A RUNAWAY IS…

An unmarried child who is under the age of 18 years and who is absent from the home of a parent or other lawful placement without the consent of the parent, guardian, or lawful custodian is considered a "runaway youth". In other words, anytime youth leave home without permission from their parents or fail to return home at the time specified by their parents, their behavior fits the legal definition of a runaway youth.

POLICE OFFICERS NO LONGER ISSUE CITATIONS

Hennepin County resources are no longer available to process citations for youth at the juvenile court level.

All reports of runaway youth in CRYSTAL are assigned to Crystal Police Juvenile Specialist Susan Carstens - who will contact parents to talk about resources available.

She may be reached at 763-531-1023 or e-mail:
susan.carstens@ci.crystal.mn.us

SEE INSIDE BROCHURE FOR OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE…

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A REPORT IS FILED?

Once a parent has filed a runaway report with police, the name of their runaway child is entered into the national computer system (NCIC).

That means police officers in every state are able to check the NCIC computer system by the child's name to see if the youth is a runaway.

If police officers determine that a youth is a runaway, they will take the youth into custody until they can locate a parent.

Police officers in Minnesota may release runaway youth to their parents, to another suitable adult, or to an unlocked shelter care facility.

(*Other states may have different rules about holding and releasing runaway youth.)*

IT IS ILLEGAL TO HELP A YOUTH RUN AWAY

Any person who encourages, causes, or helps a child to run from home is guilty of a gross misdemeanor (*M.S. 260C.425).*

An adult who commits a gross misdemeanor could receive up to a $3,000 fine and up to a year in jail.

CRYSTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

RUNAWAY LAWS

M.S. 260C.007, SUBD.28

(AS OF AUGUST 2011)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR PARENTS AND RUNAWAY YOUTH

IF PARENTS WISH ASSISTANCE BEYOND WHAT POLICE MAY PROVIDE, THEY MAY CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICES...

HENNEPIN COUNTY'S FRONT DOOR SERVICES
GOVERNMENT CENTER, 14TH FLOOR, ADMINISTRATIVE TOWER
300 SOUTH 6TH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55487
PHONE: 612-348-4111 website: www.co.hennepin.mn.us/vgn-ext-templating/v/index.jsp?
May provide a social worker to help parents seek appropriate resources for their child and family, including children's mental health issues, day treatment and children's crisis services. This is the place to contact if you are wishing to apply for a children's mental health case manager.

YMCA's POINT NW PROGRAM FOR RUNAWAY & HOMELESS YOUTH
2304 JACKSON STREET NE, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55418
PHONE: 763-493-3052
This is a 24-hour crisis phone line to leave messages only. Counselors will retrieve and respond to messages between the hours of 8 AM to 8 PM, Monday through Friday. Counselors are able to meet with you and your child to attempt to resolve the runaway concerns.

BRIDGE FOR RUNAWAY & HOMELESS YOUTH
2200 EMERSON AVENUE SOUTH, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55405
PHONE: 763-377-8800 website: www.bridgeforyouth.org email: info@bridgeforyouth.org
This is a 24-hour hotline, 24-hour walk-in counseling and an emergency shelter for youth. Youth may stay three to five days at the Bridge where they will talk with counselors. Parents will be contacted and a family reunification meeting will be scheduled if appropriate. On-going family counseling is available whether or not a youth stays at the Bridge.

COMMUNITY MEDIATION PROGRAM, INC.
9220 BASS LAKE ROAD, SUITE #270, NEW HOPE, MN 55428
PHONE: 763-561-0033 website: www.mediationprogram.com email: staff@mediationprogram.com
A trained mediator will meet with parents and the runaway youth in a neutral and safe setting to attempt to arrive at a solution to the differences that led to the runaway behavior.

LA OPORTUNIDAD, INC., FOR LATINO (SPANISH SPEAKING)
2700 EAST LAKE STREET, SUITE #3200, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55406
PHONE: 612-872-6165 website: www.oportunidad.org
Children, youth, and parenting programs available to help Latino individuals and families create a strong peaceful community.

COMUNIDADES LATINAS UNIDAS EN SERVICIO (C.L.U.E.S.)
720 EAST LAKE STREET, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55406
PHONE: 612-746-3500 website: www.clues.org
Family, mental health, chemical health, and economic advancement services are available.