

# RUNAWAY & HOMELESS YOUTH ACT

The Runaway & Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) provides funding to local non-profits to provide street outreach, drop-in center programs, emergency shelter, transitional living program and/or supportive housing for runaway youth, homeless youth, and youth at-risk of homelessness.

## RHYA At-a-Glance

RHYA funding provides:

- Street Outreach
- Drop-In Centers
- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Living Programs and Supportive Housing

## Homelessness Among Minnesota Youth is at Epidemic Levels

- An estimated 22,410 youth are homeless each year in Minnesota;
- Half of the total homeless population are children or youth under age 21;
- 88% of youth under 17 are enrolled in school;
- 54% of homeless youth under 17 are from Greater Minnesota;
- 70% of homeless youth have spent time in foster care, group homes, treatment center, or corrections.

### Impact

- 586 homeless and at-risk youth were served in the past two years
  - Street Outreach, 312
  - Drop-In Center, 242
  - Emergency Shelter, 32
- A 2007 study of 120 youth involved in the programs found that RHYA participants had increased school attendance, increased their income, and decreased delinquency

## RHYA Funding History

- 2008-2009: One-time appropriation of \$1 million
- 2010-2011: One-time appropriation of \$218,000
- 2012-2013: One time appropriation of \$238,000, with an emphasis on funding programs in Greater Minnesota



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**2013 Request: Increase of \$8 million/biennium**

Note: data is from 2006 and needs updating

Note: include story in middle section