PART I - FACE SHEET

APPLICATION FOR FE	DERAL	1. TYPE OF SUBMIS	SION:			
Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to con	firm to the Corp	Application X Non-Construction				
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):	ND COMMUNITY			STATE APPLICATION	N IDENTIFIER:	
2b. APPLICATION ID: 4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY O			GENCY:	FEDERAL IDENTIFIE	R:	
11AC122772			09ACHWI0010004			
5. APPLICATION INFORMATION			NAME AND COL	ITA OT INICODAMATION	FOR DROUGOT DIRECTOR OR OTHER	
LEGAL NAME: Wisconsin Association for Runaway Services DUNS NUMBER: 113730290 ADDRESS (give street address, city, state, zip code and county): Direct Service Outreach to Runaways 2318 E. Dayton St. Madison WI 53704 - 4949 County: Dane			NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes): NAME: Patricia Balke TELEPHONE NUMBER: (608) 241-2649 FAX NUMBER: (608) 241-2649 INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: pbalke@sbcglobal.net			
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 391370760			7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: 7a. Non-Profit 7b. Community-Based Organization 9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service			
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check appropriate box). NEW NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTE X CONTINUATION AMENDMENT If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es): A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (specify below):						
						10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER:94.006
10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State			Direct Service Outreach to Runaways			
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (List Cities, Counties, States, etc): cities of Milwaukee (2), Green Bay (2), Sturgeon Bay, Menomonie, Rhinelander, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Marinette, Manitowoc, Eau Claire, Superior, West Bend, Madison, Janesville, and Appleton, WI (35 counties)			11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):			
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DATE: 09/01/11 END DATE: 08/30/12			14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF: a.Applicant WI 002 b.Program WI 002			
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: 3			16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?			
a. FEDERAL	V 101,121.00		YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON:			
b. APPLICANT	\$ 368,216.00					
c. STATE	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.00		:		
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00		X NO. PROGR	NO. PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372		
e. OTHER	\$ 0.00					
f. PROGRAM INCOME	f. PROGRAM INCOME \$ 0.00		17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? YES if "Yes," attach an explanation. X NO			
g. TOTAL 18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BO IS AWARDED.		ATA IN THIS APPLICAT			CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN	
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: b. TITLE:					c. TELEPHONE NUMBER:	
Patricia Balke	Executive Director			(608) 241-2649		
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESEN	ITATIVE:				e. DATE SIGNED: 05/06/11	

Narratives

Executive Summary

Runaway and homeless youth who live on the street are leaving unbearable conditions only to enter into high risk situations with few resources and support systems. Wisconsin Association for Runaway Services' AmeriCorps members provide street outreach and crisis intervention to these youth. Food, transportation, clothing, educational materials, shelter, and referrals are provided. The majority of youth are reunited with their families or a safe alternative is found. Members provide services in 36 counties, ensuring runaway, homeless, and youth in crisis have a strong support system.

Rationale and Approach

A. RATIONALE AND APPROACH:

1. NEED; In WI there is a critical need for the provision of alternatives to the street for both runaway and homeless youth. Youth leave home due to severe family issues and often are forced out to escape sexual or physical abuse. Returning a youth without resolving the crisis can result in continuing conflict or more tragic consequences. WI runaway programs have seen an increase in homeless youth in addition to runaways. These youth have no home to return to, either due to their family being homeless, the youth being "thrown out", or being abandoned. WI Assoc. for Runaway Services (WARS)

AmeriCorps members support runaway and homeless youth services (counseling, mediation, hotline, shelter and support services) through the provision of family mediation, street outreach, and other services to relieve these crises. WARS also provides services to homeless youth through 6 transitional living programs which provide long term shelter and services.

A WARS needs survey found that street outreach, community education, and support to youth in shelters were priorities. In response to these needs, 13 programs (Appleton, Green Bay, Sturgeon Bay, Milwaukee (2), Sheboygan, Madison, Marinette, Rhinelander, Menomonie, Eau Claire, Superior, West Bend) collaborated on this proposal, utilizing WARS as the lead agency. Members aid teens in accessing a safe living arrangement and necessary mental/physical health care, ensuring a BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR YOUTH (FOCUS AREA 2). WARS collects statewide data in addition to an AmeriCorps data report.

Narratives

In 2007-08, the 13 sites had over 49,000 CONTACTS with youth on the street. 3,277 youth received additional services. Factors that contributed to running were; Physical Abuse-17.5%, sexual abuse-8.91% (known to be underreported), emotional abuse-13.57%, alcohol/drug abuse-28.61%, and parental neglect-7.73% (statistics are combined due to space restraint). Runaway youth interviewed by WARS experienced a myriad of mental and physical health problems; some had been physically attacked necessitating medical care. There is a wide spread mistrust and misunderstanding of runaway and homeless youth who are often viewed as delinquent rather then in desperate need of help. It is necessary to educate communities, leading to greater understanding of the crisis and awareness of services. Data demonstrates an increase in youth who are homeless as opposed to runaways. Milwaukee programs reported in 2007 that 25% of their clientele were homeless (compared to only 11% in 2001). Madison reported a doubling in the number of homeless youth served in a one year period. According to The Nat. Runaway Switchboard; "each year approximately 5,000 runaway and homeless youth die from assault, illness, and suicide". Runaways are distrustful of established services, therefore the outreach provided by AC members who are non-judgmental (many members have had similar life experiences), is a critical component to the programs. Poverty is a factor in youth homelessness. 18 counties served through this proposal (Clark, Rusk, Barron, Dunn, Pepin, Polk, Marinette, Forest, Oneida, Vilas, Door, Burnette, Sawyer, Washburn, Ashland, Bayfield, Iron, and Price) are rural counties with a Beale code of 6 or higher. (Dept of Ag, Rural Urban Continuum Codes). Of the 36 counties in this proposal, 28 meet at least one criteria for economic depression; unemployment rates that exceed nat. avg. (Dept. of Labor 2007), a poverty rate of greater than 125% of the nat. avg. (US Census, 2005) or a per capita income that is less than 75% of the US nat. avg. (US Bur. of Economic Analysis, 2005). Runaways are extremely susceptible to alcohol and drug abuse. Youth in WI have an above average problem with alcohol usage. According to the WI Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2007) a staggering 73% of students reported drinking alcohol. In the Northwest part of the state (Menomonie and Eau Claire), a report in the WI State Journal (3/06) reported on the prevalence of methamphetamine, a drug affecting numerous youth seen by the

Narratives

programs. In Polk county (Menomonie), deputies report users as young as 11. The Menomonie program also serves areas that have high truancy rates with some of the districts reporting up to 34%! (Barron County). The Rhinelander program serves a large Native Am. population. The social problems facing this population are astronomical, with high incidences of alcohol and drug abuse, poverty, and high school dropouts. AC members in this area have proven to be especially effective and have been asked by schools to aid with diversity issues. WARS provided police trainings in 2000 and 2008. Police indicated a need for on site response to referrals. Staff who provided outreach to schools reported that counselors indicated a similar need. There is a need for members to meet with school staff and police regularly in order to insure referrals are being made to the runaway program, rather then returning youth home without intervention. In addition, police do not have the time and/or resources to provide support services. Youth are often returned home without intervention, only to run again. Members aid police and schools by encouraging referrals and providing on site response. All of the services are free of charge. In 2005, the state of WI implemented new rules regulating shelters. The rules put additional burden on heavily utilized shelters due to new regulations regarding the number of required care givers. WARS was instrumental in working with the state to include a provision which included the use of trained volunteers and AC members in shelters. These invaluable direct service experiences, greatly enhances members future career opportunities. Sites have a tradition of relying heavily on volunteers to aid with services such as; hotlines, peer mentoring, and aiding with groups and presentations. AC members provide a critical role in MOBILIZING MORE VOLUNTEERS (FOCUS AREA 1), enabling the programs to provide quality services to youth in crisis. These programs are the ONLY agency in their community providing resources specific to runaway and homeless youth.

2) ACTIVITIES

a. STREET OUTREACH: After extensive training and close supervision, 28 members will work in teams going out on the street, to schools, parks, and other areas where youth congregate. Members will have 45,000 CONTACTS with youth providing resources and information on alternatives and encouraging

Narratives

access of program services. Needs of street youth include food, shelter, clothing, health services, transportation, counseling, and referral. If youth are simply returned home without intervention, they are more likely to run again. Youth who are experiencing homelessness are aided in accessing long term solutions, such as Transitional Living Programs.

- b. REFERRALS: Members will meet with school personnel and police to educate new staff and promote referrals for crisis intervention and family mediation. Through police, school, outreach and other referrals, 3,000 youth will access services. 95% will either return home or to a safe alternative. Services provided will reduce the rate of repeat running to 8% or less (tracked through aftercare reports).
- c. SHELTER SUPPORT: 6 members will assist staff in shelters, providing crisis intervention services to residents
- d. VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT: Members will aid in recruitment and training of 700 volunteers who will provide hotline coverage, community education, host homes (licensed), etc. strengthening the programs ability to provide services. (48,000 hours)
- e. DISASTER RESPONSE: While Disaster Response is not the focus of the program; some members are trained in this area and have in the past responded to disasters; i.e. Last year, 8 members were certified in disaster preparedness and responded to 3 disasters.

3. MEMBER ROLES

NEED: Youth are not aware of services and are distrustful of traditional providers; therefore have little access to critical resources. Data shows a marked increase in homeless youth and severity of problems facing teens i.e. poverty, drug use, etc

AC ACTIVITY: 28 members will provide street outreach; offering resources such as food, clothing, prevention, and healthy alternatives. (45,000 contacts).

NEED: School and police personnel are often unaware of issues faced by runaway youth and services available.

AC ACTIVITY: 28 members will meet with and educate school /police personnel on the needs and issues

Narratives

faced by at risk youth and services offered.

NEED: Runaway and homeless youth have little or no resources available to them which severely hinders reconciliation with their families or a safe alternative. Runaway programs are the only resource in the communities geared towards aiding this vulnerable population.

AC ACTIVITY: 34 members will aid the 3,000 youth that will access program services through referrals. Members will be active in; family mediation, aid in shelters, prevention groups, crisis intervention, etc.

The majority (95%) of youth will return home (or to a safe alternative) with family mediation with an 8% or less recidivism rate.

NEED: Police and school personnel are often, due to lack of resources, unable to provide services other than transporting youth home.

AC ACTIVITY: Members will provide on site response to police and school personnel referrals.

NEED: Community lack of awareness of issues affecting youth and services available

AC ACTIVITY: Members will be trained on public speaking and provide 650 presentations on youth issues. Participants will report an increase in awareness of the issues and services with over 90% of evaluations being positive.

NEED: Runaway programs rely heavily on the services of volunteers.

AC ACTIVITY: Members will be trained on recruitment techniques and will aid in the recruitment and training of 700 volunteers 948,000 hours).

NEED: New regulations increase adult supervision requirements in transitional living programs and shelters.

AC ACTIVITY: 6 members will provide support in shelters supervising youth and aiding staff in client care. (3 sites)

Supervisors Roles: Hiring, Training, Supervision

Volunteers Roles: Providing support through host homes, hotline coverage, and aiding with community education and events.

Narratives

Based on information provided by community input and client needs, sites will gear activities to best suit their area. For example, areas with high homelessness will focus on street outreach, areas with high incidence of drug use will focus on drug prevention, areas with high truancy will focus on truant youth, etc. WARS will oversee the program utilizing a full time AC Program Director (PD) and a portion of the Executive Director's (ED) time. WARS staff (PD/ED) will provide sites technical assistance in recruiting, hiring, and training members, in addition to providing fiscal management. WARS will provide on going technical assistance, including site visits and ongoing program monitoring to ensure goals are being met. Site supervisors will recruit members and provide member supervision. Intensive training will be provided before members conduct presentations, meet with local officials and work with youth, including street outreach. When providing direct service, such as street outreach and family mediation, members will initially be paired with experienced staff. Members will be closely supervised, especially in the beginning of their term; further ensuring high quality services are provided. Training and supervision is critical when working with vulnerable youth, in addition to providing member development and direct service opportunities which enhances their ability to secure future employment. The members will be placed at 13 programs throughout the state selected through a needs questionnaire sent to all the WARS programs. The sites will be utilizing 26 FT members and 8 PT members. FT members are able to spend more time in the community, enhancing their ability to familiarize themselves with the street culture and individual youth. Additional PT members are utilized in programs that either require more intense street outreach presence or are in small communities where only a PT member is required (based on need statement). It is important that youth familiarize themselves with members conducting street outreach and school presentations so a relationship of trust can be established. Members will be hired by Sept. 1, 2009 and will complete a 12 month term. 6 FT members will be used in shelters to ensure a consistent presence, enhancing members ability to build trusting relationships with the youth. Members are initially informed of prohibited activities by site supervisors and the WARS PD (WARS orientation). Prohibited activities are included in member

Narratives

contracts. The WARS PD also goes through the prohibited activities with new site supervisors. Supervisors monitor members on a daily basis to ensure compliance.

3. OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES: WARS mission is to assure safe, stable, and supportive environments for runaway and homeless youth. Youth will be provided information on resources through members providing street outreach approximately 20 hours per week. Members will target areas frequented by youth, having approximately 45,000 CONTACTS (output) with at risk teens. Youth will be provided food, shelter, clothes, and referrals. Members will be active in the community, meeting with schools, police and other agencies to promote referrals. At least 3,000 youth (output) will access direct program services such as family mediation, counseling, and shelter, including long term transitional living. 95% will return home (with mediation) (outcome) or to an alternate safe living arrangement. Due to member's intervention, 92% will not run again (staff will follow up at 30,60, and 90 day intervals) (outcome), emphasizing the effectiveness of the services provided. Homeless youth need long term alternatives such as Transitional Living. 6 of the members will be instrumental in aiding staff in shelters which have a history of demonstrated success in ensuring youth have achieved their education goals and have developed skills that will enable them to secure employment (approx. 30 youth per year). (See member and community outputs/outcomes).

4. SELF-ASSESSMENT / IMPROVEMENT:

Data Collection/Evaluation: WARS provides training to sites and members on data collection. The WARS PD provides consultation throughout the year to ensure goals and objectives are being met. Data collected include youth contacted, services, referrals, demographics, volunteers/hours, and quantities/types of outreach/community education activities. WARS staff complete the Progress Report through compiling site data and analyzing the member reports that detail how project goals are being met. Sites participate in a peer review process sponsored by WARS. Each program receives an on site evaluation by two peers and a WARS staff member. WARS works with staff on identified weaknesses, developing a plan of action. Criteria used to evaluate the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the project

Narratives

include; statistics on number of youth served (site client logs, WARS/ AC report), number of youth receiving counseling (intake forms, WARS/AC reports), outreach/PR work (outreach logs, WARS/AC report), quality of services provided (peer/client/AC member evaluations /feedback), youth finding positive living alternatives (client files, WARS/AC reports), and number of youth who ran again (follow up contacts, WARS/AC report). Programs utilize an outcome-based evaluation process based on program goals that are measurable. A critical component of output evaluation is youth input and client feedback. Clients receive 30, 60, and 90-day follow up calls (per federal standard). During these contacts, input is gathered on program effectiveness, repeat running episodes, continued family counseling, and follow up on long term treatment plans. Client feedback forms are utilized in program review, planning, and revising. Youth are given the opportunity to provide input on program design and evaluation by sitting on the Bd of Directors/Advisory Bds, and peer programs. WARS staff received extensive outcome and evaluation training from Project STAR, a national AC consulting project. STAR worked with WARS, to ensure a comprehensive, outcome-based, evaluation component is in place. METHODOLOGY: Evaluation is based on the periodic review of services by staff, board and project supervisors. Community training evaluations are compiled and results reviewed by staff to assess the quality and use to further improve future trainings. Clients are followed up on at 30, 60, and 90 day intervals. Reviews of data and goals are made to insure that outcomes are being met (WARS staff 3-4 times per year). Surveys and evaluations to clients determine success of the program to use in program improvements and future program planning. The WAHRS PD/ED checks in with members via e mail and phone conversations on a regular basis to gather and provide feedback. Periodic checks with members ensure they are comfortable with their site and are on track with their performance. The WARS PD and ED are available for mediation if members are having difficulties with their placement. .Members are formally evaluated mid-term to ensure they are accomplishing their individual and program goals. WARS was included in a statewide evaluation conducted by Org. Skills (2007) The evaluation demonstrated WARS members' satisfaction with the program by 95% of members being

Narratives

satisfied with the community service provision (100% said they would likely provide future community service), 89% of members taking pride in accomplishments, 83% satisfied with new job skills learned, and 84% would recommend the program to a friend. During the 3 year program period WARS will be conducting an external evaluation assessing the goals and objectives and member development with pre/post components (Org. Skills). The evaluation will be utilized for future program planning to ensure the needs of youth and members are being met.

5. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: The 13 programs were originally developed utilizing community planning boards comprised of citizens, police, schools, soc. ser. representatives, etc. Therefore, the programs enjoy strong community commitment and involvement. Youth are involved in the design and implementation of the AC program through representation on the Board, student feedback sessions, and design of materials and staff t-shirts, and curriculum. Youth provide information on trends in youth culture and gaps in services. WARS is very dedicated to involving youth and the sites in program planning. The 17-member board is comprised of representatives from programs throughout the state. These community reps provide information on site needs and contribute to the planning/implementation of the program. A youth seat is designated to insure client input. A survey was sent to all WI runaway programs to assess the need for AC members (2008) and a needs survey was conducted (2005) to determine program and training needs. The results were utilized in the project design. Individual sites' parent agencies have committed to ongoing support and partnership in the program by providing office space, travel funding, supplies, and supervision. Sites provide services to youth through community linkages and partnerships. Projects work closely with police, social services, and organizations and have agreements with treatment facilities, counseling agencies, legal services, and hospitals. Programs meet with police to discuss the street outreach program and to gain insight on where youth congregate. Members make regular school presentations and facilitate groups for at risk youth, encouraging referrals. Programs have an arrangement with local schools where displaced youth are able to continue class work. Faith based organizations provide umbrella services, in addition to

Narratives

donations of food, access to pantries, volunteers, and meeting space.

6. RELATIONSHIP TO SERVICE PROGRAMS; There is no other AC program in the state addressing

the specific needs of runaway youth, assuring there is no duplication of services. WARS staff attend

meetings with other state AC staff to share information and exchange resources. Members meet other

AC members 4 times a year at statewide events (2) and WARS trainings, enabling them to develop

relationships and share information. Sites have developed relationships with AC programs in their area

ie; the Sheboygan program collaborated with an AC tutoring program on a young girls' conference

attended by 300 teens, their AC's assist the Partners AC in schools and Partners AC member aids with

working with Spanish speaking clients, Menomonie collaborates with the Arbor House (AODA) AC

members and works with a member from the Dunn Co. Partnership for youth, Eau Claire has VISTA

members that work with their teen court program, etc. WARS also has an AC member rep. on the state

Commission Com..

7. REPLICATION: The WARS AC program uses an outcome based street and community outreach

curriculum that can be (and has been) replicated. Tools such as outreach logs, community outreach

forms, and other data collection instruments can be electronically distributed. Trainings are open to

other agencies' staff and the curriculum is readily available. The peer review instrument utilized for

evaluation was developed based on criteria common to runaway programs and has been utilized for

development of similar models on a national level. Plans for replication include utilization of curriculum

and instruments through distribution and training to runaway programs in other service areas and

inclusion of other programs in WAHRS trainings. WARS presented the Street Outreach/AmeriCorps

program, at a regional (five state) conference which WARS sponsored in Milwaukee (2006).

Organizational Capability

D. ORG. CAPABILITY

1. STRUCTURE

a) Prog/Fiscal Oversight: HISTORY: WARS, formed in 1979, is a coalition of community based,

For Official Use Only

Narratives

voluntary, nonprofit agencies. The founding four urban programs recognized a need to provide services on a statewide basis, ensuring youth in crisis could access services in their community. With the aid of the Dept. of Health and Family Ser. and funding through the state legislature, WARS was able to work in communities and expand services to the present 23 programs, serving 62 counties. The programs were developed utilizing local community boards consisting of police, school, youth, parents, civic leaders, faith based organizations, etc. insuring a strong commitment to each program. Umbrella agencies, such as Lutheran Social Services, a Domestic Violence Shelter, Family Services, CAP agencies, a Lutheran Hospital, etc. collaborated to house the runaway programs. WI is the only state that has a statewide plan for runaway services. WARS has been successful in securing multi-site street outreach, alcohol and drug abuse, HIV/AIDS training, TANF, and other grants to enable programs to provide a wide array of critical services.

EXPERIENCE: WARS was instrumental in the development of 19 of the 23 runaway programs in the state in addition to 3 transitional living programs. WARS has a 27 year history of developing programming and providing technical assistance. The WARS ED has been with the program 27 years and has served on reg. and nat. committees and boards. WARS had 5 federal reviews and received outstanding compliance findings on all of them. WARS is audited yearly and has always been in fiscal compliance. WARS is in the tenth year of administrating the AC program. The project has always surpassed its goals, with members serving youth effectively; evidenced by 96% of the youth seen returning home with less than 8% running again.

MANAGEMENT: WARS has administered numerous multi site grants, including federal (\$38,600) and state (\$59,000) Technical Assistance grants. WARS is in the tenth year of administering an AC grant (\$302,400). IN ITS TEN YEAR HISTORY WARS HAS A 100% RECORD OF SUBMITTING REQUIRED REPORTS ON TIME. WARS has been a federal Basic Center recipient (7 sites-\$118,000), since 1981. WARS administered/s a Federal Alcohol and Drug Abuse grant (\$200,000, 10 members), 2 federal Street Outreach Grants (10 members-\$200,000) and a TANF grant (23 sites-\$225,000). The WARS ED

Narratives

oversees the general administration of the grants, including the AC grant. She is responsible for insuring match requirements are met and reporting requirements are fulfilled. The WARS ED supervises the WARS Program Director (PD).

SITE MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT: WARS ED and PD provide site monitoring. The ED conducts site visits to monitor program and fiscal capabilities, including match requirements. The PD and/or EC conduct an initial site visit to aid in program planning and implementation, in addition to ongoing visits throughout the year and phone/e mail consultations with supervisors and members to ensure the program is running smoothly and is on target in meeting goals and objectives. Both the WARS PD and ED are available to members to aid in working out any issues that may arise at their sites. Members are given the WARS hotline number to ensure support is always available. Members hours are monitored by supervisors and the PD. Sites are required to submit reports which collect data and monitor program activity, ensuring goals and objectives are on track throughout the year. The sites also participate in the WARS peer review project to ensure program compliance. The AC grant adds great value to all of the sites through: increased visibility (community outreach and meetings with school, police, etc.), increased volunteer force, increased capacity to provide services to youth, increased access to program services (street outreach), increased resources (community outreach), and increased ability to provide a wide array of quality services to youth

SELECTING SITES: The sites were selected through a statewide needs survey of runaway programs. All of the programs, the majority of which are serving distressed communities, have a 15-30 year history of providing services to the target pop., utilizing state and federal funding in addition to local support. The sites have been using a provision of services model that has been tested, utilized, and revised over a 30 year period on a national level (Basic Center, Street Outreach, and TLP Models). All of the programs are part of the WI Dept. of Family Ser. statewide plan and as such have been monitored fiscally and programmatically by WARS, the state, and the federal Dept. of Soc. Ser. in addition to internal and external evaluations.

Narratives

FUNDING RELATIONSHIP: WARS, as the coordinator of the statewide plan for runaway services, has worked with the sites for 27 years. WARS has contracted with each program in the past through a TANF grant and has other contracts with the sites such as the federal Basic Center grant, Street Outreach grant, and other statewide initiatives.

MONITORING: Programs report to WARS 3-4 times yearly utilizing the WARS reporting form. The form was developed with the aid of Project STAR and reflects measurable goals and objectives. Fiscal/Supervisor monitoring is provided through the ED's site visits, peer reviews, match reports, and site audits (which are reviewed by the WARS ED and auditor). Member/Supervisors hours are monitored by WARS ED/PD weekly. Program monitoring and planning methods include evaluations by clientele, referring agencies, and presentation audiences. Community meetings, surveys, and media coverage are also utilized to assess community impact. Means of measuring the impact of services on youth are repeat run rates (less then 8%) and rates of safe placement (95%), Community and client feedback are discussed at site visits, staff mtgs, qty. mtgs., and during the program sharing sessions. (see program evaluation component).

CONNECTIONS: Orientation and Fall training provides an opportunity for developing connections and program sharing. The sites also gather at two statewide events. Supervisors and members attend the WARS qty. meetings which always provide time for program sharing. The sites also are encouraged to visit each other throughout the program year. Sites take part in the peer review process which provides an opportunity to connect with staff/members.

b)BOARD: A board of directors, consisting of 17 community reps. elected bi-annually, governs WARS. The Exec. Bd. consists of Pres., VP, Treasurer, secretary and an at large seat. The WARS ED is responsible to the Pres., Exec. Board, and the Board. The EDs' annual evaluation is conducted by the exec .board Meetings are held quarterly and are open to all members/staff. Program updates are given for board input/review. There is a designated youth seat and 2 designated minority seats. Fiscal oversight is provided by the WARS ED and Treas. reports are reviewed by the Treas. and board. All of

Narratives

the sites are private non-profit agencies governed by a community bd. with similar structures as the WARS bd.

STAFF: WARS ED, Patricia Balke's job responsibilities are the overall administration of the grant, including fiscal and programmatic operation, and TA. Patricia has been responsible for WARS budget and programming for 27 years and has seen it grow from seed funding of \$10,000 to the current budget of over \$800,000. Patricia was instrumental in the development of 19 of the 23 runaway WI programs. She has administered all of WARS state/federal grants. Patricia is in the tenth year of administering the AC grant. The AC Coord., John Babbitt (10th year) was instrumental in the programmatic development of the AC grant and is responsible for oversight of the project, including site visits, phone consultation, member support, and reporting. Site supervisors oversee the members on a daily basis. Site Supervisors have been extensively trained and have degrees in Soc. Ser., and/or at least five years experience.

Program E.D.'s have been with the program for 7-25 years, further ensuring quality staff and program oversight. Staff are hired utilizing a wide search, equal opportunity basis. Criminal background checks are performed; staff are interviewed by supervisors, EDs, and board members. Programs strive to hire a diverse staff utilizing the same methods described for AC members.

- c) SELF ASSESSMENT: WARS receives feedback from sites via evaluations, qty meetings, and peer reviews. WARS staff are evaluated by the ED annually. WARS reports (including financial) are reviewed and analyzed by the Pres,, Exec.Com. and board qty. to assure the programs' mission is intact and goals and objectives are being met. WARS undergoes an independent audit each year to assure fiscal accountability. WARS also receives oversight via the AC state commission, the state Dept. of Children and Families, and the fed. Dept. of Health and Human Services. WARS received federal on site fiscal/program evaluation and review in 2008. The findings were extremely favorable with no non-compliance issues noted.
- d) TECHNICAL ASSIS: Programmatic TA will be provided through: a 24 hour WARS administrative hotline for members/site supervisors, on site consultation (WARS ED/PD), ongoing phone and email

Narratives

consultations, follow up on individual TA requests (on site/electronically); peer reviews, and qty mtgs. Training needs surveys are conducted annually in addition to individual program requests. Direct service staff training is provided based on members needs at two trainings each year, in addition to qty meetings. WARS provides financial/program TA through trainings that increase program capacity and member knowledge such as: information technology, fund raising (private/community), and org. development, including strategic management and human resources management. WARS staff has TA available through state and federal DHFS staff, AC state commission staff, The Nat. Network for Youth, etc. Individual sites have exceptional staff that are available to provide TA in areas such as gang prevention, AIDS/HIV, volunteer recruitment, mental health issues, street outreach, etc. (See TA section above)

ORIENTATION: All supervisors are required to attend orientation which includes financial prog. management (see above). In addition, the PD and ED provide site visits when a new supervisor is hired to ensure they are provided a program overview. Staff also fulfill the orientation and training required by their individual sites (typically 40 hours). New staff are paired with experienced staff when initially working with youth and families to ensure a high level of service is being provided.

ONGOING TA: WARS offers a 24 hour hotline for sites to access if any emergency arises or if immediate TA is needed. Phone calls are made by the PD to support sites and to identify any needs. Visits are made by the ED/PD to aid sites in prog. management and assess progress towards meeting goals. Sites can ask for additional assistance through WARS at any point throughout the program year.

- 2. RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
- a) VOLUNTEERS: WARS volunteers to enhance organizational capacity. The WARS Board is volunteer; comprised of program representatives (17) and youth. The youth reps are especially effective to the Assoc., providing insight into program effectiveness and promoting WARS on a statewide/national level. WARS utilizes volunteers for numerous trainings and TA. Workshops are provided free of charge by experts in the field i.e. street outreach, mental health, diversity, alcohol and drug abuse, HIV/AIDS etc.

Narratives

WARS also benefitted from a volunteer community financial adv. bd. which aided in financial planning and securing in kind and cash donations.

- b)LEADERSHIP: WARS was instrumental in the development of the statewide plan for runaway services in 1981. This plan, utilizing state/federal funding, has been used as a model on a regional/national level. WARS provides program development and funding to sites for drug and alcohol abuse, street outreach, host home development, police collaboration, and HIV/AIDS prevention in addition to assistance geared towards programs' needs. WARS developed statewide standards for runaway and homeless youth programs and transitional living for homeless pregnant teens which have been used as a model on a national level. The AC program has been very successful, providing street outreach services to thousands of runaway youth, in addition to providing community outreach, volunteer recruitment, and invaluable crisis and prevention services to countless youth and families. WARS was recognized by Gov. Thompson and Sen. Feingold for providing quality services to youth. The WARS youth rep was awarded the Nat. Prudential Volunteer Award and the Nat. Network for Youth Award. The WARS ED has participated on numerous federal planning committees and served on the Nat. Public Policy Com. where she was formally recognized for her contributions. The WARS ED has also been involved with or sat on; the WI Difference Bd, the State Pregnancy Prev. Com., the State Homelessness Com., the Gov. Council on Domestic Abuse (Teen Dating Violence Com.), etc. c) MATCH RESOURCES; WARS has a ten year history of providing match resources for the AC program. Match resources come from sites through a variety of sources including foundations, United Ways, Faith Based Organizations, and umbrella agencies (Lutheran Social Services, Community Mental Health, Family Ser., etc.). WARS ability to match resources is evidenced by the member costs match (23%) and the overall program match (40%-increased from 26%) in this proposal. In its ten year history, WARS has exceeded its operating projected match EVERY year.
- 3. COMMUNITY SUPPORT
- a) COLLABORATION: WARS has developed community partnerships through collaboration with 13

Narratives

programs, serving 36 counties. Members cultivate, strengthen and expand partnerships by developing referral agreements with schools and police and providing; on site response to referrals, presentations, and community education.. Programs have agreements with treatment facilities, counseling agencies, legal services, and hospitals in order to provide services not available from the program. Other collaborative agencies include mental health clinics, domestic violence shelters, health care facilities, schools, Spanish/Hmong Centers; sexual assault centers; drug and alcohol abuse treatment providers; AIDS resource centers, and family services. Programs utilize community bds in the planning and overseeing of services. The boards represent a large cross section of the community including citizens, past clients (youth and parents), volunteers, churches, foundations, businesses, gov. (police, DSS, judges, etc), and schools. Their input is invaluable in insuring the program is keeping abreast of specific community needs when planning services. and in program evaluation. WARS and sites have established strong partnerships with faith based orgs. One third of the WARS programs utilize Lutheran Soc. Ser. as their umbrella agency. LSS provides space, supplies, staff support, and a host of additional resources. Bethel Church hosts meetings and AC trainings free of charge. Programs have a history of partnering with churches for referrals, space for activities, volunteer and host home recruitment, and a variety of other capacity building services.

b. LOCAL FINANCIAL AND IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS: WARS programs have a proven track record of securing financial and in kind contributions. The programs have successfully secured United Way funding in addition to local foundation funding to strengthen programs financially. Contributions have increased dramatically with local businesses contributing food vouchers, clothing, bus passes, hygiene products, infant supplies, etc.. The programs that do not have shelters utilize licensed host homes. Families volunteer to shelter youth in their homes, free of charge, until a safe alternative is secure. Host homes have increased throughout the years demonstrating the community commitment. The umbrella agencies have increased their financial and in kind contributions considerably, with a 72% committed operating match. Sites provide space, supplies, supervision, and travel expenses, with all equipment

Narratives

expenses donated.

- c. COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS in the project include schools, faith based institutions, police, hospitals, treatment centers, support agencies, and local businesses. These stakeholders have increasingly supported the program through more donations, increased referrals to and from the program, and strengthening the volunteer force. Most importantly, families and youth are program stakeholders. Programs provide a valuable resource by strengthening families and building a stronger community.
- d. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES; WARS has been providing services for 27 years. Since its inception, WARS has expanded from 4 urban programs (3 counties) to 23 programs serving 62 counties. For the past 10 years, AC has proven to be a critical resource, especially by meeting the needs of hard to reach street youth; evidenced by the AC program growth from 12 original member slots to 34. This proposal covers both the major urban areas of the state (Milwaukee and Madison) as well as rural which cover large geographic areas. Urban youth are vulnerable to a myriad of social problems such as gangs, drug abuse, poverty etc. Data from US Dept. of Labor shows that Milwaukee, Menomonie, Marinette, Rhinelander, Sheboygan, and Superior all serve economically depressed areas. Of the 36 counties, 28 meet at least one criterion for economic depression. 18 counties are rural, with a Beale code of 6 or higher. These areas have very few resources. All of the programs are the only resource in their areas providing services to runaway and homeless youth.

Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy

- .E. COST EFFECTIVENESS/ BUDGET ADEQUACY:
- 1) COST PER MEMBER; \$12,520 (decrease of \$80 from previous year)
- 2) DIVERSE NON FED. SUPPORT: Non fed. cash and in kind funding sources, provided by WARS and sites, directly benefiting the AC project include: basic center funding (shelter, counseling and outreach services), street outreach (supervisors), host homes, police training (Juvenile Justice), AODA training (WI DOT), and Mental Health training (Mental Health Assoc.). Programs have been operating for 15-30

Narratives

years and are visible in their community, enjoying respectable reputations enabling them to benefit from a wide variety of non federal cash support such as United Way, foundations, etc (see above). Businesses donate food, bus vouchers, hygiene products and clothing. Community resources have been established and are being built which include a wide array of referral services including long term physical/mental health treatment, shelter, and counseling provided free of charge to the youth.

MATCH: Program site umbrella agencies and WARS are contributing \$93,964 cash match (23% of member cost, 73% Admin. Cost), in addition to contributions of travel and office space/expenses. In kind match of \$156,324 is also committed. Matches have been committed from the following community sources; WARS, United Ways, Boys and Girls Club, Lutheran Social Services, Child Abuse and Neglect Funds, Community Mental Health Services, ELCA Church, M&M foundation, HRC Mental Health, and the Youth and Family Project. WARS contributes office space, travel expenses, staff time, supplies, and phone costs. Support for the project is further documented by the fact that the match for program operations is 72%.

- 3. RELIANCE ON FEDERAL SUPPORT: Reliance on federal costs have decreased dramatically. Member cash support match has increased from 15% to 23%. Operating Cost match has increased from 48% to 72% demonstrating increased share of costs. In spite of decreased reliance on federal support the project is expanding from 10 to 13 service areas and from 12 to 34 members, which will enable the project to serve countless more youth and families.
- 4. BUDGET ADEQUACY: WARS has a 10 year history of supporting the AC project, demonstrating it is sufficiently capable of supporting program activities. Umbrella agencies have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the program assuring stability. (See special circumstances). The total request for federal funding for the 13 programs and WARS is \$375,610 Non federal match is \$250,288 (40%). 95% of youth seen return home or to an alternate placements. Runaway programs are unique in their cost effectiveness. Staff assist youth with drug and alcohol problems, depression, and family conflict in an attempt to keep youth from running away. Dollars spent on prevention save on costly juvenile

Narratives

correctional programs, mental health services and other types of inpatient/residential programs. The community benefits greatly in terms of less youth on the street, less cost to taxpayers for court process and foster or group home placement, and a stronger community of stable families.

Evaluation Summary or Plan

WAHRS programs have in place an internal evaluation processes that includes;

client feedback

data collection

goal and objective review

peer reveiw process

community feedback

(See evaluation componant)

In addition, during the 2009-12 project period, WAHRS will be participating in an external review utilizing Organizational Skills Associates (the firm that conducted the WI AmeriCorps State Formula Evaluation in 2007). The WAHRS E.D. has been in contact with Org. Skills in order to begin the process of developing an evaluation componant for the WAHRS AmeriCorps project.

See below:

OSA would conduct a 3 year evaluation of members placed at WAHRS with the following parameters:

A custom designed on-line survey would be used to measure member satisfaction with WAHRS experience and member development,

The survey would be administered annually, with two year members filling it out just once,

An interim report would be prepared in year 1 and year 2 to allow for program learning and adjustments

Narratives

if necessary,

The final report would contain comparisons of the member experience across the 3 year period,

WAHRS staff would work collaboratively with OSA to design, pre-test, and help administer the member

survey.

Buck Rhyme

Senior Partner

Organizational Skills Associates, LLC

608/238-7114

http://www.orgskills.com

Amendment Justification

N/A

Clarification Summary

Program Start Date: September 1, 2011

Member Enrollment Start Date: September 1, 2011

Currently, given the volume of participants at community presentations, pre/post tests are not

conducted. WARS is in the process of exploring this option for future presentations to better gauge

increased knowledge. We will utilize one program as a test site in order to develop the test and explore

implementation techniques.

1. Criminal History Checks; The two staff members who are paid through the WARS AmeriCorps grant

are Patricia Balke (Executive Director) and John Babbitt (AmeriCorps Program Director). Ms. Balke was

hired in 1981 and Mr. Babbitt was hired in 1988. The latest background checks on Mr. Babbit and Ms.

Balke were conducted by the WARS Board President in 2009. They included the State Criminal Registry

For Official Use Only

Page 22

Narratives

Check and the National Sex Offender Public Registry check. Both employees also submitted a state BID. In addition, a WI Circuit Court Access CCAP check was conducted on both staff in 2010 by the WARS Board President.

WARS will complete all required background checks on any new staff whose salary will be charged to the WARS AmeriCorps grant in addition to all members. The checks will include: State Criminal Registry checks, NSOPR, and WCCA/CCAP.

Continuation Changes

Year Three:

- I. Changes made in Year Two (addition of four FT and one PT member) will continue in Year Three.
- II. During the 2009-10 project period, WAHRS participated in an external review utilizing
 Organizational Skills Associates. OSA is conducting a 3 year evaluation of members placed at WAHRS with the following parameters:

A custom designed on-line survey used to measure member satisfaction with WAHRS experience and member development.

An interim report prepared to allow for program learning and adjustments if necessary. The final report will contain comparisons of the member experience across a 3 year period. WAHRS staff, a site supervisor and an AmeriCorps member worked with OSA to design, pre-test, and help administer the member survey. (report was made available to the state commission via e mail). Highlights of the survey included 93% of members responding favorably to overall satisfaction of the program, liklihood of enrolling again, and liklihood of recommending WAHRS to a friend/peer. This high rate of satisfaction is an indication of the success of the WAHRS program. In addition 96% of the members viewed favorably their experience with working with youth and 89% took pride in their acheivements further emphasizing the members positive experiences working with the program.

Narratives

III. All of the WARS members slots were filled in Year One and Year Two: At this time (October of Year Two)WAHRS has a 100% retention rate. Year Two ended with a retention rate of 97% (1/34 members)One member had to be let go after four months of service. She was increasingly more disrespectful of her supervisor, co-AmeriCorps members and youth and was disruptive in the agency. As she had served more then 30% of her hours the slot was unable to be refilled, leaving a void in the two member program. The program successfully utilized volunteers to aid with the program to ensure services are not interupted.

IV. Budget Changes; The increase in budget reflects the increase in member living allowance. The program match was raised to meet the state requirement of 46% (9th year). Increase in match were largely in kind especially in the areas of supplies and operating costs which reflect the past years spending pattern. WARS also is providing additional match to cover the AmeriCorps Program Director's FT position and a portion of the Executive Director's time.

Year Two Changes:

The WI Association for Runaway Services has elected to request an expansion of services by adding four FT members and one PT member. Two of the members would be placed in a new drop in facility that is being developed by the Pathfinders program in Milwaukee as the result of a successful federal Street Outreach grant. The members would be working with runaway and homeless youth in the facility, providing them with a safe place to access food, clothing, laundry facilities, showers, etc. The members would also be aiding staff in providing crisis intervention to these youth, and assist them in finding safe alternatives to the street.

Two additional FT members are reqested by the West Bend program to aid in the start up and implementation of the expansion of their program into Waukesha County. The members would be

Narratives

providing much needed community education of the new services in addition to providing street

outreach services to youth in Waukesha County.

The remaining PT member would be serving in the Janesville program. This program is in need of

providing additional services to youth in crisis in smaller outlying communities within their service area.

As a result of adding a PT member, the program anticipates increased hotline usage and an increase of

youth's knowledge/awareness of community resources. Youth that are provided street outreach services

will receive basic needs items such as food, clothing, and hygiene products. These youth will also be

provided healthy alternatives to the street including access to the runaway program family mediation

services. Areas such as Milton, Clinton, Edgerton, etc. will be served. In addition members will provide a

youth group dinner on a monthly basis. This dinner will provide a safe place for youth to network with

other youth and obtain a meal in the evening hours, in addition to other services being offered. This

event will be held at churches or other partnering facilities thoughout county.

The member in this program will also work jointly with program staff on presenting short term

psychoeducational groups or presentations in school. This activity will increase visability in schools,

increase youth's knowledge/awareness of community resources, and assist in the development of and/or

enhance existing skills related to anger management, independent living, and healthy choices.

The Performance Measures were adjusted to reflect the increase in members. It is estimated by adding

these members there will be an additional 400 contacts with youth on the street and in the newly added

drop in center. Of these youth, an additional 100 will be referred for more intensive services such as

family mediation, shelter, crisis intervention, etc.

Previous: OUTPUT: During the program year, AmeriCorps members will have 45,400 contacts with

For Official Use Only

Page 25

Narratives

youth on the street and other places where youth congregate and will provide them with healthy

alternatives/services information. Services offered will include: food, clothing, shelter, prevention

resources, and referrals for support services.

Revised OUTPUT: During the program year, AmeriCorps members will have 45,800 contacts with youth

on the street and other places where youth congregate and will provide them with healthy

alternatives/services information. Services offered will include: food, clothing, shelter, prevention

resources, and referrals for support services.

Previous: Members will have contact with youth on the street (and other areas that youth congregate) in

addition to meeting with police and school personnel. 3,100 youth will be referred to the programs who

will access additional services including crisis intervention, counseling, family mediation, paricipation in

peer groups, referrals, and other prevention services

Revised: Members will have contact with youth on the street (and other areas that youth congregate) in

addition to meeting with police and school personnel. 3,200 youth will be referred to the programs who

will access additional services including crisis intervention, counseling, family mediation, paricipation in

peer groups, referrals, and other prevention services

Retention/Enrollment Rates'

Enrollment Rate: 100% WARS has an excellent history of enrollment rates with 100% of the slots being

filled every year of the grant.

Retention Rate: FY 09 83% 7/41

FY 10 (as of this report) 100%

For Official Use Only

Narratives

WARS continues to work on improving the programs retention rate. The need to recruit AmeriCorps members who are capable of relating to youth, especially high risk street youth, at times creates problems with ensuring members will complete their term. WARS continues to work with individual members and sites to improve the overall retention rate. WARS staff have made a concentrated effort to impress upon site supervisors the importance of hiring members that are currently in stable economic living conditions and are committed to providing a full year of service. The WARS program director now includes a discussion on the importance of a year commitment as part of the pre service training. In addition, the WARS Program Director and Director are taking a more active role in resolving individual site member issues that may arise. The expansion of the four FT members are in programs who have many years experience with the WARS AmeriCorps program and have a history of high retention rates. In fact, both programs have AmeriCorps alumni hired as FT staff members, demonstrating the commitment of the sites to the AmeriCorps members and the commitment of the members placed at the sites. The other program who is included with the expansion will be hiring one PT member. This program was part of the WARS VISTA program and AmeriCorps program in the past and also hired past members as permanent staff. As the three programs all have an extensive history with the WARS AmeriCorps program in the past and have always had no problem filling their slots WARS anticipates continuting it's twelve year history of having a 100% enrollment rate.

The past year was unusual as five members left early in the year. One was offered a job in an engineering firm, one left due to her daughters chronic illness, one was accepted to an Ivy League School, one had to be let go, and one member was entered but never showed up for her assignment. WARS was allotted 35 slots the past program year. Through filling slots that were vacated early in the year, WARS was able to have 34 members receive education awards and maintain a high level of service at the program sites. All of WARS goals and objectives were met or exceeded projections. As of this report WARS is happy to announce a 100% enrollment rate for FY 10 with no members leaving the

Narratives

program at this time.

Performance Measures

SAA Characteristics				
AmeriCorps Member Population - None	x Geographic Focus - Rural			
x Geographic Focus - Urban	Encore Program			
Priority Areas				
Education	x Healthy Futures			
Selected for National Measure	Selected for National Measure			
Environmental Stewardship	Ueterans and Military Familie			
Selected for National Measure	Selected for National Measure			
Economic Opportunity	Other			
Selected for National Measure	Selected for National Measure			
Disaster Services				
Selected for National Measure				
Grand Total of all MSYs entered for all F	Priority Areas 34.5			
Service Categories				
Community-Based Volunteer Programs	Primary	Secondary	X	
Health and Mental Health Crisis Intervention	Primary X	Secondary		

Crisis Intervention

Service Category: Health and Mental Health Crisis Intervention

Measure Category: Strengthening Communities

Strategy to Achieve Results

Briefly describe how you will achieve this result (Max 4,000 chars.)

Through AmeriCorps members providing street outreach in fourteen communities, homeless and at risk youth will be provided information on healthy alternatives to the street and services available in the community. Teens will be offered the opportunity to utilize the runaway programs' services or referral services, therefore decreasing risks associated with street life. Members will also encourage referrals from police and school personnel. Repeat runaway episodes will be reduced by referring youth to runaway programs and having them access services. The recidivism rate of youth running will be 8% or less. The low recidivism rate indicates the program's success in alleviating the crisis which caused the youth to leave home. Members wil also provide aid to staff in shelters, enabling youth to access a wide array of support services.

Results

Result: Output

Homeless and other targeted at risk youth will be provided information on healthy alternatives and services available in the community. Teens will be offered the opportunity to utilize the runaway programs' services, therefore decreasing risks associated with street life.

Indicator: beneficiaries

Target: Each year, members will have 45,400 contacts with youth on the street and other areas where youth congregate. This output is tracking anonymous contacts (not individuals). Youth may need

numerous contacts with members throughout the program year as t

Target Value: 45400

Instruments: Members will utilize Street Outreach logs to document the number of contacts made with youth on the street. This information will be compiled on the WARS Reporting Form and reported on the

AmeriCorps Progress Reports.

PM Statement: OUTPUT: During the program year, AmeriCorps members will have 45,400 contacts with youth on

the street and other places where youth congregate and will provide them with healthy

alternatives/services information. Services offered will include: food, clothing, shelter, prevention

resources, and referrals for support services.

Prev. Yrs. Data

Result: Intermediate Outcome

INTERMEDIATE: Street Outreach workers will have contacts with youth on the street and where youth congregate. In addition, members will meet with schools and police in order to encourage referrals. 3,100 youth will be referred to the runaway program in order to access additional support including counseling, family mediation, prevention services, and referrals for mental and physical health services. Upon entering the Basic Center Program youth go through an individual intake procedure using the youth's name and other identifers (confidential) ensuring an unduplicated count.

Indicator: beneficiaries

Target: 3,100 youth will be provided additional services (per year) largely due to the contacts members

make with youth, police, and schools throughout the program year.

Target Value: 3100

Instruments: Members utilize client intake forms (which includes referral sources such as police, schools, and

street outreach). This information will be compiled on the WARS Reporting Form and reported on

the AmeriCorps Progress Reports.

PM Statement: Members will have contact with youth on the street (and other areas that youth congregate) in

addition to meeting with police and school personnel. 3,100 youth will be referred to the programs who will access additional services including crisis intervention, counseling, family mediation,

paricipation in peer groups, referrals, and other prevention services.

Prev. Yrs. Data

Result: End Outcome

Runaway or youth in crisis will be provided a safe alternative to the street. Of the youth referred to the

Result: End Outcome

Basic Center runaway program, 95% or over will be reunited with their family or will be placed in a mutually agreed upon safe living arrangement. Of these youth, the recidivism rate will be 8% or less, demonstrating the effectiveness of the program.

Indicator: beneficiaries

Target: Of the youth who access services, 95% will be reunited with their families or placed in a mutually agreed upon living arrangement. Of these youth, the recidivism rate will be less then

8%.

Target Value: 95%

Instruments: Client files will indicate whether the youth returned home or to a safe alternative. Repeat runaway

episodes will be tracked thorugh individual programs' Aftercare Reports (30,60,90 days as required

under federal regulations) and compiled on the WARS Reporting Form.

PM Statement: Of the youth seen by the runaway programs, 95% will return home or to a safe alternative. Among

these youth, there will be an 8% or less recidivism rate as traced through program aftercare reports and compiled on the WARS Reporting Form. This high placement rate and low recidivism rate is an indication of significant changes in the youths' living situation resulting from program intervention

services, which alleviated the reason(s) for the youth leaving home.

Prev. Yrs. Data

Community Education

Service Category: Health and Mental Health Crisis Intervention

Measure Category: Strengthening Communities

Strategy to Achieve Results

Briefly describe how you will achieve this result (Max 4,000 chars.)

Approximately 33 AmeriCorps members (members aiding in shelters will not participate in presentations) will be trained on giving community presentations, specifically on runaway and homelss youth. The trained members will provide presentations on runaway and homeless youth issues and program services available to community groups of youth and adults. These presentations will enhance the communities awareness of youth in crisis and the services available. Approximately 15,000 individuals will attend. As presentations are conducted at different locales (middle schools, high schools, police departments, etc.) throughout the communities and are not repeated at any one locale throughout the program year, individuals being present at more then one presentation is highly unlikely.

Results

Result: Intermediate Outcome

INTERMEDIATE: Community education will be provided and awareness of needs of runaway and

Result: Intermediate Outcome

homeless youth and services available will be enhanced through community presentations,

demonstrated by positive evaluation.

Indicator: Positive Evaluations

Target: Of those participants returning evalutions, at least 90% will be positive, attesting to an increase

in knowledge of runaway programs' services and issues facing these youth.

Target Value: 90%

Instruments: Individual evaluation forms will be utilized to gauge participants increased knowledge. The

evaluation forms will contain questions regarding the quality of information provided. Increased knowledge will be demonstrated through positive responses to these questions. The evalution results will be compiled on the WARS Reporting Form and reported on the AmeriCorps Progress

Reports.

PM Statement: Members will provide community presentations. Over 90% of the presentation participants returning

evalutions will attest to viewing the presentations as positive and increasing their knowledge.

Prev. Yrs. Data Result: Output

OUTPUT: Community education will be provided and awareness of needs of runaway and homeless

youth and services available will be enhanced. Members will provide presentations reaching 15,000

individuals..

Indicator: Number of Individuals

Target: AmeriCorps members will provide community education presentations reaching 15,000

individuals.

Target Value: 15000

Instruments: The number of presentations and participants will be tracked in individual program "outreach logs".

The numbers will be compiled in the WARS Reporting Form.

PM Statement: Members will provide presentations to community agencies, businesses, churches, schools, youth

serving agencies, etc. reaching 15,000 individuals in order to increase the communities awareness

of the needs of runaway and homeless youth and services available.

Prev. Yrs. Data

Required Documents

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Sent
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable