

July 13, 2020

Hello RHY Grantees.

The Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) continues to monitor the national impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and we understand its effect on the runaway and homeless youth community. Based on current information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), we have made the decision to pivot the National RHY Grantees' Training 2020, to a completely virtual experience.

Your health and safety is of utmost importance and our top priority. Though our training event is still months away, the uncertainty surrounding the spread of COVID-19 and impact to our communities has led us to plan for a virtual experience this November in lieu of an in-person gathering. We believe this is the most responsible path forward to maintain safe conditions for our attendees, presenters, exhibitors, and the communities you serve.

This decision was not made lightly, as we know many depend on the training and networking opportunities the in-person training provides. We are in the early planning stages for rethinking and reshaping our typical training format. Rest assured we will bring you a virtual experience that is inclusive and reflects FYSB's commitment to advancing best practices and bringing thoughtful and dynamic speakers and presenters to inspire and inform the work you do. The virtual experience will include opportunities to connect with other RHY providers from across the nation and will offer trainings on diverse topics. As we continue to plan we will share details and information as soon as it becomes available.

We would like to take this time to recognize the efforts of our planning members who have worked hard to create an in-person event for 2020. We are fortunate that we are able to make this decision early in our planning and we are excited to offer a virtual experience where even more RHY providers are able to participate.

We look forward to sharing the training schedule and registration details in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Runaway and Homeless Youth Training and Technical Center directly at (888) 290-7233 or email <a href="mailto:info@rhyttac.net">info@rhyttac.net</a>.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Darling Commissioner

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Administration on Children, Youth and Families

Acting Associate Commissioner

Family and Youth Services Bureau