



# What To Know

There are over 2,500 reports of missing juveniles made to Omaha Police each year. These youth are most vulnerable to sexual exploitation, sex trafficking and other victimization. Project Harmony's goal is to be proactive and provide support to youth and their families, before behaviors escalate.

## What is the Missing and Anti-Trafficking Youth Services Program?

When a child is reported as a missing youth or comes to the attention of the Omaha Police Department, the family qualifies for voluntary services through the Missing and Anti-Trafficking Youth Services (MATYS) Program at Project Harmony.

Through our partnership with Omaha Police, the MATYS Program is designed to assist families who have had youth go missing from home or who may be involved in high-risk behaviors. This program helps with the assessment, treatment, and coordination of services for youth and their families.

The role of our specialists is to connect with youth, young adults and caregivers to provide support and identify available services in the community.



Child Advocacy Center

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[ProjectHarmony.com](http://ProjectHarmony.com)

# Missing and Anti-Trafficking Youth Services



Child Advocacy Center



## What To Do If... Your Youth Leaves Home

- Immediately call 911 to report them missing to your local law enforcement.
- Contact Project Harmony's MATYS Program.
- Contact the National Runaway Safeline for resources and support (Call 1-800-RUNAWAY, text 66008 or visit 1800runaway.org).



We know that this is a difficult, stressful and confusing time for you and your youth. Often times, parents feel overwhelmed and like they have tried **everything**. Our experienced MATYS Specialists are here to help **support and link** families to needed services in an effort to prevent future runaway behavior, and build a trusting and positive relationship with the goal of **improving youth decision-making** to help keep them safe.

## How Can Missing and Anti-Trafficking Youth Services Help You?



### Mental Health Services

We can connect youth and caregivers to therapy services. We will work with you to determine who the best fit would be for your family.



### Medical Exams

Every youth is offered a medical exam. Our medical providers will complete an overall wellness exam and provide education.



### Safety Planning

Our MATYS Specialists will assist youth and caregivers in developing a plan to address safety concerns.



### Caregiver Support

Our MATYS Specialists will meet with caregivers to discuss any concerns, provide support and education and connect them with relevant services.



## Addressing Common Misconceptions

- You **do not** need to wait 24 hours before reporting your youth missing. Immediately call your local law enforcement if you do not know your youth's whereabouts and cannot contact them.
- Project Harmony **cannot take placement** of your child, nor place your child in a facility or home.
- Project Harmony is not Law Enforcement or Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). However, we are **a partner**.
- Child sex trafficking hides in plain sight across all different types of communities, **including Omaha**.

## Contact Our Team

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