

THE NSPN sider

THE NATIONAL SAFE PLACE NETWORK NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK 2015 CELEBRATED NATIONWIDE



Crisis Center, Inc. in Northwest Indiana launched a Safe Place site partnership with TradeWinds Services, a nonprofit organization serving individuals with special needs.



Clark County Youth & Family Services in Jeffersonville, Indiana thanked the employees at Wendy's for participating as a Safe Place site.

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National Safe Place (NSP) Week was celebrated nationwide on March 15-21, 2015. The annual week highlights the Safe Place program, which has helped more than 319,000 youth since it began in 1983.

This year, more than 45 licensed Safe Place agencies held activities and events to raise awareness of Safe Place and recognize community partners who support the program. Agencies conducted Safe Place walks and rallies, photo and art contests, community presentations, Safe Place site appreciation events, volunteer luncheons, news interviews, NSP Week proclamation readings, and more. Several agencies announced new Safe Place site partnerships.

During NSP Week, NSPN partnered with the National Network for Youth to host a reception at their annual National Summit on Youth Homelessness in Washington, D.C. Congressman John Yarmuth spoke in support of runaway and homeless youth programs and discussed the importance of Safe Place.

Yarmuth said, "This week raises awareness of Safe Place as an immediate option for youth in crisis and recognizes the Safe Place partners working to strengthen the national safety net for youth. I am proud Safe Place started in Louisville, Kentucky, my hometown, and is now replicated across the country.

NSPN sincerely thanks all the dedicated staff and volunteers who helped celebrate and raise awareness of Safe Place during NSP Week 2015.

HEROES for Youth Award Nominations Now Open

We are now accepting nominations for the 2015 HEROES for Youth Award presented by NSPN. Visit nspnetwork.org or nationalsafeplace.org to nominate a friend or colleague who has made extraordinary contributions to the services provided to at-risk youth. Nominations for the HEROES for Youth Award are due by July 1, 2015.

LAURIE'S CORNER



Celebrations are so much fun! Each year I look forward to the third full week in March because it is a national celebration of Safe Place, otherwise known as National Safe Place Week (NSP Week). While it is important to remember Safe Place and the benefit it holds for youth, families and communities all year, NSP Week is a time to show appreciation for all of the wonderful partners and dedicated volunteers who make the program successful. In 2014, National Safe Place Network (NSPN) and our licensed agencies educated more youth than ever about Safe Place. We saw an eight percent increase in the number of youth who received assistance and/or accessed safety from Safe Place across the country. The program helped even more youth through the TXT 4 HELP service.

I was honored to attend a very special NSP Week celebration in Fresno, California at Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission, a licensed Safe Place provider. This was a magical celebration that highlighted the grand re-opening of their redesigned and re-modeled shelter, their 270th Safe Place site partnership with the Fresno Housing Authority, and the organization's 50th anniversary celebration. I was privileged to meet dedicated volunteers and partners who contribute to the success of Safe Place in Fresno and the Central Valley region. This is just one example of the festivities that occurred as part of NSP week. Please see pages four and five to read about other NSP Week events and activities.

I want to thank all of the Safe Place programs, partners, staff and volunteers who make the program successful! It is because of your diligence and commitment that so many young people have the opportunity to access safety and supportive services.

Additionally, it is with excitement I share the partnership of NSPN with the Academy of Competent Youth Work. This past winter, NSPN staff members were trained by the Academy in the Child and Youth Care (CYC) Worker Certification process. NSPN will now be able to offer CYC Certification training and testing. This is a great opportunity for NSPN members and licensed Safe Place agencies.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not remind everyone it is time to renew your membership and Safe Place license with NSPN. Our membership packages provide agencies with the power to purchase services based on agency needs. We are excited about the benefits and upcoming events available to members and licensed agencies. It is an exciting time to be part of the Network!

Thank you for your continued support.

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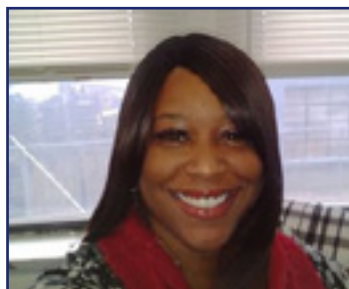
John Sherman
NSPN Advisory Board Rep.
Children's Home Society of
Florida

NEW TEAM MEMBERS

NSPN is pleased to welcome new members to our team! They have an incredible wealth of knowledge and are ready to share it with you. We invite you to join us in welcoming Jonathan, April, and Shauna to the Network!



Jonathan Krigger
Receptionist



April Carthorn
General Specialist



Shauna Stubbs
Principal Investigator

NSPN HONORS



CSX Contribution

CSX recently contributed \$130,000 to support Safe Place expansion efforts and NSPN training opportunities. NSPN is truly thankful for CSX's ongoing commitment to provide safety and services for youth and families in need.



Michelle Sahagun

NSPN is pleased to recognize the contributions of Michelle Sahagun, who recently completed two years of service as the NSPN Advisory Board Chair. NSPN and the Advisory Board are grateful for Michelle's wisdom and guidance during her tenure.



John Sherman

John Sherman, System of Care Director for Children's Home Society of Florida, is the new NSPN Advisory Board Chair. John has served as a member of the Advisory Board for since 2010 and has led the Quality Enhancement committee of the Board for a period of time. NSPN is pleased to welcome John as the new Advisory Board Chair and looks forward to his direction and advancement in this role.



Debra Friggel

NSPN is proud to recognize Debra Friggel as the recipient of the 2014 Volunteer of the Year Award. As the Community Relations Director for QuikTrip Corporation, a U.S. convenience and gasoline retailer, Friggel is instrumental in Safe Place program expansion on the local and national level. She has served on the NSPN Board of Directors since 2006 and is a tireless advocate for Safe Place and all youth in need.



Susan Harmon

Susan Harmon began her career with Safe Place and NSPN back in 1990 when she served as the Safe Place Coordinator for YMCA Safe Place Services in Louisville, Kentucky. Over the years, Susan has been actively involved in Safe Place program expansion. She has traveled from coast to coast training new agencies and communities on proper Safe Place implementation while growing the program's national footprint. As the Director of Safe Place National Operations, Susan continues to lead expansion efforts and provides quality Safe Place services and support. NSPN is honored to recognize Susan for her dedicated accomplishments and service over the last 25 years.

NSPN ANNOUNCES

Exclusive Partnership with the Academy for Competent Youth Work

NSPN is pleased to announce a partnership with the Academy for Competent Youth Work to provide Child and Youth Care certification training. The Academy for Competent Youth Work is effectively transforming the practice of child and youth care by focusing on these core goals: Prepare a competent international youth care workforce; Help youth care organizations develop and implement research-based best practices; Advocate for quality services for children, youth and families; and Advocate on behalf of Child and Youth Care Practitioners. NSPN is proud to be the exclusive national partner with the Academy for Competent Youth Work for complete access to training. This partnership provides the opportunity for NSPN to offer this certification training: "Child and Youth Care Foundations Course" and certification exam. Participants may pursue certification at the Basic and Associate levels (national certification) or the Professional level (international certification). Contact us for additional information about how you can become a Certified Youth Care Worker.

NSPN Membership and Licensed Safe Place Agency



MEETING **YOUR** NEEDS

at the **personal**, **organizational**, and **community** level.

Experience the power of joining the **Network** as a member and **Safe Place** agency.
Call **502.635.3660** today.

Personal

Professional coaching
Training of trainer events
Personalized professional development
In-depth Safe Place Coordinator Training

Organizational

Fund development assistance
Board development assistance
Staff training support
Strategic visioning

Community

Post-emergency crisis support
Safe Place program support
Coalition-building
Advocacy training and support



**Your needs.
Your network.
Together we can!**

Connect with Us!

info@nspnetwork.org (fb) nspnetwork
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Be the reason youth are safe.

It's time to continue your involvement as a **Licensed Safe Place Agency!** If you're not already part of the safety net for youth, connect with us at **502.635.3660** to learn more.

Licensed Safe Place Agencies have access to:

- ◆ Phone / Email Consultation with National Staff
- ◆ Safe Place Agency Support Center Website
- ◆ Access to Educational / Promotional Materials
- ◆ Inclusion in TXT 4 HELP Initiative
- ◆ And Much More!



info@nationalsafeplace.org



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www.nationalsafeplace.org



@safeplace

For Youth...Someplace to Go. Someone to Help.



Renewal Drive Underway

For more than three decades, NSPN has provided services and support to agencies serving youth and families. Now more than ever, your membership and participation as a licensed Safe Place agency are important components of advancing the needs of the youth services field.

Because the Network is only as strong as our members and licensed agencies, we want to make sure you are aware of the benefits and services available to you. This includes the monthly members-only Plugged iN, providing news, tips and funding announcements; monthly Safe Place eNews; a library of NSPN and Safe Place training webinars; discounted registration for events; professional development coaching; and, grant proposal assistance and reviews.

It is an exciting time to be part of the Network! We encourage you to begin or renew your membership and status as a licensed Safe Place agency by following one of these two steps:

1. Visit us online at www.nspnetwork.org or www.nationalsafeplace.org and log in to your account via the "Member Login" section.
2. Call [Katie Carter](#) (NSPN membership) or [Susan Harmon](#) (Safe Place) at 502.635.3660.

We're honored to serve you and thank you for your messages throughout the year. Here's to being proud to be part of the Network!

"Our agency as a whole is very thankful for Safe Place / NSPN and all the benefits it provides to not only youth, but the staff at member agencies. We have been able to utilize training resources for all staff using the NSPN web-based learning as well as the numerous opportunities to come to various conferences and bring material back to our agency. Safe Place has assisted us in helping many children over the past few months that would not have known how to get the assistance they so desperately needed had it not been for their school publicizing Safe Place."

~ Lucas Myrick, Residential Manager

Flowering Branch Children's Shelter, Cartersville, Georgia
Licensed Safe Place Agency and NSPN Member

"Youth Emergency Services has benefited in many ways from membership in NSPN. The Transitional Living Program case managers and program coordinator set aside time to do on-line training modules as a group. As a small agency, this has been cost effective and has added value to our programming. We have also gained from in-person workshops on trauma-informed care and executive leadership. The staff at NSPN are always willing to offer technical assistance and brainstorm ideas. I highly recommend NSPN membership! It has been a great experience for YES!"

~Mary Fraser Meints, Executive Director

Youth Emergency Services, Omaha, Nebraska
Licensed Safe Place Agency and NSPN Member



National Safe Place Network and the Academy for Competent Youth Work Team Up to Help Advance the Youth Services Field!

Strengthen your knowledge and skills today by becoming a Certified Youth Care Worker!

- Receive the benefits of high-quality, cost-effective training that builds on individual experiences of child and youth workers.
- Become part of a competent, certified group of child and youth care workers advancing the youth services field.
- Individuals with varying levels of experience are welcome.
- Discounted course registration fees available for NSPN members and licensed Safe Place agencies. Course registration is free for FYSB RHY grantee agencies.

The CYC: Foundations Course is eight 5-hour modules that include the following topics:

- Introduction to Professional CYC Practice
- Professional Ethics and Regulation
- Brain-based Guidance Techniques
- Assessment and Documentation
- Communication
- Developmentally Based Programming
- Relationship Development
- Group Work
- Activity Development and Leadership
- Supervising Children and Youth
- Cultural Diversity

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**Your needs.
Your network.
Together we can!**

NSP WEEK IN PHOTOS



Laurie Jackson, NSPN President/CEO, joins representatives from Fresno EOC Sanctuary and Youth Services to introduce the Fresno Housing Authority as the community's most recent Safe Place site.



Staff at Haven House in Raleigh, North Carolina celebrated NSP Week with cake.



Safe Place Coordinators from YouthCare, Friends of Youth and Auburn Youth Resources thank King County Metro for participating as Safe Place partner in Seattle, Washington.



Youth at YMCA Safe Place Services in Louisville, Kentucky created artwork to celebrate NSP Week.



Mayor Jim Gray proclaimed it NSP Week in Lexington, Kentucky.

RHYTTAC NEWS AND UPDATES



Runaway and Homeless Youth
Training & Technical Assistance Center

Emergency Preparedness

All FYSB-funded RHY programs are required to have policies and procedures addressing emergency preparedness. FYSB's RHYTTAC encourages you to access resources on our website to assist you in developing policies and procedures related to emergency and disaster preparedness, response and recovery. Disasters impact programs across the country every year and may be large scale events such as tornadoes and floods; or, smaller scale events such as power outages and facility fires. While disasters and emergencies cannot be predicted, programs can have policies and procedures in place to respond and recover from them while decreasing disruption of services to RHY and their families.

RHYTTAC has several resources available to assist RHY programs, including:

- **The “Ready for Anything Manual”** - This manual can be accessed on the RHYTTAC website and includes worksheets and checklists for developing an emergency preparedness, response and recovery plan for your organization. You may access this resource at: <http://ow.ly/KU6JR>.
- The following e-learning courses are also available to assist staff of RHY programs understand and respond to the impact of disasters on children and youth accessing services:
 - o **“Disaster Preparation for RHY Grantees”** - This course is designed for RHY grantees to develop a better understanding of how to prepare for disasters that affect their agency.
 - o **FEMA’s 7 Module Course Titled “Planning for the Need of Children in Disasters”** - The purpose of this course is to provide guidance for Emergency Managers and implementers of children’s programs about meeting the unique needs that arise among children as a result of a disaster or emergency.

You can access the e-learning courses by registering online at: <http://ow.ly/KU6BS>.

- **National Child Traumatic Stress Network’s (NCTSN’s) “Terrorism, Disaster and Children Speaker Series”** - This is a self-paced distance learning course from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN). To access the course, you will have to complete a free registration form with NCTSN. The course is divided into twelve courses, and they can be taken in any order.

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF RHYTTAC

Engagement Opportunity

Grantee Spotlight: Would you like your program to be featured in our grantee spotlight section of rhyttac.net? Any FYSB RHY grantee organization is eligible to participate in the spotlight effort. We want to highlight all of you – regardless of the size of your agency or how many grants you may have. Your organization is doing critical work to support runaway and homeless youth. These efforts deserve to be recognized. The spotlight features grantees from every HHS region. **Apply now at:** <http://ow.ly/KU54J>



RHYTTAC and HTR³ Facilitated and Recorded Webinars are routinely available. Please visit our events calendar on rhyttac.net for details and to access eLearning.



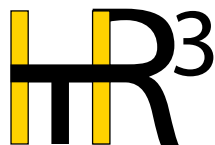
Join us for “Talk It Out Thursdays” and HTR³ discussion based conference calls! These conference calls provide opportunities for staff from RHY programs to join in for an hour long discussion regarding a variety of RHY and Human Trafficking topics. Check the calendar at rhyttac.net for the topic and schedule.



2429 Crittenden Drive, Louisville, KY 40217



WE ARE PROUD TO OPERATE



FYSB Family & Youth
Services Bureau

Runaway and Homeless
Youth Training & Technical
Assistance Center

Connect with Us!

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National Safe Place Network envisions a world where all youth are safe. It is our mission to ensure an effective system of response for youth in crisis through public and private partnerships at a local, state and national level.