a little about your current situation. They might ask for ID. Wheelchair accessible. No warrant or background checks.



YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS GED TUTORING

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)
612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org
WHO: Ages 16-20.

WHAT: Drop-in center that has a GED tutoring program.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: All services free. Call for GED tutoring hours.

YOUTH SAY: GED program is good, and you get an award when you finish.



If you are looking for an alternative to traditional schools, there are many **alternative learning centers** in the Twin Cities. You can find out more about these schools by looking at www.centerforschoolchange.org. One alternative school is:

FACE TO FACE ACADEMY

651-772-5544; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 15-19 who have completed the 8th grade.

WHAT: A year-round charter school for youth who are struggling in traditional schools. About 60 students. Electives geared toward youths' skills. Also has a medical clinic, mental health and counseling services, parenting classes and youth groups. Medical clinic for colds, STIs, pregnancy tests and prenatal care. Prenatal classes: finish one and get a free crib.

WHERE: 1165 Arcade Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Orientations first Wed of the month at 5 PM to get on the waiting list (unless it's a holiday).

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Face to Face has a ton of services all in one location and is connected to SafeZone drop-in center.

This program helps you go to college:

FANS

WHO: Youth of color from inner city Minneapolis in grades 8-12.

WHAT: College preparation program. Youth and staff work together and develop plans to meet goals like delaying parenthood, resisting drugs, contributing to the community and going to college. Helps you find scholarships, prepare for the ACT/SAT tests and look at career opportunities and college programs. Participating youth who fulfill the requirements are *eligible to earn \$2,000 each year (up to \$10,000) in college scholarships* that are held in trust until you graduate high school.

WHERE: FANS is offered at:

OAK PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER: 1701 Oak Park Avenue N., Minneapolis or 612-377-7000

BRIAN COYLE CENTER: 420 15th Avenue S., Minneapolis or 612-338-5282

PILLSBURY HOUSE: 3501 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis or

612-824-0708

WAITE HOUSE: 2529 13th Avenue S., Minneapolis or 612-721-1681

WHEN: FANS is year-round with weekly meetings.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Parental involvement is preferred, but youth living independently are still eligible.



EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Some agencies combine education and employment programs because education helps you get and keep a job.

AMERICAN INDIAN OIC

612-341-3358; www.aimovement.org

WHO: Each program is different. GED: 16 or older with parent/guardian waiver. High school diploma: grades 9-12. WIP: *Native Americans* who are 18+ and live in Hennepin County. WIA: low income youth ages 14-21 who live in Hennepin County.

WHAT: Get your GED or high school diploma. The three employment programs (Minneapolis Employment Training, WIP and WIA) help you with life skills, work readiness, job skills, applying for college and financial aid for college.

WHERE: 1845 E. Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8 AM-4:30 PM.

HOW: Contact Betsy Green ext. 129 to schedule an appointment for WIP or WIA. Call for orientation times for other programs.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID and Social Security number for employment programs.

EMPLOYMENT ACTION CENTER—YOUTH FUTURES

612-752-8800 (ask for Youth Futures), 612-377-6300 (Northside location); www.eac-mn.org

WHO: Low-income youth ages 14-21 that live in (or are homeless in) Minneapolis.

WHAT: Help with setting education goals, GED testing and researching educational options for after completion of high school (FAFSA and scholarships), employment services such as bus cards (sometimes), résumé writing and interview practice.

WHERE: 900 20th Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8 AM-4:30 PM.

BUS: 55, 2

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Walk-in or appointment. If you have proof of Minneapolis residency bring it. Need Social Security number or something to prove citizenship or legal status. Will work with homeless youth.

FATHER PROJECT (see Parenting Help section, pg. 25)

612-724-3539; www.goodwilleasterseals.org

WHO: 16-30 year old men who have a child or expect one and are not employed. All services for participants only, except for GED program which is open to women. *No active domestic abuse or sexual abuse charges.*

WHAT: GED (open to anyone including women, drop-in Tue-Thu 10 AM-4:30 PM) and job search assistance (one-on-one job counseling).

WHERE: 1600 E Lake Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-4:30 PM. Intakes done mostly on Mon and Tue 10 AM-2 PM, otherwise may have to wait. Orientation every other week Tue-Thu 9:45 AM-3 PM (light breakfast and lunch served).

HOW: To become a Father Project participant, call or come in for 15 minute intake.

If eligible, do three day orientation. Then you can do any program and have an advocate assigned to you. For GED and parenting class, anyone can drop-in.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need Social Security number. Do background checks for domestic/sexual abuse charges; other charges are OK. Food always provided at groups. Participants get bus cards and tokens.

JOB CORPS

1-800-934-5627; http://jobcorps.dol.gov/centers/MN.htm

WHO: Legal US residents ages 16-24, 290 spots. Two year limit (don't have to leave on 25th birthday). Must qualify as low income and be free of any legal/criminal complications. No active legal issues. No felony convictions and no violent misdemeanors.

WHAT: Seven to 12 month job training and education program: get your GED or high school diploma and job training. Must take academic classes unless you already have a GED or high school degree and pass the test. Classes and training are Mon-Fri 8 AM-3:40 PM. Cannot have a job for the first six months and can only work part time after that. *Live in:* 290 residential spots. Has curfew. Friends and family can visit. Counseling and support services available. Very few non-residential spots. Students who do not live in get bus cards for transportation. During the program: *no cost. Full room and board, meals, basic medical, dental and vision care covered. Get \$25/week for other basic needs.*

After the program: helps you find a job or apartment or enroll in college or the military after program is over. *Get up to \$1200 to help out.*

WHERE: 1480 Snelling Avenue N., St. Paul

WHEN: Year-round enrollment.

HOW: Enroll by calling 1-800-934-5627 for an eligibility screening. If you are eligible, you will receive an application and an enrollment counselor. The average wait is two to 10 weeks.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Will be kicked out for drug or alcohol use, sex on campus, gang activity or violence. No special accommodations for GLBTQ youth—trans will be placed in biological sex dorm.

YOUTH SAY: You have to go to school every day, but it is a great program.

PROJECT SOLO/FREEPORT WEST

612-874-1936

WHO: Ages 16-19 can enroll; can stay until age 21. Youth living anywhere.

WHAT: Offers case management, GED tutoring, homework help, help finding a job, writing a résumé and cover letter, filling out applications, independent living skills, food and a transitional living program.

WHERE: 2222 Park Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 11 AM-8 PM, Fri 12-5 PM

BUS: 5

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: SOLO is not a drop-in center. You have to enroll in person between 1-4:30 PM on Mon, Tue or Wed to access any of its services. You can be there to during open hours to work on something productive.



SABATHANI COMMUNITY CENTER—LIFE SKILLS CENTER

612-827-5981; www.sabathani.org

WHO: Residents of South Minneapolis, ages 16 and up.

WHAT: Prepares adults 16 and older for the workforce through GED and college/trade exam preparation, tutoring in math and reading, computer skills, *English language learners*, adult basic education and citizenship classes.

WHERE: 310 East 38th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for hours.

EMPLOYMENT

These programs only have job training and job placement opportunities.

COOKIE CART

612-521-0855 (press 2 to apply); www.cookiecart.org

WHO: Neighborhood youth (Northside) ages 14-17.

WHAT: Cookie bakery program provides first job opportunity to youth along with business skills to transition into employment.

WHERE: 1119 W. Broadway Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-5 PM.

EMERGE

612-529-9267; www.puc-mn.org

WHO: Ages 18 and older, ex-offenders 18 and older. Rarely someone under 18.

WHAT: Several employment services. Northside Job Connections helps ex-offenders who are over 18 find and hold jobs through résumé building, soft skills training, connection to employers, advocacy and transportation. Call to set up an appointment and to do paperwork. City Skills and NET provide assessment, job coaching, soft skills training and résumé building. City Skills is for anyone over 18, NET is for Minneapolis residents. Emerge Staffing places people in jobs and is open to anyone, but they rarely have job openings for those under 18.

WHERE: 1101 West Broadway, Minneapolis

WHEN: You must attend orientation for City Skills, NET and Emerge Staffing.

Orientation is twice a month. Call or stop in to reserve a seat with the receptionist—only 25 spots at each orientation.

LANGUAGE: NET has Spanish speaking staff.

GOODWILL/EASTER SEALS

651-379-5800 (press 2 for "Training Programs");

www.goodwilleasterseals.org

WHO: Ages 16 and older who have experienced a barrier to employment. Many skills programs are 18 and older. The only way to see if you qualify is to call an intake worker and find out.

WHAT: Work experience program (positions available at Goodwill stores) and skill training programs (automotive, banking, construction, retail, customer service).

WHERE: Main office is 553 Fairview Avenue N., St. Paul (many other sites in area)

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-6 PM. Closed holidays.

HOW: Call one of the following intake lines to find out if you are eligible. If so, the intake worker will set up an appointment to meet with you to complete paperwork, introduce you to services and set a start date.

- If you are out of work through no fault of your own and are in Hennepin County call 612-824-7810.

- If you are out of work through no fault of your own and are in Ramsey County call 651-379-5957.

- For job placement or retention in the Twin Cities Metro Area call 651-379-5994.

- For skill training in the Twin Cities Metro Area call 651-379-5879.

- For employment services for those just released from prison, call 651-379-5972.

HIRED

651-642-0363; www.hired.org

WHO: Ages 18 and older. Need at-risk status, federal poverty income guidelines, must be homeless, pregnant or parenting teen, basic skills deficient, second language speaker, juvenile offender or drop-out.

WHAT: Case managers can help youth with a job search, submitting applications and résumés, connecting with social services providers and setting up and preparing for interviews. Bus cards and other supportive services available.

WHERE: 379 University Avenue, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Contact Carol Aharoni at 651-999-5655.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need Social Security card and photo ID.

LORING NICOLLET-BETHLEHEM CENTER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

612-872-2770; www.lnbcc.org

WHO: Ages 14-21.

WHAT: Youth employment program that offers individual employment assistance with job referrals and training. Services include assessments, job search, assistance, soft skills training, résumé writing, interviewing techniques and transportation assistance (discount bus passes for eligible participants). Can often place youth in jobs.

WHERE: 1925 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for program hours.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Functional English needed. ID and Social Security card needed. Can work with undocumented youth but often cannot find job placements. Companies may require background checks.

RAMSEY COUNTY WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS—YOUTHLEAD

651-770-4499; www.co.ramsey.mn.us/workforce/Youth.htm

WHO: Ramsey County youth ages 17-21, who have a disability, speak limited English, are chemically dependent, are a parent, are pregnant, are/were in foster care, have a criminal record, are/were homeless or runaway, did not finish high school, lack basic skills, are low-income, are behind in school or are the child of a drug or alcohol user.

WHAT: Employment training, help with applications, résumés and job keeping skills.

WHERE: Contact any of these agencies to enroll:

- **Employment Action Center and Lifetrack Resources:** 709 University Avenue, St. Paul; 651-265-2359 or 612-752-8008.

- **Guadalupe Alternative Program:** 381 East Robie Street, St. Paul; 651-222-0757.

- **HIRED St. Paul Workforce Center:** 540 Fairview Avenue, St. Paul; 651-642-0756.

- **Hmong American Partnership:** 1075 Arcade Street, St. Paul; 651-495-1542.

- **Workforce Solutions St. Paul Workforce Center:** 540 Fairview Avenue, St. Paul; 651-642-0749 or 651-642-0750.

- **YWCA:** 375 Selby Avenue, St. Paul; 651-222-3741.

- **Workforce Solutions:** 2098 11th Avenue E., North St. Paul; 651-779-5164 or 651-779-5136.

WHEN: Year-round, usually with weekly meetings.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You need to be able to prove your age with an ID or school record. You need a Social Security card. There is often a waiting list. Must have functional English.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY HOME (SEARCH)

612-673-9388

WHO: Low income youth living in Minneapolis, ages 17-21; or refugees who have been in the United States for less than five years.

WHAT: Youth employment program that can help you find full time or part time work.

WHERE: 1113 East Franklin Avenue, Suite 212, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8 AM-5 PM.

LANGUAGE: Vietnamese, Laotian, Hmong, Cambodian and Somali.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need to be able to prove your age (some form of ID) and income. Social Security number is also needed.

TREE TRUST

651-644-5800; www.treetrust.org

WHO: Ages 17-24, completed or dropped out of school from Hennepin County. Ex-offenders welcome. Must speak functional English.

WHAT: Young Adult Conservation Corps is three to six month on the job training in landscape or construction. Get a pre-apprenticeship certificate for construction. Start at \$7 per hour.

WHERE: 2350 Wycliff Street, Suite 200, St. Paul

WHEN: Office open Mon-Fri 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

HOW: Call and ask for an application.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Cannot be undocumented; need ID.



Living in your own place is especially difficult for young people. Landlords don't like to rent to people with no rental history. These agencies in this section can help you find, afford and keep an apartment.

TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAMS

Transitional Living Programs (TLPs) are for young people who are homeless or don't have a stable living situation. Different programs offer different levels of support and independence, depending on how much help you need. Some rent apartments to youth in one big building, while others help you find an apartment where you want to live.

Many TLPs are subsidized, so you don't have to pay a lot for rent. Most help you sign your own lease, build a rental history and teach you important skills like money management and housekeeping that can ensure that you make payments on time, keep your landlord happy and keep your place.

AVENUES GLBTQ HOST HOME PROGRAM (see GLBTQ section, pg. 61)

612-522-1690; www.avenuesforyouth.org

ARCHDALE APARTMENTS

612-253-1460; www.youthlinkmn.org/housing

WHO: Homeless youth ages 16 and up who are working or in school. Pregnant women and teen parents with one child allowed. No couples. Must be Section 8 eligible—no outstanding warrants or felonies.

WHAT: Transitional living program: 30 units, plus seven units off-site. Two programs to choose from—six months or two years. (Can stay indefinitely in six month program. Two year program requires new apartment upon completion.) Affordable housing combined with case management, life skills classes, GED, job search and a psychologist. No curfew, can have visitors. Drug tests/room checks if suspected. Must pay 30 percent of income for rent and pay for own electronics.

WHERE: 1600 1st Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: Can call 24 hours a day.

HOW: There is a waiting list. Turn in application in-person to office at Archdale or Barnabas. Must provide three month living situation history as part of

application.

BUS: 18

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Completely drug free and sober. Not disability accessible. Need Social Security card or green card, state ID, birth certificate or yellow slip showing you have applied for state ID.



BARNABAS TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM

612-253-0630; www.youthlinkmn.org/housing

WHAT: The same as Archdale Program except there's a focus on mental health with on-site therapists and access to low-cost medications. Disability accessible.

WHERE: 906 South 7th Street, Minneapolis



BEVERLY BENJAMIN/AIN DAH YUNG YOUTH LODGE PROGRAM

651-632-8923; www.aindahyung.com

WHO: Ages 16-20. Native youth and old shelter residents given preference. No youth with county contact (parole officers or social workers), no couples and no parents with kids. Pregnant women have to leave two weeks before their due date. Criminal histories looked at on a case-by-case basis.

WHAT: Six spots in 18 month program in community home with single and double rooms. Housing is combined with independent living skills, education and employment help, transportation and case management. Has curfew but fewer rules than Ain Dah Yung shelter. Help with rent after completion.

WHERE: 1212 Raymond Avenue, St. Paul

WHEN: Often one bed open, call for openings.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID.

THE BRIDGE (HYP)

612-377-8800; www.bridgeforyouth.org

WHO: Ages 16-21, no parents with children, no couples.

WHAT: Transitional Living Program (HYP): youth ages 16-21 who cannot return home and need a safe and supportive place to live. Independent living skills and transition into a safe, permanent living situation. Independent 365-Permanent Housing: 20 apartments for youth ages 17-21 (scattered site) who need a permanent place to live while working or going to school. Year-long program. Need income to pay for half of rent (up to \$300) and other expenses. The Bridge also has a 24 hour walk-in counselor: open to anyone in community, a 24 hour crisis line: (612-377-8800) and groups for community. Groups: Circle Group (Thu 6-9 PM), Hip Hop Group (Wed 6-9 PM), Women's Group and Men's Group: (Mon 5-6:30 PM), So What If I Am (GLBTQ) (Sat 10 AM-noon), and Chemical Health Group (Wed 5-6:30 PM) for 16-21 year olds.

WHERE: 2200 Emerson Avenue S., Minneapolis

HOW: Call to get on waiting list for HYP. Independent 365 is first come first serve, but you need to be referred by your case manager and do an application and interview.

BUS: 6

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Outreach workers available, sober space.

YOUTH SAY: They help you find a job and a place to stay quickly.



HOPE STREET TRANSITIONAL HOUSE

www.ccspm.org/hope-street.asp

WHO: Males only. Apply by 20th birthday.

WHAT: 24-month transitional housing. Six single occupancy bedrooms.

Independent living skills training, educational and employment support, counseling, therapy and case management services. Bus cards provided. Have rules but pretty flexible. No curfew. Can get nights out. Meet weekly with case manager and have house meetings. Help obtaining ID. Pay portion of income towards rent that is given back at end of stay. Must work on goals.

WHERE: 36th Street and 13th Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call weekdays for application information.

HOW: Call 612-827-9371 to be referred to a case manager and begin this application process.

BUS: Between routes 5 and 14.



LINDQUIST APARTMENTS

612-287-1670

WHO: Anyone 16 or older who is not undocumented.

WHAT: Permanent, supportive, sober housing. You can stay as long as you need to. Case management, independent living skills, tutoring, GED and employment help are provided. 24 single occupancy furnished studios. You start with a one-year lease, and after that you rent month to month. You have to pay 30 percent of your income as rent. Guests must be out by 10 PM on weeknights and midnight on weekends, and residents can have two overnights per week. Program offers access to YMCA, a book lending library, a computer lab, half price bus cards and free things like condoms, some bus tokens, hygiene products. Groceries (\$50) are provided at the beginning.

WHERE: 1931 West Broadway Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call anytime. Applications available at www.lifesmissinglink.com/Lindquist_Application_Materials.html.

HOW: Call. The intake is a three to four month process that involves interviewing with the building manager, the public housing authority and the program.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You need to be able to prove you are homeless (with a verification that you are staying at a shelter) or disabled. A background check is involved, so you can't have a history of arson, violent or sexual crimes.

Preference is given to youth who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, disabled, receiving case management from another youth serving agency, referred by the Hearth Connections Mobile Unit, or who have been in and out of home placement (like jail or foster care). You must be able to pass a drug test when you sign the lease.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES—TLP

651-644-7739; www.lssmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-21 who are homeless or precariously housed and from Ramsey County.

WHAT: Helps you find an apartment to lease at market rates. Case management and life skills training are provided. Six to 10 bus tokens every other week.

WHERE: Office: 501 Asbury Street, St. Paul

HOW: If you are interested you need to go to an informational meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 2 PM (call for information). Then you can set up an appointment to interview for the program.

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need to earn enough income to pay market-rate rent. Small subsidy provides for six months. You should know your Social Security number and have pay stubs to prove your income. If you are a couple, both of you must be 16-21 and you must have a child to be eligible. You don't have to be sober to be in this program. Ex-offenders are welcome.



LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES—REZEK HOUSE

651-644-7739; www.lssmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-21 who are homeless—on the streets or in a shelter—and from Ramsey County. Single youth and parents with one child.

WHAT: Two-year transitional housing program, 12 furnished apartments, case management, independent living skills, advocacy, basic needs supplies, tokens/ bus passes and tutoring provided. Pay 30 percent of income toward rent or, if no income, volunteer hours count as in-kind rent payment. Guests must be out by midnight Sun-Thu, 1 AM Fri and Sat. No chemicals on the property.

WHERE: 503 Asbury Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Come to an informational meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 2 PM at 501 Asbury St. to begin application process. There is a wait list, usually six to nine months of wait.



PROJECT SOLO—TLP

(see Education and Employment section, pg. 41)

612-874-1936

WHO: Ages 16-19 can enroll; can stay until age 21.

WHAT: Transitional living program. You pay up to 30 percent of your income into a savings account as rent that you get back once you complete the program. You sign your own lease with an apartment where you want.

WHERE: 2222 Park Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 11 AM-8 PM, Fri 12-5 PM

HOW: You have to enroll in Project SOLO and complete their independent living skills curriculum.

BUS: 5

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: To be eligible for the TLP, you need a job or legal income (from MFIP or SSI). You have to be documented as homeless according to HUD, so you need verification from a shelter. All Project SOLO members get bus tokens home.

YOUTH SAY: This is a helpful program.



ROSE CENTER

651-690-0625

WHO: Women ages 18-24 who are able to work or go to school.

WHAT: Transitional living home. Independent living skills, case management. Educational and employment help.

WHERE: 1435 Grand Avenue, St. Paul

YMCA POINT NORTHWEST—TLP

763-535-4800;

www.ymcatwincities.org/locations/pnw_main.asp

WHO: Single youth or parents ages 16-20 who have a job and live in the North Western Hennepin area. No couples.

WHAT: Transitional living program. Scattered site apartments. Case managers can help you find your apartment, but you sign lease. Monthly meetings and case manager house visits. Rental Assistance for first month's rent or to prevent eviction.

HOW: Call anytime.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: No other languages. Don't have to be sober. Need proof of employment. Can work with undocumented youth if they are working and can find an apartment. Background and warrant checks only done if landlord wants them.



YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-21.

WHAT: YouthLink helps youth get into Archdale or St. Barnabus Apartments. You can contact these apartments directly or go to YouthLink to apply.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM.



INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS

Independent Living Skills (ILS) classes can help you live on your own. You can learn about money management, saving, shopping, cooking, applying for jobs, housing and much more. Often you get to make food and eat it during classes. They usually meet once or twice a week, are often part of transitional living programs and are also offered at these youth drop-in centers.

PROJECT SOLO—ILS (see Education and Employment section, pg. 41)

612-874-1936

WHO: Ages 16-19 living anywhere can enroll; can stay until age 21.

WHAT: Independent living skills offers help with education, employment, money management, health, cooking and housing.

WHERE: 2222 Park Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Enroll Mon, Tue or Wed 1-4:30 PM. Mon-Thu 11 AM-8 PM, Fri 1-4 PM.

BUS: 5

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You can be there to during open hours to work on something productive. All Project SOLO members get bus tokens home.



SAFEZONE (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

651-224-9644

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.



YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-20.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM.



HOUSING

FYI: RENTAL INFORMATION

You can rent an apartment even if you are under 18, but there is no law that says landlords have to rent to you. It often helps to have an adult (or Rental Assistance agency) co-sign to say they will pay rent if you can't (see Rental Assistance section, pg. 50).

- In MN, landlords can't discriminate against people on public assistance or because of race, color, religion, family size, national origin, handicap, sexual orientation or marriage status.
- Never rent an apartment you have not seen.
- Never pay a security deposit before you sign the lease.
- Read the lease before you sign it! The landlord must give you a copy.
- Do not sign a lease until you have inspected the apartment. Make a list of anything that is dirty, damaged or broken. Ask the landlord to sign the list and agree to fix any problems. Save a copy.
- Unless you want to move again soon, you are better off with a written, one-year lease than renting month to month.
- The landlord must return your deposit within 21 days. If they do not return all of it, they have to send you a letter explaining why. If they don't give it back you can sue for it.
- You can bargain with your landlord to change the lease before you sign it. You should both put your initials by any change that you make.
- Your landlord can't evict you by changing the locks or shutting off the utilities. Contact the police and get a lawyer immediately if this happens.
- If you are being evicted, contact a lawyer (see General Legal Services section, pg. 65). You can fight the eviction in court; if you lose it will go on your permanent record, but if you win you can probably get it expunged.

If you are ready to live on your own and don't have a criminal conviction in the last three years but can't afford an apartment, you may be eligible for Section 8 subsidized housing. Contact the Public Housing Authority for more information:

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY (PHA)

651-602-1428

WHO: Cannot have been convicted of any crime in the last three years.

WHAT: You need to apply at your PHA for Section 8 Vouchers and Public Housing. There is a waiting list, and it can be very long or closed. There are 11 PHA in the Twin Cities Metro Area. Call to find your local PHA.

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8 AM-4:30 PM.

This agency can help you find housing:

ST. STEPHEN'S HOUSING SERVICES PROGRAM

612-874-0311 (ask for Geno or Richard)

WHO: If you are staying in a county-funded shelter and have children in your custody, you can get into the Rapid Exit Program. Working adults or ex-offenders can get into other programs.

WHAT: Assistance finding and maintaining permanent housing, transportation to look at apartments, help understanding leases and working with landlords.

WHERE: 2211 Clinton Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call if you are a parent in a shelter. Walk in and fill out application if you are an adult.

These agencies can help you find answers to questions about renting, landlords, deposits, utilities, evictions and other problems that may arise.

HOMELINE TENANT HOTLINE

612-728-5767 (in the metro), 866-866-3546 (for Greater Minnesota);

www.homelinemn.org

WHO: Tenants.

WHAT: Speak with a tenant advocate who will provide free advice regarding Minnesota landlord/tenant law. The advocate will provide practical advice on the law and offer options for resolving the problem. The Homeline Tenant Hotline is free and available to all tenants, regardless of income.

HOUSING LINK

612-522-2500; www.housinglink.org

WHAT: Resources for affordable housing. Housing Authority Waiting List reports contain the most current information on the status of Section 8 Voucher and Public Housing waiting lists in Minnesota. Explains Public Housing, Section 8 Project Based and Section 8 housing and how to apply. Updated lists of vacancies in affordable housing.

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-4 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: This is not individual counseling; phone call is only helpful if you have a specific question.

MHA RENTERS' HOTLINE

952-858-8222

www.mmha.com/Resources/OwnerRenters/Renters_FAQs.asp

WHO: Renters with questions.

WHAT: The Minnesota Multi-Housing Association's (MHA) special hotline for renters to find answers to common questions on subjects such as security deposits, leases, Certificates of Rent Paid, repairs and maintenance, cleaning and giving notice to vacate.



RENTAL ASSISTANCE

If you don't have enough money to pay rent or utilities, you might be able to get **Emergency or Energy Assistance** from Hennepin or Ramsey County (see Public Assistance section, pg. 19). *Try the county first because most of these agencies will only help you if you've already been denied by the county.*

The rest of these agencies offer some form of financial assistance for rent or utilities. Many can only help people in a certain area, and most don't give enough money to cover the full cost of rent. Some agencies give you money for the first month of rent, some can only give you money for an apartment you are already leasing (eviction prevention), while others can do both. It's best to call an agency with specific questions to find out if you are eligible.

BASILICA OF SAINT MARY (see Clothes section, pg. 12)

612-317-3477 (if no answer, press 0 and get redirected); **www.mary.org**

WHO: Financial assistance for **55403 or 55401** zip code residents.

WHAT: Limited Financial Assistance for people living in 55403 or 55401 zip codes for car repair, rent, uniform, etc.

WHERE: Corner of Hennepin and N. 17th Street, Minneapolis; in the basement.

WHEN: Tue-Thu 9:30-11:30 AM, Sat and Mon 9:30-11 AM. Closed holidays.

HOW: Call to see if you are eligible.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Come early! Must have picture ID, or they can help you get one. Disability accessible. All faiths welcome. It is a church. There is no charge for the parking lot on weekends, but there is on weekdays—so park on the street.



COMMUNITIES ENGAGED IN ASSISTING PEOPLE (CEAP)

763-566-9600; www.ceap.org

WHO: Low-income youth ages 18 and up living in Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park and Champlain. Will consider someone under 18 if a Hennepin County worker refers her/him.

WHAT: Eviction prevention funds to assist people to stay in their current housing. Must have received denial from Hennepin County Emergency Assistance or already have used funds this year. Must have been resident of Brooklyn Center,

Brooklyn Park or Champlain for at least one month. Also has clothing closet.
WHERE: 6840 78th Avenue N., Brooklyn Park
WHEN: Call Mon-Fri 9 AM-3 PM.
HOW: Call to request an appointment. Take applications all month long. No more than a week waiting time.

ST. PAUL URBAN LEAGUE

651-291-0504; www.spul.org

WHO: Low-income youth ages 19 and up living in Ramsey County.
WHAT: Youth programming: employment services. Housing: Rental Assistance. Connected to youth ministry. Eviction prevention funds to assist people to stay in their current housing. Must have received denial from Ramsey County Emergency Assistance or already have used funds this year.
WHERE: 401 Selby Avenue, St. Paul
HOW: Call ahead to schedule an appointment.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Emphasis on abstinence and Christianity.

ELIM TRANSITIONAL HOUSING (TLP)

763-788-1546 (press 1 for housing assistance);

www.elimtransitionalhousing.org

WHO: Youth ages 16-18 and single adults and women with children—sometimes whole families.
WHAT: Two year program offering affordable housing and case management.
WHERE: 3989 Central Avenue NE, Suite 565, Minneapolis
WHEN: Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri 9 AM-3 PM, Thu 9 AM-2 PM.
HOW: Call to apply. Don't have a lot of openings and don't keep a waiting list.

NORTHPOINT SOCIAL SERVICES

612-348-4700 or 612-348-4752; www.pilotcity.org

WHO: Renters 16 and up from North or Northeast Minneapolis only. Must have received denial from Hennepin County. Assistance can be used once in a lifetime.

WHAT: Rental Assistance (first month's rent or eviction prevention).

WHERE: 1315 Penn Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: Walk-in Mon 8:30-11:30 AM. It is better to come in early in the month.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You need to bring a picture ID, preferably your address, birth certificates and Social Security cards of any dependent children you have, proof of income, your lease and an eviction notice (if applicable). If approved, it takes seven to 10 days to get a check.

OAK PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER—RENTAL ASSISTANCE

(see Community Centers section, pg. 7)

612-377-7000; www.puc-mn.org

WHO: North Minneapolis residents only.

WHAT: Small amount of Rental Assistance for first month's rent or eviction prevention. Assistance can be used once in a lifetime.

WHERE: 1701 Oak Park Avenue N., Minneapolis

WHEN: Call Mon-Thu 8:30 AM-6 PM or Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

BUS: 19

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID. No undocumented youth.

PILLSBURY HOUSE EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE

612-824-0708; www.puc-mn.org

WHO: Must have a lease in zip codes 55406, 55407 or 55408.

WHAT: Up to \$150 in Rental Assistance (have to be able to pay the difference).

WHERE: 3501 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 8 AM-9 PM, Fri 8 AM-6 PM, Sat 9 AM-2 PM, Sun 10 AM-noon.

HOW: Call in the last week of the month for help with next month. Need to come

in and apply.

BUS: 5

LANGUAGE: Spanish and Somali.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You can't receive assistance if you are being evicted already. You need a Social Security card, birth certificate, driver's license and a bill showing how much you owe.

PRISM RENTAL ASSISTANCE

763-529-1350

WHO: Low-income youth ages 18 and up living in Crystal, Robbinsdale, New Hope, Eastern Plymouth and Golden Valley. Must have received denial from Hennepin County Emergency Assistance or already have used funds this year.
WHAT: Loans to help with rent, damage deposits, first month's rent and utility bills.

WHERE: 730 Florida Avenue South, Golden Valley

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Wed 8:30 AM-5 PM, Thu 8:30 AM-7 PM and Fri 8:30 AM-3 PM.

HOW: Call Mon-Fri between 9 AM and 3 PM for phone interview. If eligible you will then be scheduled for a budgeting class. After you've taken the class, then you fill out an application for a loan. The process can take three to four weeks.

BUS: 643 LTD

LANGUAGE: Spanish and Russian.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You will need your lease and a picture ID.



SAFEZONE (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

651-224-9644; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHAT: SafeZone is a drop-in center. If you have a case manager there, they can help you with Rental Assistance. Can only help once. Need lease, budget, ID and income verification.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.

HOW: To get a case manager you'll need to do an intake there. They will want to know your name, age, address and a little about your current situation. They might ask for ID, but it's OK if you don't have it. Wheelchair accessible. No warrant or background checks.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You must be sober while you are there. They have limited funds.



STREETWORKS (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-2735; www.streetworksmn.org

WHO: Ages 12-21.

WHAT: Rental Assistance for first month of rent up to \$450. The check will always go to the landlord.

WHERE: 2219 Oakland Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call and ask for Rental Assistance or talk to a StreetWorks Outreach Worker.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need photo ID with birthday; this can be negotiated or an Outreach Worker can help you get an ID.

YOUTH SAY: Try and call the month before you will need assistance because funds run out.



FURNITURE

These agencies can help you furnish your apartment for free.

BRIDGING INC.

952-888-1105 (Bloomington), also in Roseville and central MN;

www.bridging.org

WHO: Anyone with a referral.

WHAT: Provides furniture and housing supplies to people who are refugees and immigrants, or who are surviving homelessness, domestic violence or natural disaster. You get one trip with your case manager to the furniture warehouse to pick out beds, couches, tables, chairs, lamps, sheets, cooking supplies, etc.

HOW: Most social service organizations (even employment programs and schools) can get you on the Bridging waiting list for furniture. The waiting list is usually a month long. Anyone is eligible, but you can only go ONCE in your lifetime. Contact your referral agency to fill out paperwork.

MARIE SANDVIK CENTER

612-870-9617; www.mariesandvikcenter.org

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: Sometimes have furniture available that can be dropped off where you live. Also, between April and October, a truck and a driver may be available to help you move.

WHEN: Call for furniture availability. Call to schedule a moving date.

WHERE: 1112 East Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN

BUS: 2

LANGUAGE: Spanish and American Sign Language.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: This is a Christian organization. They have a lot of programs that address spiritual needs. If you want help moving, you will need a man (18 or older) to help.



SABATHANI COMMUNITY CENTER (see Community Centers section, pg. 7)

612-827-5981; www.sabathani.org

WHO: Residents of South Minneapolis.

WHAT: Used furniture available for pick up for free.

WHERE: 310 East 38th Street, Minneapolis; back parking lot

WHEN: Mon-Fri 7:30 AM-9 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Must have your own transportation.



Case management means working with a professional who can help you with goals that you want to work on. A case manager can sometimes offer resources, bus cards, clothes and other needs if you are meeting with him or her on a regular basis. To get the most out of working with a case manager, it is helpful to stay in contact with him or her and to let that person know what is going on in your situation.

These agencies have many case managers:

PROJECT SOLO—CASE MANAGERS

(see Education and Employment section, pg. 41)

612-874-1936

WHO: Ages 16-19.

WHERE: 2222 Park Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 11 AM-8 PM, Fri 12-5 PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You have to enroll in person between 1-4:30 PM on Mon, Tue or Wed to access any of its services.



SAFEZONE (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

651-224-9644

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.

YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-20.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM.

STREETWORKS OUTREACH WORKERS

612-252-2735

WHO: Ages 12-21.

WHAT: Outreach workers (OW) are safe people on the streets. When they are working, they carry big green StreetWorks bags. Inside the bags are basic supplies such as condoms, snacks, grocery gift cards, bus tokens, hygiene supplies, clothing and diapers. OWs can also help you out with other things like finding a job, getting a GED, getting an ID, Rental Assistance, getting a bus ticket to go live with your family, getting into shelter, housing and more.

HOW: Call StreetWorks to find out who is working and their phone number. Give them a call and see if they can talk to you or meet you. If you see an OW on the street, ask them for help.

LANGUAGE: One Spanish speaker and one Hmong speaker.



COUNSELING AND THERAPY

Sometimes talking through a problem with someone else is the best way to make things better. Counseling and therapy is available through many different clinics.

In crisis situations, call **CRISIS CONNECTION** at **612-379-6363** for 24 hour telephone crisis counseling, information and referral. Or call **SUICIDE PREVENTION** at **612-873-2222**.

If you are a survivor of domestic or sexual abuse, you can call the **BATTERED WOMEN'S HOTLINE** (even if you are not a woman) at **651-646-0994** and find a counselor.

These youth clinics also offer professional counseling and therapy.

FACE TO FACE MENTAL HEALTH (see Mental Health section, pg. 17)

651-772-5555; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 11-23.

WHAT: Face to Face has a ton of services under one roof and is connected to

SafeZone drop-in center.

WHERE: 1165 Arcade Street, St. Paul

SafeZone Drop-in Center has a full time therapist on staff that can see youth by appointment or walk-in when available.



WALK-IN COUNSELING CENTER

612-870-0565; www.walkin.org

WHO: Anyone in crisis.

WHAT: They provide crisis counseling, short-term counseling for individuals, couples and families; referrals for longer-term counseling or other resources. No appointment is necessary; no paperwork; no fee.

WHERE: 2421 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Wed, Fri 1-3 PM; Mon-Thu 6:30-8:30 PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: If you are under 18, parents do have access to your records.

THE BRIDGE (see Transitional Living Programs section, pg. 45)

612-377-8800; www.bridgeforyouth.org

WHO: Ages 16-21.

WHAT: 24 hour walk-in counselor—open to anyone in community. 24 hour crisis line (612-377-8800) and other groups for community.

WHERE: 2200 Emerson Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Wed 5-6:30 PM.

BUS: 6

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Outreach workers available. Must be sober.



DISTRICT 202 (see GLBTQ section, pg. 61)

612-871-5559; www.dist202.org

WHO: GLBTQ youth and allies ages 14-22.

WHAT: "Ask Janet" provides one-on-one meetings with a mental health professional.

WHERE: 1601 Nicollet Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for times.

BUS: 17, 18

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Unofficial case management and referral available. StreetWorks outreach workers on site.



For more counseling services, look in the Mental Health section on pg. 17.



There are very few resources if you are under 16. Things like transitional living programs, independent living skills and employment programs that prepare you for living on your own often only serve older teens. When you are under 16, it is much more likely that you will be placed in protective custody (like foster care or group homes) if you don't have a stable living situation.

However, these places do work with youth under 16. Though your options are more limited, the staff at these agencies can help you.



SERVICES

FACE TO FACE MENTAL HEALTH (see General Medical section, pg. 16;

Mental Health section, pg. 17; Education section, pg. 39)

651-772-5555; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 11-23.

WHAT: Face to Face has a ton of services under one roof and is connected to SafeZone drop-in center.

WHERE: 1165 Arcade Street, St. Paul



THE BRIDGE (see Transitional Living Programs section, pg. 45)

612-377-8800; www.bridgeforyouth.org

WHO: Ages 10-21.

WHAT: 24 hour walk-in counselor—open to anyone in community. 24 hour crisis line (612-377-8800) and other groups for community. Emergency shelter. Support groups. Case management.

WHERE: 2200 Emerson Avenue S., Minneapolis

BUS: 6

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: May ask for your ID, but it's OK if you don't have it. Sober space.



AIN DAH YUNG (see Shelter section, pg. 28)

651-227-4184

WHO: Single youth (without children) and pregnant women ages five to 17 with a focus on Native American youth. No youth with history of sexual perpetration or arson, have been recently suicidal or have aggressive behavior.

WHAT: Emergency shelter. Case management. Support groups.

WHERE: 1089 Portland Avenue, St. Paul

WHEN: Call 24 hour a day for intake.

LANGUAGE: Spanish and Ojibwa.

YOUTH SAY: There are a lot of rules, but the staff will help you with whatever you need.



SAFEZONE (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

651-224-9644

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHAT: A drop-in center with food, case management, clothing, independent living skills, GED, job search, phones, storage, showers, laundry and lots of resources to hook you up with.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 1-5:30 PM, Sat 1-4 PM, not open on holidays.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Sober space. The first time you are there they will give you a tour and do a quick intake. They will want to know your name, age, address and a little about your current situation. They might ask for ID, but it's OK if you don't have it. Wheelchair accessible. No warrant or background checks.



CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES (CPS)

612-348-3552 (Hennepin County), 651-266-4500 (Ramsey County)

If you are being abused, unsafe at home or your parents kicked you out of your home, call CPS. If they decide that your case is serious enough they can work

with your family or put you into a different home (foster care). If CPS does not take action the first time you call, call again to report another problem. CPS will build a file for your case.

STREETWORKS OUTREACH WORKERS

612-252-2735

WHO: Ages 12-21.

WHAT: Outreach workers (OWs) are safe people out on the streets. When they are working, they carry big green StreetWorks bags. Inside the bags are basic supplies such as condoms, snacks, grocery gift cards, bus tokens, hygiene supplies, clothing and diapers. OWs can also help you with other things like finding a job, getting a GED, getting an ID, getting Rental Assistance, getting a bus ticket to go live with your family, getting into a shelter, housing and more.

HOW: Call StreetWorks to find out who is working and their phone number. Give them a call and see if they can talk to you or meet you. If you see an OW on the street, ask them for help.

LANGUAGE: One Spanish speaker and one Hmong speaker.

YMCA POINT NORTHWEST HOTLINE

763-493-3052

Call if you are in a crisis situation and between ages 10 and 20.



Immigration law in the United States can be very confusing. Additionally, if you have a case in the immigration courts system, a lawyer is not provided for you. These agencies and services can help you understand the immigration system, figure out what options you have and either represent or find someone who can represent you in an immigration court. Many either provide services in a language besides English or can arrange for translation.

If you are undocumented, you are at risk of deportation and should contact a lawyer immediately. Most can work with undocumented immigrants, but some can't, so be sure to call and ask.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

612-334-5970; www.midmnlegal.org

WHO: Low income individuals living in Hennepin County who need legal advice, information or representation in civil cases in Hennepin County. Can provide limited advice and referrals for people living outside of Hennepin County.

WHAT: Legal advice and representation in all matters of civil law. No criminal cases or delinquencies. Youth Law Project for youth under 18 can provide advice about immigration law issues. For people 18 or older, legal aid provides advice, referral and representation about immigration law.

WHERE: 430 1st Avenue N., Minneapolis, third floor

WHEN: If you are under 18, call Mon-Fri 9:30-11:30 AM or 1:30-3:30 PM to do an intake. If you are over 18, call to find out when the next immigration law clinics will be. There is usually one each month.

LANGUAGE: Intake staff speak Spanish, Somali, Hmong and Russian. Can serve speakers of most languages with a translation service.



CENTRO LEGAL

651-642-1890

WHO: Low-income Latinos/as and their families.

WHAT: Free legal assistance for civil cases including immigration, employment, housing, consumer law and government benefits.

WHERE: 2610 University Avenue W., Suite 450, St. Paul

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Appointments are required and only made by phone.



NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE (WELLSTONE CENTER)

651-789-2531 (Life Connections)

WHO: Anyone, but mostly residents of west St. Paul.

WHAT: New immigrants: English classes, coaching on how to get a library card, driver's license, use public transportation, enroll children in school, banking, saving, leasing and buying and groups for East African refugees and immigrants. Food shelf: (staff speak 12 languages). Youth leadership programs: health education and indoor athletics, computer skills classes and internet access. Parents: early childhood education programs and childcare is available for when you are in the building.

WHERE: 179 Robie Street E., St. Paul

WHEN: Call for hours.

HOW: Call to make an appointment for the food shelf or to find out when classes are. Drop by and hang out in Youth Center. Case managers and social workers available by referral.

LANGUAGE: Staff speak 19 languages including Spanish, Somali and Hmong

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: To register for youth center, need form signed by parent. If homeless, talk to director for special provisions.



CULTURALLY SPECIFIC AGENCIES

There are many agencies that are good at serving people who are either not from the United States or who are not white. They offer services in different languages, have culturally appropriate food and personal care products and have a staff that understands a different cultural background. Many young people feel more comfortable getting help from an agency that better understands their culture or speaks their own language.

AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY SERVICES

612-871-7878; www.aafs.net

WHO: Anyone, focus on African Americans.

WHAT: Mental health: individual and group counseling. No male counselors and no prescriptions. Sliding fee. Chemical health: Rule 25 and outpatient treatment. Free if in Hennepin or Ramsey County and low-income. Groups: Sistas Advocating For Empowerment—domestic violence and anger management focus for women (18+), MOVE—Men Opposing Violence—anger management for men (18+). Family services: help with child protection and welfare, parent assessments, family group counseling.

WHERE: 2616 Nicollet Avenue Minneapolis. There is also one more office in Minneapolis and one in St. Paul.

WHEN: Mon and Tue 8 AM-7 PM, Wed and Thu 8 AM-9 PM.

HOW: Call main number. Walk-ins in morning and appointments in afternoon. Confirm office location.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID or documentation. If you have insurance, bring information. They have a list of felony-friendly jobs at the front desk. Come in and ask to see it.

YOUTH SAY: They have a great anger management program.

AMERICAN INDIAN OIC

612-341-3358; www.aioic.org

WHO: Each program is different. GED: 16 or older with parent/guardian waiver.

High school diploma: grades 9-12. WIP: Native Americans who are 18+ and live in Hennepin County. WIA: low income youth ages 14-21 who live in Hennepin County.

WHAT: Get your GED or high school diploma. The three employment programs (Minneapolis Employment Training, WIP and WIA) help you with life skills, work readiness, job skills, applying for college and financial aid for college.

WHERE: 1845 E. Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8 AM-4:30 PM.

HOW: Contact Betsy Green (ext. 129) to schedule an appointment for WIP or WIA. Call for orientation times for other programs.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID and Social Security number for employment programs.

BRIAN COYLE CENTER

612-338-5282; www.puc-mn.org

WHO: Residents of Cedar-Riverside neighborhood. Mainly Somali, Ethiopian, Oromo and other East African immigrants. Youth programs for 18 and under.

WHAT: A number of programs including after school and summer youth programs with recreation (including basketball and soccer), leadership and academic support. Also have FANS (college preparation program), a food shelf and basic computer skills training. Confederation of Somali Communities and the Oromo Community center are in the same building. Gym has open hours, especially on hot days.

WHERE: 420 15th Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8 AM-8:30 PM. Call for specific program times.

BUS: 55

LANGUAGE: Somali, Oromo, Swahili Amharic, Hmong, English and others.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Some programs have a low cost (\$10-\$25). They emphasize parental involvement and prefer that your parents know you are there.



CENTER FOR ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS (CAPI)

612-721-0122; www.capiusa.org

WHO: Ages 18 and up, residents of Hennepin County. Serves mostly South East Asian and East African people.

WHAT: Asian-specific food shelf. Also have job training and placement, English classes and education programs.

WHERE: 3702 East Lake Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. Closed on all major holidays.

HOW: Must do intake over the phone before accessing food shelf.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need proof of residency, proof of birth date and a Social Security card for food shelf.

CENTRO

612-874-1412; www.centromn.org

WHO: Hispanic and Latinos/as.

WHAT: Apoyando a las familias Latinas para un futuro mejor. Family and health

programs: children's and adult's mental health services, education and training, women's substance abuse support, domestic abuse services, maternal and child health, Lamaze, HIV/STI education, diabetes prevention and management. **Centro de salud:** family planning, dental care, physical exams, prenatal care, mental health therapist and two psychologists (612-874-1420).

Youth development: youth cultural arts program. **Community core programs:** crisis intervention, food shelf (specializing in Latino foods) and housing program. Also have social worker, computer classes in Spanish, English classes and a bilingual preschool.

WHERE: 1915 Chicago Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-5 PM. Closed on holidays.

HOW: Call and ask for the program you are interested in. Food shelf takes appointments Friday morning, starting at 8:30 AM.

LANGUAGE: Spanish.



COMUNIDADES LATINAS UNIDOS EN SERVICIOS (CLUES)

612-746-3500 (Minneapolis), 651-379-4200 (St. Paul); www.clues.org

WHO: Anyone, especially Latinos/as.

WHAT: Mental health: counseling and case management. Youth development program, sexual assault advocacy and education and parent education and assessments. Chemical health: Rule 25 for any age. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings, reintegration support for families, outreach/case management for homeless persons, tobacco prevention and intervention projects and the Latino Resource Center. **Employment program:** use computers or walk-in program in career center (job search, college search, résumé writing, phone calls to employer). Can use phones, printers, fax and read newspaper, job kiosk and job bank. Workshops on how to prepare for a job interview, résumé writing and job counselors. **Education:** English language classes, citizen exam preparation, GED exam preparation, Spanish literacy classes and basic computer skills.

WHERE: 797 E. 7th Street, St. Paul and 720 E. Lake Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 8:30 AM-7 PM, Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call for appointment.

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Go to the Minneapolis office if you live in Hennepin or Dakota County and go to the St. Paul office if you live in Ramsey or Dakota County. Otherwise, you will have to pay full price for services.



DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN WORK

651-644-2768

WHO: Anyone who needs clothing. Tribal members of St. Paul who need food.

WHAT: Food shelf: any age. Clothes closet: open to anyone. Parenting program: young American Indian parents.

WHERE: 1671 Summit Avenue, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 10 AM-1 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need proof of St. Paul address and tribal identification number for food shelf.

DIVISION OF INDIAN WORK

612-722-8722

WHO: People of American Indian descent or parenting American Indian children. Enrolled Tribal members can access the food shelf.

WHAT: Youth leadership development: after school help, summer recreational activities, teen pregnancy prevention program and cultural mentors. Strengthening family circles: prenatal, parenting, life skills and

nutrition classes for teen mothers ages 13 and up, Father's Group, free and confidential pregnancy testing, traditional Doula service to help with childbirth and two reduced rent apartments for parents who cannot find safe, affordable housing for women and their children and case management. **Family violence program:** legal advocacy and counseling for men, women and children of any age. **Horizons unlimited:** food shelf specializing in nutrition and diabetes prevention, free clothing from time to time.

WHERE: 1001 East Lake Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 8 AM-5 PM. Food shelf: Mon-Wed 11 AM-2:45 PM, Thu 1-4:45 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need tribal number for food shelf.

HMONG AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP (HAP)

651-495-9160 (Main/Youth and Family), 612-377-6482 (Minneapolis), 651-291-1811 (St. Paul Education/Training); www.hmong.org/index.asp

WHO: Open to anyone, focus on Hmong culture.

WHAT: Community/cultural center. English classes, basic computer training, family circles—meet with families of youth who has left jail to help them adapt. Classes and groups: after school, homework help, recreation, art, life skills, Hmong culture, Hmong language, Hmong dance, tae kwon do, Hmong Struggle for Success (for boys leaving juvenile detention centers and runaway intervention girls group) and other peer groups. Hmong Teen Magazine is released five times a year to 11,000 Hmong teens and needs Hmong teens to help make it.

WHERE: Three locations. Youth and family: 1075 Arcade Street, St. Paul.

Employment services for those on MFIP: 1121 Glenwood Avenue N., Minneapolis. Education and training: 430 Dale Street, St. Paul.

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Some walk-ins. Call staff (Long Vang: Struggle for Success, Vandy Vu: Hmong youth pride peer groups) and sign up. For updated classes call 651-495-9160.

LANGUAGE: Hmong.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

612-521-4859; www.seacc-mn.org

WHO: Ages 12-18.

WHAT: Cultural programs, including martial arts and theater. Youth leadership program helps youth find a job and explore post secondary options including careers and college opportunities. Teen pregnancy prevention and a tobacco prevention program.

WHERE: 1827 44th Avenue N., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call for more information about meeting times for specific programs.

BUS: 724 LTD, 5

LANGUAGE: Hmong, Laotian, Thai and English.



These are places to meet and socialize with other GLBTQ and allied young people in a safe and confidential environment. There are also adults and peers staff you can talk to about GLBTQ issues, like coming out and safer sex information for non-straight sex.

DISTRICT 202

612-871-5559; www.dist202.org

WHO: GLBTQ youth and allies ages 14-22.

WHAT: Drop-in center and safe space for GLBTQ youth and allies. Offers opportunities to gain training, skills and work experience, free and confidential HIV testing, queer sex ed, homework help and tutoring, Ask Janet (one-on-one meetings with a mental health professional), street law discussions, mediation, sobriety support, youth community meetings, Empowered Expressions Theatre Group, transgender discussion group and more. Every first and third Saturday of the month is an EVENT Saturday with dances, drag shows, etc. There is also a library of GLBTQ materials and a small clothing closet.

WHERE: 1601 Nicollet Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Wed and Sun 4-9 PM, Fri 4-11 PM, event Sat 5 PM-midnight, chill Sat 4-9 PM.

BUS: 17, 18

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Unofficial case management and referral available. StreetWorks outreach workers on site.



QUATREFOIL LIBRARY

651-641-0969; www.quatrefoillibrary.org

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: A library of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning materials.

WHERE: 1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 105, St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 7-9 PM, Sat 10 AM-5 PM, Sun 1-5 PM. Closed on holidays.

BUS: 94, 144, 21



If you are GLBTQ and you have been a target of a hate crime, intimidation or discrimination, this agency can help you make sure that you are safe and get the help you need.

OUTFRONT MINNESOTA ANTI-VIOLENCE PROGRAM

612-822-0127 extension 210 or 1-800-800-0350;

www.outfront.org

WHO: Anyone who is GLBTQ and has been a victim of domestic or intimate partner violence or a hate crime (including assault, harassment, property damage, vandalism, etc.).

WHAT: Free advocacy is provided to get you in touch with people that can help you with legal issues, counseling, medical help, safety and more.

WHERE: 310 E. 38th Street, Suite 204, Minneapolis

WHEN: Crisis line is answered 24 hours a day.

BUS: 23, 9, 11, 18



These groups provide a safe space to discuss issues that are important to you with your peers. They also are a place to meet other GLBTQ and allied young people.

ACCESS WORKS (see Safer Drug Use section, pg. 68)

612-870-1830; www.accessworks.org

WHO: Men who have sex with men and use crystal; often have snacks.

WHAT: Free M2M support group.

WHERE: 11 West 15th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Wed 4:30-6 PM.



THE BRIDGE (see Transitional Living Programs section, pg. 45)

612-377-8800; www.bridgeforyouth.org

WHO: Ages 16-21.

WHAT: So What If I Am (GLBTQ) Support Group. Also has 24 hour walk-in counselor for anyone in the community and a 24 hour crisis line (612-377-8800).

WHERE: 2200 Emerson Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Sat 10 AM-noon.

BUS: 6

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Outreach workers available. Sober space.



FACE TO FACE (see Education section, pg. 39)

651-772-5555; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 11-23.

WHAT: One GLBTQ Support Group, Tue 6-8 PM. Call for intake. (Transgender support group Thu nights at DISTRICT 202.)



RED DOOR CLINIC OF THE HENNEPIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH CLINIC

(see HIV, STD and Pregnancy Testing section, pg. 22)

612-543-5555; www.reddoorclinic.org

WHO: Gay or bisexual men.

WHAT: Support groups including health interventions for men. Services are either low-cost or free, based upon your ability to pay. No one is ever turned away for inability to pay.

WHERE: Health Services Building, 525 Portland Avenue, 4th Floor, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for group times.

BUS: 24, 5



SAFEZONE (see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

651-224-9644; www.face2face.org

WHO: Ages 14-20.

WHAT: A drop-in center that has a number of GLBTQ groups. Call for times.

WHERE: 308 Prince Street, St. Paul



YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-20.

WHAT: Drop-in center with GLBTQ groups and safe space.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for group times. Drop-in is Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM



HOUSING

AVENUES GLBTQ HOST HOME PROGRAM

612-522-1690; www.avenuesforyouth.org

WHO: GLBTQ youth ages 18 and older.

WHAT: Youth live in home with a local family that is often GLBTQ. Goal is for youth to pay rent to family after three months. Sometimes adoption happens.

WHERE: 1708 Oak Park Avenue N., Minneapolis

HOW: Must be referred by Avenues case manager.

BUS: 19

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Long waiting time.



I AM/WAS IN FOSTER CARE, JAIL OR WILL TURN 21 SOON... LEAVING FOSTER CARE

FYI: LEAVING FOSTER CARE OR OTHER COUNTY SYSTEMS

Getting help: If you have been in foster care, juvenile detention or have a case with Child Protection Services or your county, you may be able to access many county services.

If you were in foster care when you were under 18, you may be eligible for an Educational and Training Voucher to help you pay for school.

Call **HENNEPIN COUNTY FRONT DOOR** for Social Services at 612-348-4111 or **RAMSEY COUNTY FRONT DOOR** at 651-266-4444. Say "I was in foster care when I was younger (or your situation). I am [age] and need services because [explain your needs]. I would like help figuring out what services are available."

TIP: ALWAYS LET YOUR CASE MANAGER KNOW THAT YOU WERE IN FOSTER CARE BECAUSE THEY MAY BE ABLE TO HOOK YOU UP WITH MORE SERVICES.

If you have a social worker and you are under 18, you have the right to keep your social worker and your benefits until age 21 if you ask for it before your 18th birthday.

You also have the right to a safe home. If your foster family is abusive, call Child Protection Services at 612-348-3552 in Hennepin County or 651-266-4500 in Ramsey County. For legal help contact:

CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER

651-644-4438

WHO: Youth in foster care or wards of the state who are under 18.

WHAT: Provide attorneys for foster care kids who are abused or neglected, wards of the state and youth transitioning into independent living. Totally free. Call for more information.

WHERE: 1463 West Minnehaha Avenue, Suite 3, St. Paul



RESOURCES FOR EX-OFFENDERS

These agencies can help if you have a history of convictions or felonies.

AMICUS: RECONNECT

612-348-8570; www.amicususa.org/reconnect/index.html

WHO: Anyone who has felonies (or occasionally misdemeanors).

WHAT: Helps ex-offenders find shelter, housing, employment, ID, education, aftercare programs, clothing, family services, single-parent resources, food shelves and furniture. They give out some tokens and bus passes. They have weekly support groups for men and women separately.

WHERE: 15 S. 5th Street, Suite 1100, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-noon and 1-4 PM.

AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY SERVICES (see Mental Health section, pg. 17)

612-871-7878; www.aafs.net

WHO: Anyone, focus on African Americans.

WHAT: List of felony-friendly jobs at the front desk. Come in and ask to see it.

WHERE: 2616 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis (main office: two in Minneapolis and one in St. Paul)

WHEN: Mon, Tue 8 AM-7 PM, Wed and Thu 8 AM-9 PM.

EMERGE (see Employment section, pg. 43)

612-529-9267; www.emerge-mn.org

WHO: Ex-offenders 18 or older, rarely someone under 18.

WHAT: Several employment services. Northside Job Connections helps ex-offenders who are over 18 find and hold jobs through résumé building, soft skills training, connection to employers, advocacy and transportation. Call to set up an appointment and to do paperwork.

WHERE: 1101 West Broadway, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

LANGUAGE: Spanish (in the NET program).

HMONG AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP (HAP)

(see Culturally Specific Agencies section, pg. 58)

651-495-9160; www.hmong.org

WHO: Open to anyone, focus on Hmong culture.

WHAT: Hmong Struggle for Success (for boys leaving juvenile detention centers) and runaway intervention, girls group and other peer groups. Call for updated classes.

WHERE: 1075 Arcade Street, St Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call Long Vang and sign up.

REENTRY WORKS

651-288-0324 (ask for Chris Fotsch); mnges.easterseals.com/site

WHO: Men ages 18 and over who have been released to the Twin Cities Metro Area from a MN Department of Corrections facility within the last 90 days.

People on work release or federal parole are not eligible.

WHAT: Receive help from either Goodwill/Easter Seals or the Wilder Foundation/EXCEL Program. Goodwill/Easter Seals will place you in a temporary minimum wage job within 24 hours and provide ongoing skills training, support services and job placement. Wilder Foundation provides daily presentation on job search and conviction response, job leads, résumé prep and access to phone/fax.

WHERE: 1600 University Avenue, Suite 219, St. Paul (Spruce Tree Center)

WHEN: Mon-Fri 7:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Walk in to Wilder Foundation office to sign up.

BUS: 21, 94, 16

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: You will not be able to choose between programs.



GETTING HELP WHEN YOU'RE 21

FYI: TURNING 21

Turning 21 causes things to change. The good news is you can still use many of the same food shelves, clothes closets and free meals. Requirements for receiving Food Support, General Assistance and other county services remain the same as well.

What does change is how to get into shelter (pg. 28) and how to get a case manager or outreach worker:

Shelter: Try a private shelter first. They are smaller than the public shelters and also have more one-on-one attention and support. This is also a good way to meet an advocate who can help you with some of the changes you are making. At the shelters you can also get medical care and mental health care provided by the county.

Staff: Get to know staff people and ask them questions. Drop-in centers have county outreach staff who can help you with questions. People Incorporated 651-774-2604 does street outreach in the Twin Cities. Find a case manager in a shelter, through an outreach worker or through the county.



TIP: PICK UP A COPY OF THE HANDBOOK OF THE STREETS AT A DROP-IN CENTER OR THE ALLIANCE OF THE STREETS (330 E 22ND STREET, MINNEAPOLIS). IT IS FILLED WITH RESOURCES FOR ADULTS IN NEED.

While change can be difficult, you can be successful in the adult service world. Good luck.

I NEED LEGAL HELP...



GENERAL LEGAL SERVICES

If you aren't sure about what kind of help you need, a good place to start is the Youth Law Clinic at Project Offstreets.

YOUTH LAW CLINIC AT YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-20.

WHAT: Youth Law Clinic. Meet one-on-one with a lawyer to ask questions and get legal advice. These lawyers will not represent you in court, but they can refer you to a program that will. This referral can help you get representation faster than if you went in on your own.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon 3:30-6 PM.



If you are being charged with a crime and need advice or representation in a criminal court in Hennepin County, an alternative to getting a public defender is:

LEGAL RIGHTS CENTER (LRC)

612-337-0030; www.legalrightscenter.org

WHO: Low income and/or people of color. Can only represent people in Hennepin County Courts but can give advice to anyone in the metro area.

WHAT: Can help with any criminal court issue for adults or juveniles. Can be a first call for help if you are arrested. LRC is an alternative to the public defender, who won't meet with you before your court appearance. Attorneys can give you advice, information or representation depending on the need. They also do family group conferences to help resolve conflicts; call for more information.

WHERE: 1611 Park Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: For an intake, go in person on Tue from 10 AM-noon. If you cannot make it then, clinics are also offered at community centers, including El Centro, CLUES, the Brian Coyle Center and the American Indian Center. Call for these hours.

LANGUAGE: Spanish speaking attorneys and can get translators for other languages.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Bring any documents related to your legal issue.



In Ramsey County, there is no service like the Legal Rights Center. However, the Neighborhood Justice Center may be open soon, so if you need help in Ramsey County, call and see if they are open yet:

NEIGHBORHOOD JUSTICE CENTER

651-645-5446; www.njcinc.org

WHO: Anyone with a criminal case (adult or juvenile) in Ramsey County.

WHAT: Free legal advice and representation for criminal cases in Ramsey County.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: This service is not open as of August 2007 but it may be soon. Call for current information.

In Hennepin County, the first time you appear in court on a misdemeanor charge you can get 15 minutes of free advice from the Misdemeanor Defense Project (MDP):

MISDEMEANOR DEFENSE PROJECT

612-752-6666

WHO: Anyone making a first appearance (arrestment) in any of the four Hennepin County Misdemeanor Courts.

WHAT: Brief, free advice for misdemeanor cases.

WHERE: Misdemeanor Courtrooms in Hennepin County

WHEN: At your arraignment.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Ask the clerk in the courtroom about the Misdemeanor Defense Project attorney (she or he should be pointed out to you). The first consultation is free. If you want the attorney to represent you, you will have to pay.

If you need legal help with a civil law issue (anything that isn't a crime and isn't a juvenile delinquency), you can try these agencies in Hennepin County:

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

612-334-5970; www.midmnlegal.org

WHO: Low income individuals living in Hennepin County who need legal advice, information or representation in civil cases in Hennepin County. Can provide limited advice and referrals for people living outside of Hennepin County.

WHAT: Free legal advice and representation in all matters of civil law (no criminal cases or delinquencies). Youth Law Project for youth under 18 can do CHIPS petitions, orders for protection, social service advocacy, immigration, housing, family law and options about living away from your parents. For people 18 or older, Legal Aid provides advice, referral and representation for issues of housing, discrimination, public benefits, taxes, family law and immigration.

WHERE: 430 1st Avenue N., Minneapolis; 3rd floor

WHEN: To do an intake, call Mon-Fri, 9:30-11:30 AM or 1:30-3:30 PM.

Immigration law clinics are held once a month; call for next date and time.

LANGUAGE: Intake staff speak Spanish, Somali, Hmong and Russian. Can get a translator for most other languages.



VOLUNTEER LAWYERS NETWORK

612-752-6677; www.volunteerlawyersnetwork.org

WHO: Low income people that live or have an open case in Hennepin County. More helpful for adults over 18 and may refer younger people to Youth Legal Clinic or Youth Law Project.

WHAT: Legal help for most civil legal matters (not public benefits). Legal clinics, phone advice and full representation. Free or low cost.

WHERE: 600 Nicollet Mall, Suite 390A, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-4 PM.

HOW: Call and complete intake based on financial eligibility (takes 20-25 minutes).

LANGUAGE: Somali and Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Long wait for family law and bankruptcy.



And these agencies in Ramsey County or its neighboring counties:

SOUTHERN MINNESOTA REGIONAL LEGAL SERVICES

651-222-4731; 1-888-575-2954 (rural hotline); www.smrls.org

WHO: Youth any age from Ramsey, Washington, Dakota, Scott and Carver Counties who do not have the right to court appointed counsel (or are Native American).

WHAT: Felony expungement program, help with financial situations, refugee, immigrant, migrant services, benefits, housing and family law, government benefits. No criminal or consumer law.

WHERE: 166 East 4th Street, Suite 200, St. Paul and other locations

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-noon and 1-3 PM.

HOW: Call with name, address and nature of problem.

LANGUAGE: English, Spanish, Hmong, Somali, Laotian, Amharic, Khmer, Cambodian and Thai.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Cannot serve undocumented immigrants.

CENTRO LEGAL

651-642-1890

WHO: Low-income Latinos and their families.

WHAT: Free legal assistance for civil cases including immigration, employment, housing, consumer law and government benefits.

WHERE: 2610 University Avenue W., Suite 450, St. Paul

LANGUAGE: Spanish.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Appointments are required and only made by phone.



If you are a youth in foster care or a minor ward of the state:

CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER

651-644-4438; <http://209.211.250.173/>

WHO: Youth in foster care or wards of the state who are under 18.

WHAT: Provide attorneys for foster care kids who are abused or neglected, wards of the state and youth transitioning into independent living. Totally free.

WHERE: 1463 W. Minnehaha Avenue, Suite 3, St. Paul

HOW: Referred through the courts or self referral.



GET A SOCIAL WORKER FOR HELP ACCESSING LEGAL SERVICES.



YOUR RIGHTS AND THE POLICE

FYI: INTERACTING WITH THE POLICE

Protecting Your Rights during Police Encounters:

- You have the right to remain silent. Don't talk to the police or anyone else. Tell police that you will not talk to anyone until you have a lawyer.
- If police ask permission to search you or your property, you have the right to say "no." Be polite but firm. Watch out for police who try to trick you into giving permission.
- If you are arrested, police have the right to search you.
- Unless there's an emergency, or police believe a serious crime is taking place, police can't enter your home without a warrant. Don't give them permission to enter your home. Ask them to show you a warrant before allowing them inside.
- Remain calm, even if police are violating your rights. If threatened, police are more likely to lash out against you or others. Often, it is better to challenge police in court.
- Keep a record of the encounter. Remember names, times, locations and events. Contact any of the organizations in this or the previous section for legal help.

COMMUNITIES UNITED AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY

612-874-STOP; www.cuapb.org

WHO: Anyone.

WHAT: 24 hour crisis line that people can call to report instances of abuse. Can send out a crisis team to investigate the complaint, take photos and statements and offer immediate assistance. We follow up with legal, medical and psychological referrals and other services as needed.

I USE DRUGS



SAFER DRUG USE

FYI: MARIJUANA

In Minnesota, possession of a small amount of marijuana (less than 1.5 ounces) is only a petty misdemeanor, which is not a crime. The maximum punishment is a \$300 fine. If you are in a car, be sure to put your weed in the trunk; if you have more than 1.4 grams in the passenger area of the car, you could be charged with a misdemeanor. Possession of or intent to sell more than 1.5 ounces of marijuana is a felony.

FYI: SAFER DRUG SUPPLIES

So you've decided to use drugs; do it the safer way! Always try to use new gear that you can get for free at your local needle exchange. It's best to never share anything (like needles, cookers, cottons or water). If you must re-use your rigs, clean them with bleach (this doesn't kill hepatitis C). Bleach only kills HIV if you do it right, so talk to the staff at the needle exchange and make sure you know how.

You're more than likely going to have to deal with an overdose, so educate yourself on what to do. Talk to older drug users you can trust or talk to the staff at the needle exchange. They'll talk to you about anything without judging you.

ACCESS WORKS

612-870-1830; www.accessworks.org

WHO: Anyone who uses drugs.

WHAT: Targets all injection drug users or anyone at risk for HIV or hepatitis and tries to hook them up with services like housing and basic needs. The Needle Exchange has safer injecting and piercing supplies as well as other safer drug supplies. Drop by the Store Front for safer sex supplies, free coffee, HIV/STD resources, free HIV/hepatitis C testing, prevention case management and support groups also available.

WHERE: 11 West 15th Street, Minneapolis (HIV/hep C testing can be done off-site)

WHEN: Store Front/Needle Exchange: Mon-Fri 11AM-6 PM, Sat 11 AM-3 PM.

Free HIV testing Mon-Fri 11 AM-4 PM or by appointment. User's Group (for injection drug users) Wed 4:30-6 PM, M2M Crystal Support Group (men who have sex with men and use crystal) Tue 7-8 PM, Health Realization Sat 1-3 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: No cost, no wait. Wheelchair accessible. Often snacks available. Can use phone, voicemail or address if needed.



DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT

If you think it's time to take a break in using or want to make a change in your life, treatment is an option. If you are under 18 you have a right to get treatment without your parent's knowledge.

If you have insurance, contact your insurance company to see if you have coverage for treatment. If not, call Hennepin County at 612-879-3503 or Ramsey County at 651-266-4444 and request a Rule 25 funding evaluation (free service) that will evaluate your financial need and chemical dependency. This will determine if you get inpatient (live in) or outpatient treatment. If you/your family cannot afford treatment, the county should pay for it.

AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY SERVICES

(see Mental Health section, pg. 17)

612-871-7878

WHO: Anyone, focus on African Americans.

WHAT: Chemical health: Rule 25 and outpatient treatment. Free if in Hennepin or Ramsey County and low-income.

WHERE: 2616 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis (main office: two in Minneapolis and one in St. Paul)

WHEN: Mon and Tue 8 AM-7 PM, Wed and Thu 8 AM-9 PM.

HOW: Call main number. Walk-ins in morning and appointments in afternoon.

Confirm office location.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Need ID or documentation. If have insurance, bring information.

YOUTH SAY: It has a great drug treatment program.

COMUNIDADES LATINAS UNIDOS EN SERVICIOS (CLUES)

612-746-3500 (Minneapolis, bigger mental health department), 651-379-4200 (St. Paul); www.clues.org

WHO: Anyone, especially Latinos/as.

WHAT: Free clinic. Chemical health: Rule 25 for any age from Ramsey and Dakota Counties in St. Paul or Dakota and Hennepin Counties in Minneapolis. Free as long as in the right county. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings, reintegration support for families, outreach/case management for homeless persons, tobacco prevention and intervention projects and the Latino Resource Center. Mental health: counseling and case management.

WHERE: 797 E. 7th Street, St. Paul and 720 E. Lake Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon-Thu 8:30 AM-7 PM, Fri 8:30 AM-5 PM.

HOW: Call for appointment. Walk in to use computer or job search.

LANGUAGE: Spanish.



WEST SUBURBAN TEEN CLINIC (see Safer Sex Supplies section, pg. 21)

952-474-3251; westsuburbanteenclinic.org

WHO: Ages 12-23.

WHAT: Teen clinic that provides addiction intervention and assessment. All services on sliding fee based on income; no one turned away who can't pay.

WHERE: 478 2nd Street, Excelsior

WHEN: Mon, Thu and Fri noon-5 PM, Tue noon-8 PM, Wed 10 AM-8 PM and Sat 10 AM-2 PM.

HOW: Call to make appointment for exams, counseling or classes.

LANGUAGE: Translation available for many languages.



HOUSING FIRST

It is difficult to find housing if you have any drug related crimes in your background. *Public Housing Authority disqualifies people for drug/criminal offenses in the last three years.* But chemical dependency and long-term homelessness can qualify you for permanent subsidized housing. Ask your case manager if they can help you access "Shelter Plus Care" programs for subsidized housing. Or try living in a transitional living program (pg. 45) until your three-year penalty is over.

YouthLink also has a housing program for chemically dependent youth:

YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Youth ages 16-21 diagnosed with mental illness, HIV or chemical dependency.

WHAT: Group residential housing for youth with 24 hour crisis support.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM.

HOW: Walk-in or call and ask about the program.



SUPPORT GROUPS

If you think that you'd like to meet with people like you who are dealing with

some of the same situations as you, you might want to try a support group.

THE BRIDGE (see Transitional Living Programs section, pg. 45)
612-377-8800

WHAT: Chemical Health Group for ages 16-21. The Bridge also has a 24 hour walk-in counselor open to anyone in community, a 24 hour crisis line (612-377-8800) and other groups for community.

WHERE: 2200 Emerson Avenue S., Minneapolis

WHEN: Wed 5-6:30 PM.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Sober space. Outreach workers are available.



ACCESS WORKS

612-870-1830; www.accessworks.org

WHAT: User's Group for injection drug users: Wed 4:30-6 PM. M2M Crystal Support Group for men who have sex with men and use crystal: Tue 7-8 PM. Health Realization Group: Sat 1-3 PM.

WHERE: 11 West 15th Street, Minneapolis (HIV/hepatitis C testing can be done off-site)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Wheelchair accessible. Often snacks available.



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Check out www.aaminneapolis.org and www.aastpaul.org for meeting locations and information.

I'M LIVING OR
WORKING ON THE
STREET...



SEX WORK

So you are doing sex work, be safer about it!

FYI: SAFER SEX WORK

Before You Go:

- Have a supply of condoms, lube, rubbing alcohol, band aids and napkins.
- Let your john see you put your money away. Don't put it in the same place as the rest of your money so if he robs you he won't take it all.
- Have a list of services and prices and stick to it!

Health Care:

- ALWAYS use a condom or dental dam during anal, oral or vaginal sex! If you don't have one, use plastic wrap for oral sex or rimming.
- Brush teeth daily, but no less than 30 minutes before giving oral sex.
- Change underwear daily or turn inside out on alternate days.
- Pee and lube up before sex if possible.
- Never touch any cuts, sores or skin openings on yourself or your partner! Cover with gauze when you are working and wash with soap and water.

Clothes:

- Wear shoes that come off easily or that you can run in.
- Don't wear big jewelry that can be grabbed or ripped.
- Don't wear anything that can get caught in a car door.
- If you need glasses or contacts, wear them!

Working in a Car:

- Arrange price, time and location before you get in.
- Keep door open a crack.
- Wave goodbye and yell what time you will return so your john knows someone will be waiting for you.

Sexual Violence:

Everyone has the right to be safe from sexual assault or violence no matter their job! If you have been raped, sexually assaulted or abused, see pg. 34 or contact these sex worker-specific agencies. If you or your friend gets hurt working legally, call 911. If you get hurt during sex work, call the police anonymously and ask for options first.

These agencies help sex workers access services and leave sex work if they want.

BREAKING FREE

651-645-6557; www.breakingfree.net

WHO: Women and girls in prostitution. All ages welcome. Male sex workers can call to find services too. Serves mostly women of color but open to anyone.

WHAT: Services to help women escape from prostitution. Drop-in center provides crisis services to women and girls who come in straight from the streets.

Groups: chemical dependency relapse prevention, Building Strong Families.

Health program: physical examinations, appropriate lab testing, family planning services and other medical services. Transportation provided. Information about HIV/AIDS, STDs, maternal alcohol abuse, breast and cervical cancer, diabetes and family planning. **Internship program:** this program allows women who may have never held a real job to become employable. Local businesses hire women in this program, regardless of criminal records or lack of employment history for three to six months. Women who successfully complete internships are then hired on a permanent basis. Case manager provided. **Youth:** can help you deal with Child Protection Services. **Transitional housing program:** five units, 18 month program in community home, independent living skills and case management. **Permanent housing program:** 17 units in apartment, indefinite stay. Can also help you get ID.

WHERE: 770 University Avenue W., St. Paul

WHEN: Mon-Fri 9 AM-5 PM. Office not open on holidays.

HOW: Call and make an intake appointment or just walk in off the street.

LANGUAGE: One Spanish speaker.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Do not have to quit sex work to get services. Also has basic supplies, hygiene, condoms, combs, soaps and a clothing closet. Don't have to be sober, clean or healthy. If they can't help you, they will find you someone who can.



TEEN PRIDE

1-888-PRIDE-99 (toll free), 612-728-2062 (24 hour crisis line);

www.fcsmn.org/PRIDE

WHO: Ages 12-17 and adult survivors of prostitution. Women only.

WHAT: Drop-in center with hygiene supplies, computer, phone books, phone, couch and snacks. Weekly support groups for adult and teen survivors of prostitution.

WHERE: 4123 E. Lake Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Call for group meeting times. Drop-in hours are Mon 9 AM-5:30 PM, Tue-Thu 9 AM-6:30 PM. Advocates are available Mon-Fri 8 AM-4:30 PM.

Meeting for teens at Project OffStreets (41 N. 12th Street, 612-252-1200) Mon 5-7 PM.

HOW: Call and set up an appointment or just drop-in. Must do 30 minute intake

to participate in groups (with paperwork and interview). No intake needed to be in drop-in center.

LANGUAGE: Spanish and Somali speakers in the building but not this program.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Goal of organization is to get you out of sex work, but they do not require that you quit.



EAST SIDE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB GANG PREVENTION AND TATTOO REMOVAL

612-282-5953 (ask for DJ David Thelen)

WHO: Ages 18 and under for St. Paul youth, open on case by case basis to other youth.

WHAT: Tattoo removal and gang prevention program. Tattoo removal treatments every six weeks. Attend life skills classes on Wednesdays. Volunteer requirements of 20 hours between tattoo removal treatment. Job skills, education and involvement and recreation.

WHERE: Off White Bear Avenue on Ames Avenue in East St. Paul

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: This is a big commitment.



Panhandling is asking other people for money, things or help. Loitering is just sitting or standing around where you're not supposed to. You can get in trouble for both of these activities. But you also have rights.

FYI: PANHANDLING AND LOITERING LAWS WHAT'S LEGAL ON THE STREET DEPENDS ON WHERE YOU ARE.

In MINNEAPOLIS, it is illegal to panhandle in these places:

- In restrooms
- Within 10 feet in any direction from a crosswalk
- In public transportation vehicles, facilities, stops or shelters
- On any park land, playground or public entertainment venue, including within 50 feet of entry or exits
- By asking someone in a parked or stopped car
- At a sidewalk café
- At an entrance of a business or government building
- Within 80 feet in any direction from an ATM or financial institution
- At or within 10 feet of gas station, liquor store or convenience store property

While:

- Touching others
- Blocking a path or entrance
- Following a person who said "no" to ask again
- Using obscene, profane or abusive language
- Making others afraid that you may hurt them
- Threatening to damage other's stuff
- Scaring others
- When you are drunk or high

- When you are in a group of two or more
 - Asking for help while it is dark outside
- However, it IS legal to:**
- Stand calmly and ask for help once
 - Sit or perform with a sign (if you have a sign you can't verbally ask for help)

Loitering on public property is not against the law, but loiterers may be arrested for other illegal things like:

- Drinking alcohol in public
- Trying to buy sex
- Aggressive panhandling (see above)
- Disorderly conduct
- Blocking walking or car traffic

In ST. PAUL, it is illegal to panhandle in:

- A restroom
- At a bus or light rail stop or shelter
- At a crosswalk
- In any public transportation vehicle or public transportation facility
- In a vehicle which is parked or stopped on a public street, alley or off-ramp
- In a sidewalk café or restaurant
- In a line waiting to get into a business or government building
- Within 20 feet in any direction from an ATM or entrance to a bank, other financial institution or check cashing business
- In a park
- Within 10 feet in any direction of a gas station, liquor store or convenience store
- In public or private property where there is a posted "no solicitation" sign

While:

- Touching a person without their consent
- Blocking someone's path or entrance to a building or vehicle
- Following a person who walks away from you after you ask once with the intent to intimidate or ask again
- Being or using language that is offensive, obscene or abusive
- Approaching the person in an intimidating way
- When you are drunk or high
- When you are in a group of two or more

Loitering on public property in St. Paul is only illegal in these situations:

- Hanging out with thieves, prostitutes, etc. after midnight
- Intending to do something illegal, like selling drugs or sex
- Blocking the sidewalk or traffic for no reason

TIPS: BE HONEST ABOUT YOUR NEEDS WHEN YOU ARE ASKING FOR MONEY. PEOPLE WILL APPRECIATE IT.

TRANSGENDER YOUTH SHOULD ASK FOR MONEY AT GLBTQ-FRIENDLY PLACES.

TRY ASKING FOR GOODS INSTEAD OF MONEY, LIKE CIGARETTES.



MONDAY-THURSDAY MEALS

BREAKFAST

MINNEAPOLIS

Branch III Catholic Charities 7-7:30 AM; 7:30-8 AM
Sharing and Caring Hands 10-11 AM

ST. PAUL

West 7th Salvation Army 7:30-8:30 AM

LUNCH

MINNEAPOLIS

Branch III Catholic Charities 11:30 AM-noon; noon-12:30 PM
House of Charity noon-1 PM
Sharing and Caring Hands noon-1:30 PM

ST. PAUL

Salvation Army Payne Ave noon-12:45 PM
Dorothy Day Center noon-12:45 PM

DINNER

MINNEAPOLIS

Sharing and Caring Hands 4-5:30 PM
Holy Rosary 5:15-6:15 PM
River of Life 5:30-6:15 PM
St. Stephen's 5:30-6:30 PM
Harbor Lights (Salvation Army) 6-6:30 PM
Marie Sandvik Center 8-8:30 PM (available Tue ONLY)

ST. PAUL

Dorothy Day Center 4:30-5:15 PM
St. Matthew 5-6 PM
Faith Lutheran 5:30-6:30 PM (NOT available Wed)

BLOOMINGTON

Creekside Community Center 5:30-6:30 PM

FRIDAY MEALS

BREAKFAST

MINNEAPOLIS

Branch III Catholic Charities 7-7:30 AM; 7:30-8 AM

ST. PAUL

West 7th Salvation Army 7:30-8:30 AM

LUNCH

MINNEAPOLIS

Branch III Catholic Charities 11:30 AM-noon; noon-12:30 PM
House of Charity noon-1 PM

ST. PAUL

Salvation Army Payne Ave noon-12:45 PM
Dorothy Day Center noon-12:45 PM

DINNER

MINNEAPOLIS

River of Life 5:30-6:15 PM
St. Stephen's 5:30-6:30 PM
Harbor Lights (Salvation Army) 6-6:30 PM
Marie Sandvik Center 8-8:30 PM

ST. PAUL

Dorothy Day Center 4:30-5:15 PM
Faith Lutheran 5:30-6:30 PM

BLOOMINGTON

Creekside Community Center 5:30-6:30 PM

SATURDAY MEALS

BREAKFAST

MINNEAPOLIS

Branch III Catholic Charities 7-7:30 AM; 7:30-8 AM
Sharing and Caring Hands 10-11 AM

ST. PAUL

Dorothy Day Center 9-9:30 AM

LUNCH

MINNEAPOLIS

Branch III Catholic Charities 11:30 AM-noon; noon-12:30 PM
House of Charity noon-1 PM
Wesley United Methodist noon-1 PM

ST. PAUL

Dorothy Day Center noon-12:45 PM

DINNER

MINNEAPOLIS

Harbor Lights (Salvation Army) 6-6:30 PM

ST. PAUL

Dorothy Day Center 4:30-5:15 PM

SUNDAY MEALS

BREAKFAST

MINNEAPOLIS

Sharing and Caring Hands 9:30-11 AM

ST. PAUL

Dorothy Day Center 9-9:30 AM

LUNCH

MINNEAPOLIS

House of Charity noon-1 PM

ST. PAUL

Dorothy Day Center noon-12:45 PM

DINNER

MINNEAPOLIS

Harbor Lights (Salvation Army) 6-6:30 PM
Marie Sandvik Center 8-8:30 PM

ST. PAUL

Dorothy Day Center 4:30-5:15 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION

Branch III Catholic Charities: 714 E 17th Street, Minneapolis 612-278-1120

Creekside Community Center: 9801 Penn Avenue S., Bloomington 952-948-0746

Dorothy Day Center*: 183 Old 6th Street, St. Paul 651-293-1919

Faith Lutheran Church*: 499 Charles Avenue, St. Paul 651-291-8765

Harbor Lights (Salvation Army): 1010 Currie Avenue, Minneapolis 612-338-0113

Holy Rosary Church*: 2424 18th Avenue S., Minneapolis 612-724-8929

House of Charity: 714 Park Avenue S., Minneapolis 612-333-8968

Marie Sandvik Center: 1112 E Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis 612-870-9617

River of Life Lutheran Church*: 2200 Fremont Avenue N., Minneapolis 612-588-5777

Salvation Army: 401 West 7th Street, St. Paul 651-224-4316

Salvation Army: 1019 Payne Avenue, St. Paul 651-776-8169

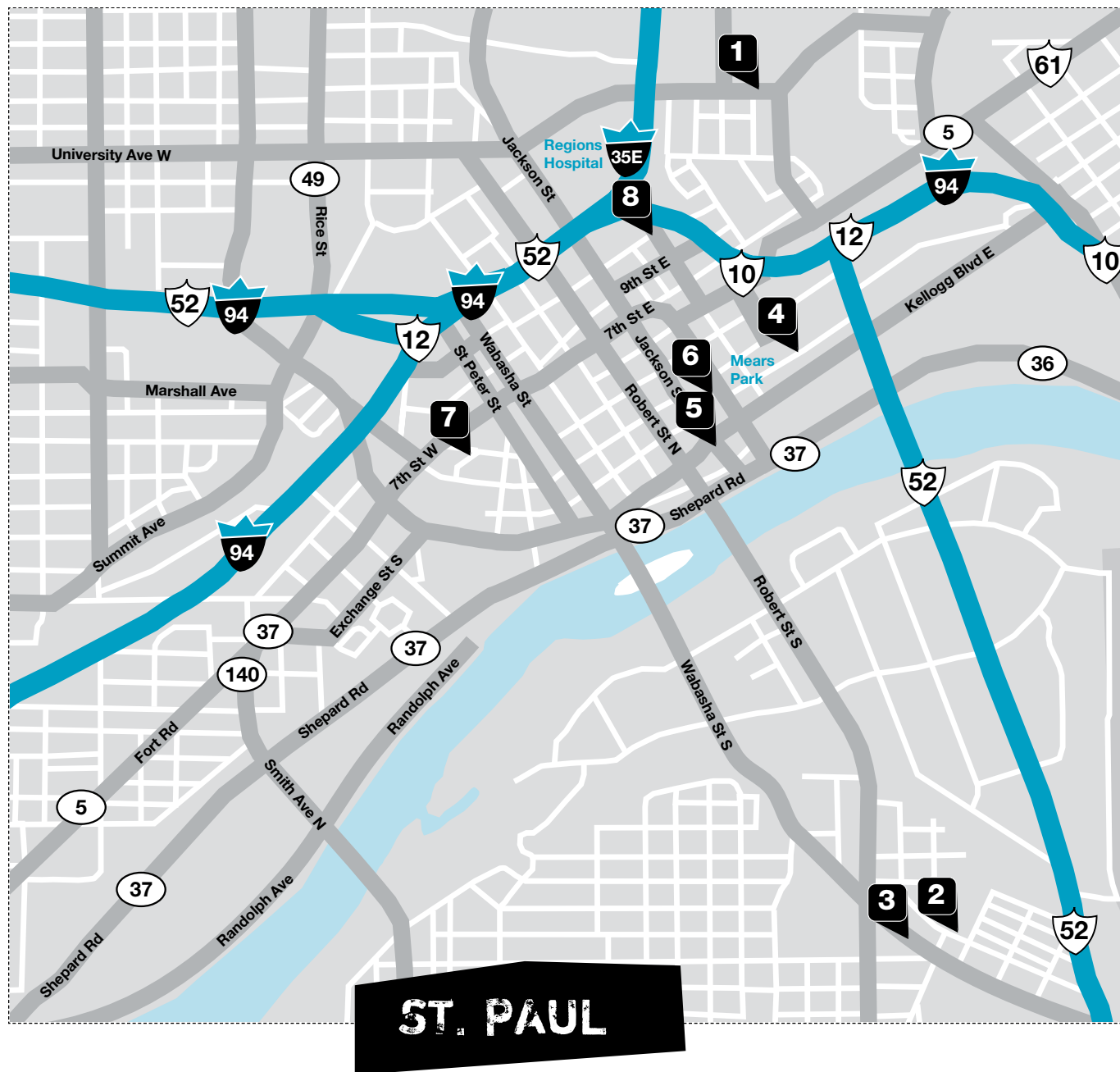
Sharing and Caring Hands (Mary Jo's): 425 N. 7th Street, Minneapolis 612-338-4640

St. Matthew Catholic Church: 510 Hall Street, St. Paul 651-224-9793

St. Stephen's *: 2211 Clinton Avenue, Minneapolis 612-377-9810

Wesley United Methodist Church: 101 East Grant Street, Minneapolis 612-871-3585

*Meals provided by Loaves and Fishes: www.loavesandfishesmn.org



- 1 UNION GOSPEL MISSION:** 435 E. University Avenue, pg. 33
- 2 NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE:** 179 Robie Street E., pg. 7
- 3 LA CLÍNICA:** 153 Cesar Chavez Street, pg. 16
- 4 SAFEZONE:** 308 Prince Street, pg. 6
- 5 RAMSEY COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES:** 160 E. Kellogg, pg. 20
- 6 SOUTHERN MINNESOTA REGIONAL LEGAL SERVICES:** 166 E. 4th Street, Suite 200, pg. 66
- 7 DOROTHY DAY CENTER:** 183 Old 6th Street, pg. 33
- 8 FAMILY PLACE:** 244 10th Street E., pg. 34

NOTES



NOTES



NOTES





I want to give back to the community now that I am back on my feet. Or I want to help others in order to help myself.

Volunteer at any of the organizations in this guide or join an activist group like one of these:

OUTFRONT MINNESOTA

612-822-0127; www.outfront.org

WHO: GLBTQ and allied youth.

WHAT: Volunteering opportunities for activism and organizing.

WHERE: 310 E. 38th Street, Suite 204, Minneapolis

HOW: Call to find out how you can help.

BUS: 23, 9

PEACE FOUNDATION

612-521-4405; www.citypeace.org

WHAT: Working to end local violence starting in North Minneapolis. Peace ball, 5K Peace Run, Basketball on the Block, Peace Block Parties, Peace Summer and more.

HOW: Call to find out how you can help.

SUBZERO COLLECTIVE

www.collectivesight.com/home.htm

WHAT: Created by Minneapolis youth to connect hip-hop, politics and products. The Collective provides a way to channel hip-hop culture into a political vehicle.

HOW: Call to find out how you can help.

YO! THE MOVEMENT

612-874-9696; www.yothemovement.org

WHAT: A non-profit organization that hosts, promotes and implements safe events, programs and happenings for youth and young adults in Minnesota. Benefit concerts and performances.

WHERE: 420 N. 5th Street, Suite 1040, Minneapolis

HOW: Call to find out how you can help.

YOUTHLINK/PROJECT OFFSTREETS

(see Drop-In Centers section, pg. 6)

612-252-1200; www.youthlinkmn.org

WHO: Ages 16-20.

WHAT: Youth advisory board, youth health board, youth groups and social activism around issues of youth homelessness.

WHERE: 41 N. 12th Street, Minneapolis

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and Sat 3-8 PM.

STREETWORKS is interested in youth feedback. Call 612-252-2735.



This guide was made possible by StreetWorks and many others in the youth-serving community. Kulture Klub also supported the creation of Our Guide. Printing provided by Partners for Violence Prevention.

The StreetWorks team of 25 outreach workers can be found on the streets and in community sites seven days a week. Outreach workers are on the streets to answer questions, listen and help young people find resources. They carry green bags filled with snacks, bus tokens, condoms, diapers, emergency blankets, basic clothing and hygiene supplies.

This guide is made for youth, by youth. Over 130 Twin Cities youth in shelters, drop-in centers and community centers provided the topics, agencies, youth comments, title, tips and artwork for this guide. So, use it in the way that fits your life. Carry it around or leave it to be found. Copy any part of it and pass it on to your friends.

For more guides, or to make suggestions or corrections for future guides, **CONTACT STREETWORKS AT 612-252-2735.**



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CONTACT STREETWORKS TO LEARN HOW.
STREETWORKS@FREEPORTWEST.ORG OR
(612-252-2735).

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“wholehearted creative design”