

**Lead Agency:** County Human Services

**Program Contact:** Mary Li

**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating

**Related Programs:**

**Program Characteristics:** In Target

### Executive Summary

Runaway Youth Services provide a 24/7 Reception Center, crisis line, shelter, support services, family counseling and reunification services, and gender-specific transitional housing services for approximately 2,000 youth ages 12-17 who have run away, or who are at risk of running away, as well as their families.

This program is a collaboration among DCHS, DCJ and DHS. 80% of those served return home or to another stable living environment at exit.

### Program Description

Runaway Youth Services include: Reception Center - a collaboration among law enforcement, DCJ and DHS - to directly receive from officers, youth found to have committed minor status offenses such as curfew violation, truancy, etc... as an alternative to detention. The Reception Center is co-located with runaway crisis response services, creating a countywide "child receiving center" for youth up to age 18.

Crisis Line - 24/7 youth and family help line that serves as a central access point for services. Telephone intervention and face-to-face, drop-in intervention also is available. This is the only community-based resource for runaway youth and families in the county.

Emergency Shelter - shelter and emergency assistance in an 11-bed, co-ed group home with services focused on family reunification. Youth receive food, safety from the street, medical care, transportation and case management services. Shelter services operate within a 72-hour intervention timeline. Research shows that the longer a young person is separated from family (where no abuse is present), the potential for eventual reunification decreases and further involvement in the child welfare system increases.

Support Services/Case Management includes: intake; assessment; individual service plans targeting family reunification; addiction treatment referrals; mental health counseling; and family mediation. Gender Specific Transitional Housing provides two beds for girls in a group home setting. Research shows that a single gender environment results in better self-sufficiency outcomes for young women.

Runaway Youth Services successfully impact detention reform efforts and reduce the number of children entering the child welfare system. County investment in Runaway Youth Services through DCHS is leveraged by investments from law enforcement, the juvenile justice system and DHS. When families are able to appropriately raise their children at home, community resources are not depleted.

### Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY10-11)	Current Year Purchased (FY11-12)	Current Year Estimate (FY11-12)	Next Year Offer (FY12-13)
Output	# of youth and families served	1,917	2,000	2,002	2,000
Outcome	% of youth served who return home or exit to other stable housing	82.0%	85.0%	85.0%	85.0%

### Performance Measure - Description

Stable housing can describe being in DHS custody which could include foster or group home placement, but most youth are reunited with family.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

N/A

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2012	2012	2013	2013
Personnel	\$16,815	\$0	\$16,819	\$0
Contracts	\$927,432	\$189,476	\$741,517	\$194,990
Materials & Supplies	\$435	\$0	\$356	\$0
Internal Services	\$1,792	\$0	\$1,711	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$946,474	\$189,476	\$760,403	\$194,990
Program Total:	\$1,135,950		\$955,393	
Program FTE	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00
Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$189,476	\$0	\$194,990
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$189,476	\$0	\$194,990

Explanation of Revenues

\$194,990 - OCCF Youth Investment: Based on OCCF estimated funding  
\$760,403 - County General Fund

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #25138A, Runaway Youth Services