



NATIONAL NETWORK
 for **YOUTH**

CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING

**THE RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS
YOUTH AND TRAFFICKING
PREVENTION ACT OF 2023**

*Learn From Youth Who Experienced
Homelessness in America + Runaway
and Homeless Youth Act Grantees*

AGENDA

SPEAKERS



Young Leaders:

- **Sharday Hamilton**, IL
- **Hannah Bollack**, MD
- **Elizabeth Albertine**, MM

Congressional Champions:

- **Senator Dick Durbin** of Illinois
- **Senator Susan Collins** of Maine

Runaway and Homeless Youth Act grantees:

- **Chris Bicknell**, New Beginnings, ME
- **Tedd Peso**, The Night Ministry, IL
- **Stephanie Piccirilli**, Ignite, IL
- **Susan Frankel**, National Runaway Safeline, IL

Contact: darla.bardine@nn4youth.org | 202.783.7949

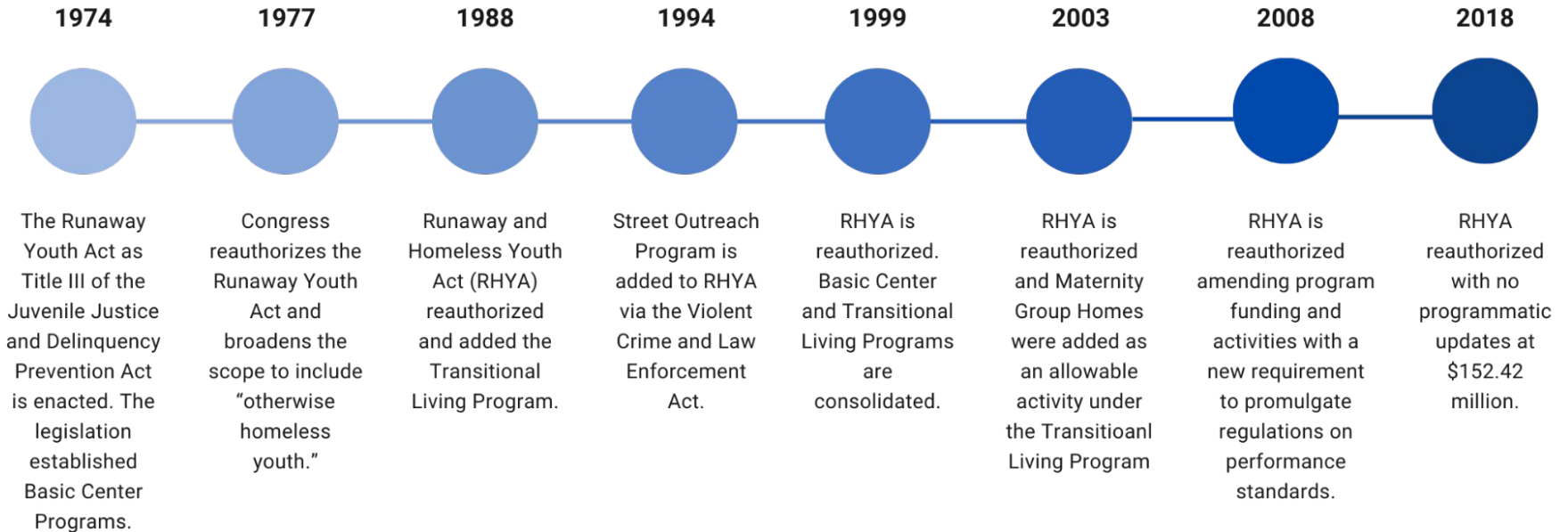
Senator Susan Collins of Maine
Special Remarks





Senator Dick Durbin of Illinois
Special Remarks

Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) Evolution Timeline



The following vital programs are made possible by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA):

STREET OUTREACH PROGRAM (SOP)

provides education, prevention, treatment, counseling, connection and referrals to services to prevent sexual abuse & human trafficking for youth at-risk of experiencing trafficking and homelessness

BASIC CENTER PROGRAM (BCP)

provides temporary housing with, counseling, therapeutic family intervention, connection to education, and supportive services for minors experiencing homelessness

TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM (TLP)

provides longer-term housing with supportive services for youth 16 to 22 years of age, including Maternity Group Homes for pregnant and parenting youth

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

24/7 national phone, text, & online communications systems which connects youth and families in crisis with prevention services and reunifies families

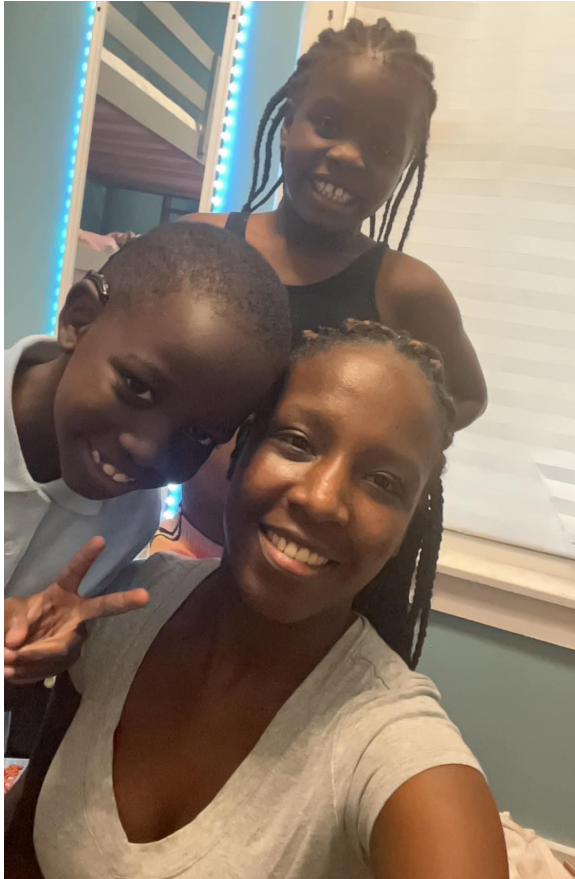
NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

provides training and technical assistance to all RHYA grantees

Runaway and Homeless Youth + Trafficking Prevention Act of 2023 (S.3125/H.R. 6041)

RHYTPA makes important updates to the current RHYA program:

- Includes new provisions to combat trafficking and prohibit discrimination
 - Increases the length of stays in Basic Center Programs from 21 to 30+ days
 - Increases grant award amount and overall program funding
 - Increase allowable age for Transitional Living Programs to 25
- Creates new Prevention Services Programs
 - Fixes the 20 bed per building issue in regulation
 - Allows youth from other systems to be served by RHYA programs if the other system isn't housing them
 - Assist youth in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



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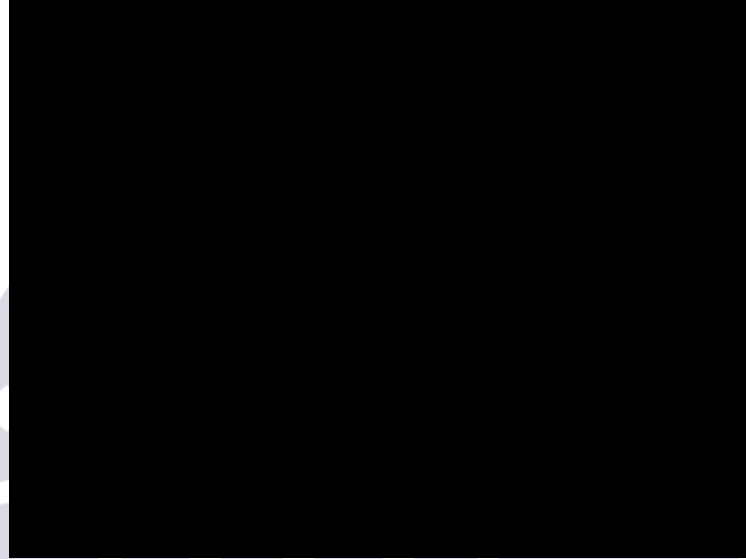
Sharday Hamilton

Chicago, Illinois



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[FIRSTHAND Talks: Finding a Way Home | Season 6 | PBS](#)





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Hannah Bollack,
New Market, Maryland

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Elizabeth Albertine,
Hastings, Minnesota

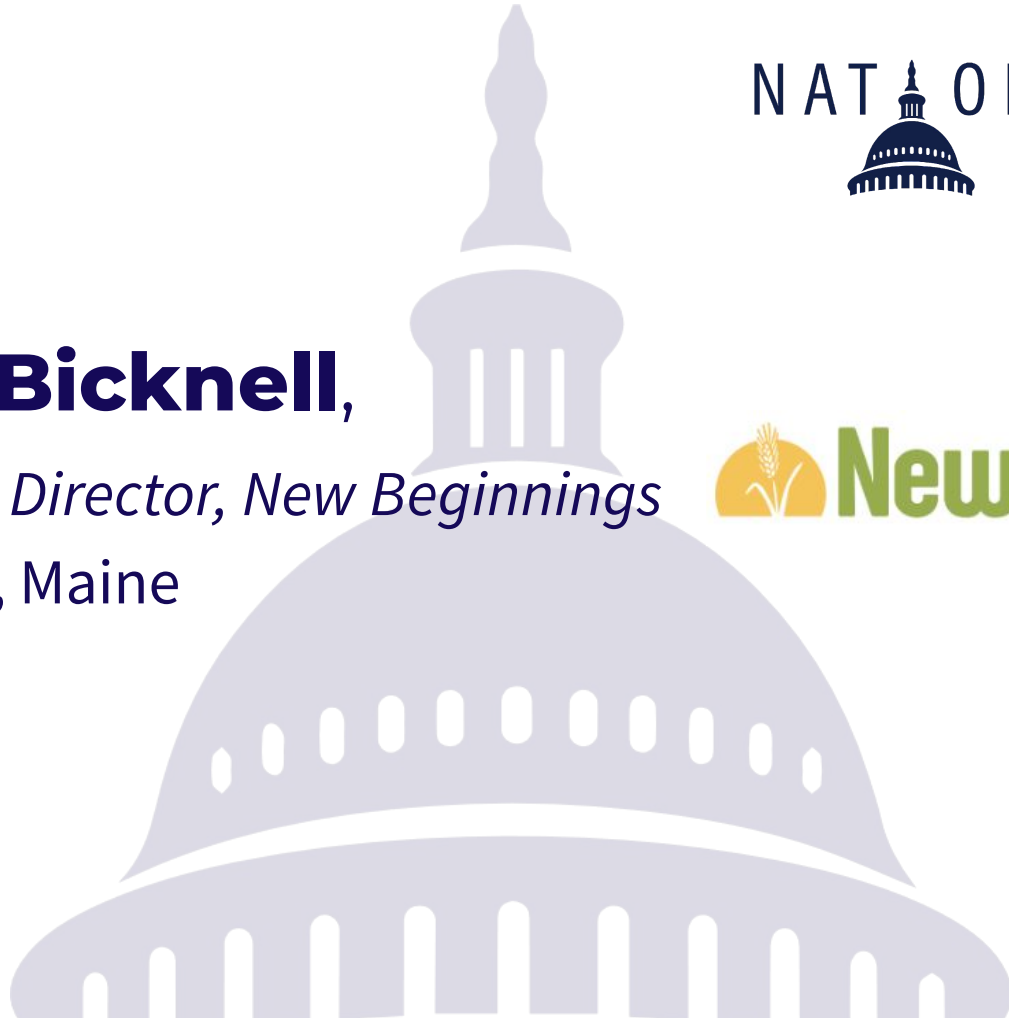
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Chris Bicknell,

Executive Director, New Beginnings

Lewiston, Maine

 **New Beginnings**





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Tedd Peso,

Director, Strategic Partnerships, The Night Ministry
Chicago, Illinois

Stephanie Piccirilli,

President & Chief Executive Officer, Ignite
Chicago, Illinois

Susan Frankel,

Chief Executive Officer, National Runaway Safeline,
Chicago, Illinois



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