



## WE ARE A RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH PROGRAM

Runaway and homeless youth programs throughout the country have received funding from the state and federal government since the 1970's. In 1992 **Youth Emergency Services (YES!)** began helping kids and families in Oswego County because the number of runaway and homeless youth were steadily on the rise.

### YES! PROVIDES YOUTH UNDER 21 WITH:

- ✍ INFORMATION
- ✍ CHOICES
- ✍ CRISIS INTERVENTION
- ✍ ADVOCACY & REFERRALS
- ✍ EMERGENCY SHELTER

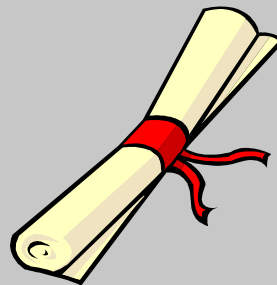
**YES!** Is free, confidential and requires the youth to be in direct contact with us.

**If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Volunteer Host Home please call 342-7532.**

Funded by NYS Office of Children & Family Services, the Oswego City/County Youth Bureau and the Department of Health and Human Services.

## *Just One Night!!!*

**“SPENDING JUST ONE NIGHT IN A HOST HOME, INSTEAD OF ON THE STREETS, CAN HELP A CHILD MAKE THE CHOICES THAT WILL CHANGE THEIR ENTIRE FUTURE...”**



## VOLUNTEER HOST HOMES

VOLUNTEER HOST HOMES ARE FAMILIES LIKE YOURS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING A RUNAWAY OR HOMELESS YOUTH. HOST HOMES COME IN A VARIETY OF STYLES FROM NON-PARENTS TO GRANDPARENTS, TO SINGLE OR LARGE HOUSEHOLDS. HOST HOMES PROVIDE A SAFE PLACE TO STAY FOR RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH FOR UP TO **15 DAYS** WHILE **YES!** WORKS TO ACHIEVE POSITIVE SOLUTIONS TO THEIR SITUATION.

## THE NEED FOR HOST HOMES!

**YES!** WORKS WITH OVER 250 YOUTH IN OSWEGO COUNTY EACH YEAR, HOWEVER, HOST HOMES ARE LOCATED IN ONLY A COUPLE OF THE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICTS. WE CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT THAT EDUCATION & OTHER COMMUNITY BONDS CONTINUE SO THAT YOUNG PEOPLE MAY WORK THROUGH THEIR CRISIS IN A FAMILIAR SETTING. TO ACHIEVE THIS, HOST HOMES ARE STILL DESPERATELY NEEDED IN EVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY.

## CERTIFICATE & TRAINING

EACH HOST HOME IS CERTIFIED THROUGH NYS OFFICE OF CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES. IN ORDER TO DO THIS, **YES!** WILL COMPLETE 2 INTERVIEWS WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND EXPLAIN THE ENTIRE APPLICATION PROCESS. ONCE THE CERTIFICATION IS COMPLETE, A MINIMUM OF 4 HOURS OF TRAINING IS PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE EACH YEAR.

## WE'RE FLEXIBLE!

HOST HOMES CHOOSE THEIR OWN SCHEDULES. THEIR INVOLVEMENT RANGES FROM A COUPLES OF TIMES A YEAR TO A COUPLE OF TIMES A MONTH. IT ALL DEPENDS ON HOW OFTEN THE HOST HOME WANTS TO PROVIDE SHELTER FOR A RUNAWAY OR HOMELESS YOUTH. HOST HOMES MAY ALSO MAKE OTHER DECISIONS REGARDING THE YOUTH THAT THEY WISH TO HELP SUCH AS SPECIFYING AGE, GENDER, SMOKING/NONSMOKING, ETC.