

percent leave the centers with no known destination.

*Minimum Requirements for Project Design:* As part of addressing the evaluation criteria outlined in Part II of this announcement, each applicant must address the following items in the program narrative section of the proposal.

#### Objectives and Need for Assistance

1. Applicant must specify the goals and objectives of the project and how implementation will fulfill the purposes of the legislation identified in Part I, section C.1. of this announcement.

2. Applicant must describe the conditions of youth and families in the area to be served, with an emphasis on the incidence and characteristics of runaway and homeless youth and their families. The discussion must consider matters of family functioning, along with the health, education, employment, and social conditions of the youth, including at-risk conditions or behaviors such as drug use, school failure, and delinquency.

3. Applicant must discuss the existing support systems for at-risk youth and families in the area, with specific references to law enforcement, health and mental health care, social services, school systems, and child welfare. In addition, other agencies providing shelter and services to runaway and homeless youth in the area must be identified.

4. Within the context of the existing support systems, applicant must demonstrate the need for the center and indicate the objectives that the program would work toward fulfilling.

5. Applicant must describe the area to be served by the proposed center, and must demonstrate that the center is or will be located in an area which is frequented by and/or easily accessible by runaway and homeless youth.

#### Results and Benefits Expected

1. Applicant must specify the numbers of runaway and homeless youth and their families to be served, the number of beds available for runaway and homeless youth and the types and quantities of services to be provided.

2. Applicant must describe the anticipated changes in attitudes, values and behavior, and improvements in individual and family functioning that will occur as a consequence of the services provided by the center.

3. Applicant must discuss the expected impact of the project on the availability of services to runaway and homeless youth in the local community and indicate how the project will

enhance the organization's capacity to provide services that address the needs of runaway and homeless youth in the community.

#### Approach

1. Applicant must describe how the center's youth development approach or philosophy underlies and integrates all proposed activities, including provision of services to runaway and homeless youth and involvement of the youth's parents or legal guardians.

2. Applicant must describe how runaway and homeless youth and their families will be reached, and how services will be provided in compliance with the Program Performance Standards listed in Part VI, Appendix A.

3. Applicant must include detailed plans for implementing direct services based upon a youth development approach and upon identified goals and objectives. Applicant must identify the strategies that will be employed and the activities that will be implemented, including innovative approaches to securing appropriate center services for the runaway and homeless youth to be served, for involving family members as an integral part of the services provided, for periodic review and assessment of individual cases, and for encouraging awareness of and sensitivity to the diverse needs of runaway and homeless youth who represent particular ethnic and racial backgrounds, sexual orientations, or are street youth.

4. Applicant must describe the center's plans for conducting an outreach program that, where applicable, will attract members of ethnic and racial minorities and/or persons with limited ability to speak English.

5. Applicant must describe the center's plans and procedures for intake and assessment of the youth upon arrival at the center.

6. Applicant must describe the center's plans for contacting the parents or other relatives of the youth they serve, for ensuring the safe return of the youth to their parents, relatives or legal guardians if it is in their best interests, for contacting local governments pursuant to formal or informal arrangements established with such officials, and for providing alternative living arrangements when it is not safe or appropriate for the youth to return home.

7. Applicant must describe the type of shelter that will be available, the shelter capacity of the center and the system of staff supervision to be implemented in the shelter.

8. Applicant must describe the center's plans for ensuring proper

coordination with law enforcement personnel, health and mental health care personnel, social service personnel, and welfare personnel.

9. Applicant must describe the center's plans for ensuring coordination with the schools to which runaway and homeless youth will return, and for assisting the youth to stay current with the curricula of these schools.

10. Applicant must describe the center's procedures for dealing with youth who have run from foster care placements.

11. Applicant must describe procedures for dealing with youth who have run from correctional institutions, and must show that procedures are in accordance with Federal, State and local laws.

12. Applicant must describe the center's plans and procedures for providing aftercare services and for ensuring, whenever possible, that aftercare services will also be provided to those youth who are returned beyond the State in which the center is located.

13. Applicant must agree to gather and submit program and client data required by FYSB's Runaway and Homeless Youth Management Information System (RHYMIS). If applicant is a current recipient of a BCP or DAPP grant (expiring in FY 1995), applicant must describe the extent to which he or she now gathers and submits required data to the RHYMIS.

While the computer software and training for the implementation of the RHYMIS will be provided by FYSB to grantees, applicant should include a request for funds in its budget for any computer equipment needed for implementation of the RHYMIS. To determine whether an agency's current computer equipment is adequate, or whether purchase of an upgrade or of new equipment is necessary, potential applicants are invited to contact the RHYMIS Technical Support Group at Information Technology Incorporated, Bethesda, MD, telephone: 1-800-392-2395.

14. Applicant must agree to cooperate with any research or evaluation efforts sponsored by the Administration for Children and Families.

15. Applicant must describe how the activities implemented under this project will be continued by the agency once Federal funding for the project has ended. The applicant must describe specific plans for accomplishing program phase-out for the last two quarters of the 36-month project period in the event the applicant does not receive a new award.