

INTERFACE CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

2019 RUNAWAY & HOMELESS YOUTH



IN THE UNITED STATES . . .

According to the National Runaway Switchboard, on any given night in the US, there are approximately 1.3 million homeless youth living on the streets. These runaway youth are at a higher risk for physical abuse, sexual exploitation, mental health disabilities, substance abuse, and death. It is estimated that 5,000 unaccompanied youth die each year as a result of assault, illness, or suicide.



INTERFACE HISTORY

Established in 1973, Interface Children & Family Services began as a collaboration between educators, law enforcement, the faith community, and parents focused on struggling youth and families in crisis. Interface offered family counseling, community education, and innovative “cool homes,” a solution that placed troubled teens with neighborhood families. In 2014, Interface opened Ventura County's first shelter dedicated to runaway and homeless youth which, over a 2 year period, had an 85% success rate in placing youth in safe, stable home environments.

TODAY'S HOMELESS YOUTH

- > 1 in 7 young people between the ages of 10 and 18 will run away
- > Youth aged 12 to 17 are more at-risk of homelessness than adults
- > 75% of runaways are female
- > Estimates of the number of pregnant homeless girls ranges from 6% to 22%
- > 20% to 40% of homeless youth identify as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender or Questioning (GLBTQ)
- > 46% of runaway and homeless youth report being physically abused, 38% emotionally abused, and 17% forced into unwanted sexual activity by a family or household member
- > 75% of homeless or runaway youth have dropped out of school or will drop out
- > Nearly one in five (19.4%) of the 911 interviewed youth were victims of human trafficking, with 15% having been trafficked for sex, 7.4% trafficked for labor and 3% trafficked for both.
- > Other key findings:
 - 21% of young women and 10% of young men interviewed had been trafficked for sex
 - 27% of LGBTQ youth reported experiences consistent with the U.S. federal definition of sex trafficking
 - 32% of the youth interviewed had engaged in some way in the sex trade at some point (41% of young females, 25% of young men and 56% of transgender youth)

RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

“Interface estimates that there are 200 homeless youth are living on the street in Ventura County on any given night”

RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH ARE:

- > 12-17 for minor youth and 18-24 for Transitional Aged Youth
- > Living on the streets, living in cars, couch surfing or moving from one location to the next

STREET OUTREACH HAS PROVIDED:

- > 154 youth with on-site mobile crisis support
- > Shelter for 92 homeless youth with 83% reunited with family or offered safe housing
- > Response to 252 youth hotline calls

HELP IS AVAILABLE 24/7:

- > Call 211
- > Text zipcode to 898211
- > Call Youth Crisis Line at 24 hours/7 days a week, 805-469-5882
- > Our Street Outreach Team is engaging youth daily in Oxnard and Ventura

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

INDIVIDUALS

Camarina and Ralph Campillo
F. Paul and Virginia Chounet
Beverly and Bill Dallas
Nancy Ferguson
Dina and Jim Furash
Nancy and Spencer Garrett
Paige and David Glickman
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TWENTY-TWO SERVICE LOCATIONS IN THE FOLLOWING CITIES:

- > Camarillo
- > Fillmore
- > Moorpark
- > Oxnard
- > Port Hueneme
- > Santa Paula
- > Simi Valley
- > Thousand Oaks
- > Ventura

* Interface operates three confidential domestic violence shelters and the only human trafficking and homeless youth shelters in Ventura County, as well as thirteen First 5 Ventura County Neighborhood for Learning Powered by Interface sites.



www.icfs.org (805)485-6114

References

- <http://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/homeless-and-runaway-youth.aspx>
- <https://www.hrc.org/blog/new-report-on-youth-homeless-affirms-that-lgbtq-youth-disproportionately-ex>
- <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/230/homeless-students/table#fmt=356&loc=363&tf=88,84,79,73,67&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc>
- Reporting completed by ICFS SOP department using TIER (Reporting Period, 10/1/18-3/31-19)
- <https://www.covenanthouse.org/homeless-issues/human-trafficking-study>