FYSB provides national leadership on youth issues and assists individuals and organizations in providing effective, comprehensive services for youth in at-risk situations and their families and families affected by domestic violence. The goals of FYSB programs are to provide positive alternatives for youth and families to ensure their safety, and maximize their potential to take advantage of available opportunities.

RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH PROGRAM

Every year, as many as 550,000 young people are homeless for more than a week, according to estimates by the National Alliance to End Homelessness. On the street, youth can become victims of violence, develop serious mental health and addiction problems, and be forced to trade sex for basic needs. The Runaway and Homeless Youth Program serves as the national leader for the provision of shelter services to unaccompanied homeless youth. Grants are administered to public and private organizations to establish and operate youth emergency shelters and transitional living programs.

- **Basic Center Programs** fund grants to community-based public and private agencies for the provision of emergency shelter for up to 21 days; food, clothing, and medical care; mental and physical health services; education and employment assistance; outreach; crisis intervention; individual, group, and family counseling; family reunification; and aftercare services to runaway and homeless youth and their families.

- **Transitional Living Programs and Maternity Group Home Programs** provide grants to public and private organizations for community-based, adult-supervised group homes for youth ages 16 to under 22 years who cannot safely live with their own families. These services are designed to help youth that are homeless develop the skills necessary to make a successful transition to self-sufficient living. The Transitional Living Program also funds maternity group homes, which are specifically designed to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting youth. Both programs provide long-term, safe and stable shelter for homeless youth; individual and group counseling; life skills training; interpersonal skill building; educational advancement; job attainment skills; and physical and behavioral health care. The maternity group homes provide these services in addition to parenting support.

- **Street Outreach Programs** fund grants to public and private organizations for street-based services to runaway, homeless, and street youth, who have been subjected to, or are at risk of being subjected to, sexual abuse, human trafficking, or sexual exploitation. Services include basic needs, including food, clothing, hygiene or first aid packages; and information about services and safe places, and encouragement to enter them.

- **The National Runaway Safeline** provides education and solution-focused interventions; offers non-sectarian, non-judgmental support; respects confidentiality; collaborates with volunteers; and responds to at-risk youth and their families 24/7. The Safeline coordinates National Runaway Prevention Month each November as well as other national runaway-related events and serves as the Federally-mandated National Communication System for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program.

ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROGRAM

Although teen birth rates have been falling for the last two decades, more than 229,000 teens, ages 15–19, gave birth in 2015, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Teen pregnancy and childbearing can carry high health, emotional, social and financial costs for both teen parents and their children. To prevent teen pregnancy and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases among adolescents, FYSB supports state, Tribal and community efforts to promote medically accurate abstinence and contraceptive education, adulthood preparation programs and abstinence only education.
• State Personal Responsibility Education Program and Competitive Personal Responsibility Education Program promote proven methods for reducing adolescent pregnancy, delaying sex among young people and increasing the use of condoms and other contraceptives among sexually active youth, American Indian and Alaska Native youth.
• Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Programs help Tribes combat the disproportionately high rates of teen pregnancy and birth in American Indian and Alaska Native.
• Personal Responsibility Education Innovative Strategies Programs support organizations that are using innovative strategies to prevent pregnancy among youth ages 10–19 who are homeless, in or “aging out” of foster care, live in geographic areas with high teen birth rates, or come from vulnerable populations of youth, as well as pregnant and parenting youth under the age of 21.
• State Abstinence Programs support abstinence education, mentoring, counseling and adult supervision in order to prevent teen pregnancy.
• Sexual Risk Avoidance Education Programs support organizations implementing sexual risk avoidance education that teach youth how to voluntarily refrain from non-marital sexual activity, empower youth to make healthy decisions and provide tools and resources to prevent pregnancy, STI, and youth engagement in other risky behaviors.

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES PROGRAM

Approximately 12.6 million people in the United States experienced rape, physical violence and/or stalking by a current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend in 2010, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Around 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year. The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, or FVPSA, funds programs that provide both a safe haven to victims and their children and an array of supportive services to intervene in and prevent abuse.

• Formula Grants to States and Territories fund programs that provide shelter, safety planning, crisis counseling, information and referral, legal advocacy and a range of supportive services for victims of domestic and dating violence and their children.
• Grants to Tribes provide for culturally competent services, including shelter and supportive services, for victims of domestic violence and their dependents. The program currently funds over 200 Tribes and Tribal organizations.
• State Domestic Violence Coalitions provide technical assistance and training to local domestic violence programs and serve as the go-to organizations for coordination of statewide services and emerging issues.
• Discretionary programs aim to improve family violence prevention, victim protection, service delivery and design, and understanding of issues related to family violence.
• The National Domestic Violence Hotline provides an immediate response to thousands of victims and survivors of domestic violence, their families and friends, and concerned others.
• A network of resource centers specialize in issues related to domestic violence. In addition, culturally specific institutes promote culturally relevant services for victims of domestic violence, their families and communities.

LEARN MORE

For up-to-date information about FYSB’s programs, priorities and funding opportunities, go to www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb.