“Few, if any, forces in human affairs are as powerful as shared vision.”

—Peter Senge

Shared Vision | Purposeful Lessons

In 2019, National Safe Place Network (NSPN) worked to deepen its effort to build partnerships with like-minded advocates, both corporate and community-based, who share in the vision of a world where all youth are safe. Through new partnerships with entities like the Red Lion Hotel Corporation and speaking engagements on a national level, such as NSPN’s participation in A Night to End Youth Homelessness, NSPN continued to take steps to cement our organization as a leader in the youth services field. In addition to developing new partnerships, NSPN’s awareness efforts, teachings, and shared learning opportunities were important pieces in reaching and educating communities and other youth service providers about the challenges young people are facing and the ways in which we can come together and assist these youth.

One of the most important assets of NSPN is its staff. NSPN would not be able to adequately pursue its vision without the expertise and support of the staff; many of which have worked together for more than 20 years. Each team member brings invaluable perspectives, passion, and knowledge to this organization and provides these assets to the youth service providers served. While this dedicated team invests in members and licensed Safe Place® agencies, NSPN prioritizes the professional development and support of these individuals. NSPN staff is certified in many areas to help encourage the professionalism of the youth services field. This circle of support serves as an example of how NSPN upholds its motto, “Together we can.”

Working with those with a shared vision provides opportunities for lessons learned. NSPN has learned from its team, members, Safe Place affiliates, board of directors, advisory board, and most importantly, the youth it serves. NSPN routinely reviews documentation of services provided by licensed agencies for quality assurance purposes and to help evaluate the impact of Safe Place in communities across the country. NSPN’s members, licensed agencies, advisory board, and board of directors eagerly shares critical insights from the field. NSPN utilizes this information to help provide in-person and virtual trainings to support services provided to youth.

In closing, 2019 was a year filled with opportunities for NSPN to learn as an organization, as well as sharing our knowledge and expertise through teaching others. It takes everyone to work together to ensure a world where all youth are safe. NSPN’s partnerships, staff, members, licensed Safe Place agencies, and respective boards all contribute toward this shared vision.

President/CEO
National Safe Place Network
Membership - Safe Place® - RHYTTAC
National Safe Place Network

NSPN is the national standard for a community-wide response to ensuring all youth are safe and valued. Through unique public and private partnerships, NSPN provides leadership, training, and technical assistance to more than 700 youth and family service organizations throughout all 50 states. NSPN’s proven track record, decades of experience, and strong record of leadership are the cornerstones of the organization’s success. To learn more, please visit www.nspnetwork.org.

MISSION
Ensuring an effective system of response for youth in crisis through public and private partnerships at a local, state and national level.

VISION
NSPN envisions a world where all youth are safe.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

NSPN operates the following nationally recognized programs: NSPN Membership, Safe Place®, and the Runaway and Homeless Youth Training & Technical Assistance Center (RHYTTAC).

NSPN Membership
NSPN provides an array of training and support services tailored to meet the needs of youth service organizations in the most cost-efficient manner. NSPN membership helps support agencies and their staff by focusing on training, organizational development, and professional development. To learn more, please visit www.nspnetwork.org/membership.

Safe Place®
Safe Place is a national outreach and prevention program for young people in need of immediate help and safety. Nearly 22,000 community and business locations nationwide display the Safe Place sign, making help readily available. To learn more, please visit www.nationalsafeplace.org.

Runaway and Homeless Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center (RHYTTAC)
NSPN operates the Runaway and Homeless Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center (RHYTTAC) through cooperative agreement funding from the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB). This program expands opportunities and increases capacity for NSPN to deliver training and technical assistance to the 321 organizations nationwide which operate 608 runaway and homeless youth (RHY) program grants. NSPN partners with other nationally recognized entities to complete the work and to expand the reach of our network. These partnerships allow NSPN to expand the network’s opportunities to impact individuals and agencies via efforts in five program requirements.
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“The greatest leaders mobilize others by coalescing people around a shared vision.”

—Ken Blanchard
NSPN announced a collaboration with the Red Lion Hotel (RLH) Corporation to designate Americas Best Value Inn (ABVI) properties as Safe Place® TXT 4 HELP sites – expanding NSPN's network and providing more locations in more communities across the country for youth in crisis to go for help. Americas Best Value Inn will be the first national hotel sponsor of the program.

NSPN’s President and CEO, Laurie Jackson, was an invited speaker at A Night to End Youth Homelessness November 16th in Hollywood, California. Organizations across the United States were encouraged to hold sleep-outs and screenings of the Lost in America documentary to raise awareness of the issue of youth homelessness.

As operator of RHYTTAC, NSPN hosted the 2019 National Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Grantees Training in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The training is for agencies who are funded through FYSB with a basic center program (BCP), maternity group home (MGH), transitional living program (TLP), and/or street outreach program (SOP). The event takes place over three days with various workshops, general sessions, and networking opportunities for grantees. 2019’s training proved to be the largest one yet – with more than 900 registrants.
NSPN MEMBERSHIP

SHARED VISION | PURPOSEFUL LESSONS

SHARED VISION

NSPN membership benefits were created from a foundation built by like-minded advocates dedicated to creating a world where all youth are safe. The NSPN team works with a national advisory board of youth service providers and its National Youth Advisory Board Collaboration Committee (YCC) to better understand the needs of communities across the country. These connections help ensure NSPN’s ability to identify needs of rural programs, add youth voice in network efforts, and remain engaged in learnings about emerging challenges of programs. Sharing NSPN’s vision and working with these advocates provides an opportunity to explore what is happening now and inform what should happen next.

In addition to sharing its vision to help create quality services to organizations across the country, NSPN also shares its commitment to ongoing professional development to build the capacity of staff to provide assistance to all member organizations. NSPN staff are certified as professional youth care workers and are trainers in several areas including the Sanctuary Model for Trauma Resilient Organizations.

PURPOSEFUL LESSONS

Grant Support to NSPN Organizational Development

NSPN provided members with service and supports during the 2019 grant cycle. Support services included grant writing webinars for RHY Basic Center, Street Outreach, Transitional Living, and Maternity Group Home funding, weekly support calls, one-on-one consultations and the review of 14 grant proposals. Ninety-two percent of members for whom NSPN reviewed grants received RHY funding. Total funding impact: $4,767,984

Organizational development members utilized NSPN grant support and review services, receiving awards for a combined total of:

FOUR MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY-FOUR
Emerging Leaders Institute

NSPN’s Membership team launched its annual Emerging Leader’s institute (ELI) in March 2019. ELI is a six-week interactive, web-based event for staff of youth and family organizations who are new shift leaders, managers, supervisors, and/or directors. During this facilitated training, participant experience was integrated in the ELI framework of: “Living Leadership”, “Sharing Leadership”, “Demonstrating Leadership with Supervisees”, and “Navigating Leadership with Supervisors”.

Suicide Prevention - Children and Adolescent Training

NSPN provided training on suicide prevention to victim specialists from across the country at the Baltimore office of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). The session included an overview of the nature of suicide prevention among youth, identifying protective and risk factors, assessing for risk, utilizing evidence-based screening tools, and addressing the personal impact of suicide prevention work. This training is one of a series of activities expanding NSPN partnerships toward the organizational vision of a world where all youth are safe.

CYC – Gainesville Officers Trained and Certified

NSPN trained and certified 11 Gainesville, FL law enforcement officers in the Child and Youth Care Foundations course. The 11 officers are the first law enforcement officers certified under the CYC Certification process in the county.

“When one teaches, two learn.”
—Robert Heinlein
“A 15-year-old accessed Safe Place via a local fire station. This young person had been dealing with suicidal thoughts after ‘coming out’ to their parents and no longer feeling accepted or safe at home. Parents were notified and shared support of their teen spending a few nights at the shelter to stabilize and be connected with services. The Safe Place team was able to connect the youth with crisis and counseling services. In a conversation with this brave young person, they shared the fire fighters were extremely welcoming and offered food and drink while awaiting a Safe Place representative. The youth shared when the Safe Place volunteer arrived, the volunteer was respectful and warm. Throughout the entire experience, the youth reports feeling valued and safe. This is one example of how Safe Place saves lives and strengthens communities.”

“The adolescent counselor received a phone call from an adult day shelter stating that a 14-year-old arrived requesting breakfast and assistance. Due to increased community outreach and awareness of adolescent services, the day shelter director knew exactly where to call to get the teen the appropriate help and services. The adolescent counselor met the teen at the day shelter and shared information about available services; the two built rapport and the teen shared what had been going on the last few days. They were open to family reunification and the youth’s mother shared since running away, the teen had not been taking prescribed medication to manage mental health needs. Once the youth’s mother arrived for a family reunification meeting, the teen did a great job self-advocating and requested to be admitted to a Community Based Acute Treatment (CBAT) setting in order to become stable prior to returning home.”

All images and names have been changed to protect the identity of youth served.
The Safe Place program continues to explore ways to expand the safety net for youth in crisis. Development continued on new models of Safe Place engagement to include community partnerships with first responders and transit companies.

These partnerships, driven by entities other than youth-serving organizations, will allow expansion into different communities without strong, traditional, continuums of services. New communities also demonstrated their commitment to the NSPN vision of a world where all youth are safe. Safe Place programs were added in the following communities:

- Bethlehem/Norristown, PA
- Oklahoma City, OK
- McAllen, TX
- Santa Maria, CA

Businesses involved in Safe Place:

- AAA
- Ace Hardware
- Albertson’s
- American Eagle
- Outfitters
- Amtrak stations
- Arby’s
- Back Yard Burgers
- Baskin Robbins
- Bush’s Chicken
- Bojangles
- Burger King
- Church’s Chicken
- Chick-Fil-A
- Circle K
- Cold Stone Creamery
- Comcast
- Country Inn & Suites
- Culver’s
- CVS
- Dairy Queen
- Days Inn
- Domino’s Pizza
- Food Lion
- Greyhound
- Hardees
- HEB Foods
- Hess Express
- Hilton Garden Inn
- Home Depot
- HyVee
- IGA
- IHOP
- KFC
- Kona Ice
- Kroger
- Lowe’s
- McDonald’s
- Mr. Gatti’s
- National Park
- Service Vehicles
- OnCue
- Publix
- Quality Inn
- QuikTrip
- Rally’s
- Red Lion Hotels
- Sleep Inn
- Sonic
- Starbucks
- Steak & Shake
- Subway
- Super 8
- Target
- Tijuana Flats
- Tim Horton’s
- Tops Market
- United States Post
- United Supermarket
- Valero
- Walgreens’
- Wal-Mart
- Wendy’s
- White Castle

Reasons Youth Access Services through Safe Place:

- Family problems
- Homeless
- Recovery
- Abuse / Neglect
- Mental health issues
- Suicide
- Lacked safe
- Inadequate safety
- School issues
- Other

7,724 youth helped at Safe Place sites or over the phone
38 states and District of Columbia
140 licensed agencies
1,491 communities in 385 counties
22,235 Safe Place sites – 9,957 stationary and 12,278 mobile
1,901 Safe Place volunteers including 332 youth
25,673 texts received via TXT 4 HELP – 1,279 interactive
609,258 young people were educated about Safe Place and TXT 4 HELP
Safe Place Implementation trainings conducted:

New and existing agencies also took advantage of the availability of implementation trainings to ensure quality services for youth in crises.

- Louisville, KY
- Kansas City, MO
- Bethlehem, PA
- Oklahoma City, OK
- Galveston/McAllen, TX
- Santa Maria, CA

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

—Nelson Mandela
The purpose of the RHYTTAC is to provide training and technical assistance to the more than 400 organizations funded by FYSB. These organizations provide services to RHY in communities across the country.

Federally-funded RHY grantees are made up of basic center, street outreach, transitional living, and maternity group home programs. NSPN has provided technical assistance to all grantees via three levels of support with over 2,500 contacts made.

These activities include:
• Interactive human trafficking learning modules providing self-directed learning
• 10 Regional Meetings – attended by 498 grantees
• 5 regional trainings, including 3 Child and Youth Care certification trainings
• National Training in Ft. Lauderdale held with 906 registrants
• e-Learning -14,870 webinar training courses completed

NSPN has maintained a dynamic RHYTTAC website that serves as a primary resource for access to news, current resources, research, and technical assistance. It serves as a portal to RHYTTAC services and resources, connection with fellow grantees and federal partners, and calendar of training events. In 2019, the RHYTTAC website had 37,219 visitors. More than 60 new resources were posted.

RHYTTAC worked with a group of subject matter experts to develop and deliver a number of products to support grantee policy development and evidence informed care. RHYTTAC also continues to emphasize the importance of collaboration and systems engagement.

• Trauma Informed Care Capacity Project involved RHYTTAC supporting work with a cadre of grantees to increase the capacity of local organizations.
• Human Trafficking capacity survey and listening sessions to identify emerging trends.
• Human Trafficking listening sessions
• Engaging and utilizing subject matter experts and organization in support of advancing the field and providing additional resources for grantees.
2019 CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS

$100,000 +  
Anonymous Donor

$10,000 to $20,000  
Mike Guinan  
Tammy L. Hopper

$2,500 to $10,000  
Laurie Jackson  
Parking for a Cause donations

$2,000 to $2,499  
Michael Fitz  
Mark Giuffre  
Ramon Looby

$1,000 to $1,999  
The Benevity Community Impact  
Fund  
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$500 to $999  
Dave Brennan  
Susan Harmon  
Marie Shaw, in memory of John Shaw

$200 to $499  
Sherry Casey  
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Allicia Frye  
Elizabeth Smith Miller

$100 to $199  
Shauna Brooks  
April Carthorn  
Josie Elder  
Tricia Eskridge  
Kim Frierson

$50 to $99  
Kathy Hatfield  
Beth Hines, in honor of TC Cassidy  
David Mount

$5 to $49  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
Baumann Paper Co.  
Wallace Corbell, in memory of Rodney Paul  
Hassinger  
Rosemary Maxey, in honor of TC Cassidy  
Gary Tucker

2019 NSPN FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Revenue

Program Services  
Contributions and Grants  
In-Kind Donations  
Government Grants  
Membership Dues  
Programs  
Program Material Sales  
Interest Income

Expenses

Management and General  
Fundraising  
Total Revenue  
Total Expenses
NSPN ADVISORY BOARD
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NSPN Advisory Board Chair
Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission

Dave Brennan
Community Volunteer

Shelia Catron Choate
Children’s Aid Society

Alicia Frye
Jonathan’s Place

Arash Ghafoori
Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth

Tricia Hamilton Eskridge
YMCA Safe Place Services

Elysa Hovard
Cocoon House

Tibby Milne
Utah Council for Crime Prevention

Kelsey Mosley
Haven House Services

David Mount
Seton Youth Shelters

Raymond Primes III
Youth Villages at West Tennessee Group Homes

Morgan Silverman
YouthCare

RHYTAC ADVISORY BOARD
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Sydney Foster
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Clayton Gonzales
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Bridge Over Troubled Waters, Inc.

Kristin London
Looking Glass Community Services

Frank McAlpin
LA LGBT Center

Dionne McCage
YMCA Safe Place Services

Andrew Palomo
Valley Youth House

Jennifer Paulsen
Synergy Services

Paulette Red Willow
OST Emergency Youth Shelter

Risa Rehmert
Wichita State University

Kathy Sauve
Lutheran Social Services of MN

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Tammy Hopper
Chief Strategic Initiatives Officer

Elizabeth Smith Miller
Director of Marketing and Events

Mark Wolf
Training Director

Susan Harmon
Director of Safe Place® National Operations

Shauna Brooks
Principal Investigator

April Carthorn
General Specialist

Sherry Casey
Operations and Administration Manager

Josie Elder
Operations Specialist

Kim Frierson
Training Specialist

Michelle Hurley
Program Advocate

Sophia Mastropaolo
Marketing Intern

Autumn Sandlin
Communications Manager

Eric Tadatada
Technical Assistance Specialist

Staff listed left to right / back to front: Laurie Jackson, Elizabeth Smith Miller, Rachel Hurst, Tammy Hopper, Mark Wolf, Sherry Casey, Susan Harmon, Shauna Brooks, April Carthorn, Autumn Sandlin, Kim Frierson, Eric Tadatada, Hillary Ladig
Ensuring an effective system of response for youth in crisis through public and private partnerships at a local, state and national level.