

If you are interested in becoming a Host Home or have additional questions, please contact
Huntington Sanctuary
for further information.

(631) 271-2183

Huntington Sanctuary
is a specialized project of the
Huntington Youth Bureau Youth
Development Research Institute

The program is funded by:

U.S. Department of Health &
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N.Y.S. Office of Children &
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Suffolk County Youth Bureau

Town of Huntington Youth Bureau

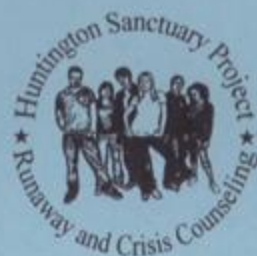
Private Donations



Sanctuary is a part of the Town of Huntington Youth Bureau's comprehensive system of youth services. As a specialized project, Sanctuary assists youth between the ages of 12 and 21 who run away, or are at risk of running away from home or becoming homeless. Sanctuary's professional staff members provide individual/family/group counseling, crisis intervention, and referrals to short-term emergency housing.

Sanctuary's services are confidential and free of charge for all Town of Huntington residents. The project has three primary components:

- Runaway Crisis Intervention and Family Mediation for youth between the ages of 12 and 17;
- Family Social Work Program for youth between the ages of 12 and 21 and their families;
- Independent Living Skills Program for youth between the ages of 16 and 21.



Huntington Sanctuary Project

423 Park Avenue

Huntington, N.Y. 11743

(631) 271-2183

www.hybdri.org

**Open your heart
and your home
to a teen
in your community.**



**Huntington
Sanctuary Project
Host Home Program**

"Our experience was extremely positive. Maria was fun and great to have around. She was polite, friendly, cooperative, and easy to get along with." – Host Family*

What is the Host Home Program?

The Host Home program keeps youth who run away in their community, while providing compassionate and professional assistance to their families, and giving a strong message that our community members do care and are willing to extend their generosity to those in need. The goal of this program is to work toward reconciliation for the youth and his or her family. This service is provided by highly qualified counseling staff.

What is a Host Home?

Host Homes are voluntary families that provide temporary shelter to youth experiencing a crisis with their family of origin. A typical stay is one or two nights with a maximum stay of 21 days. Placement of youth in a Host Home provides an opportunity for the youth and his or her family to have a "cooling off" period.

Who are the youth in the program?

Youth who are considered for Host Home placement are carefully screened by Sanctuary staff. The following criteria are followed:

The youth must agree to work toward reconciliation with their family of origin with the assistance of Sanctuary staff.

The youth must agree to follow all rules of the Host Home even if those rules differ from the rules of their family of origin.

The youth is 17 years of age or younger.

The youth understands that this is a temporary, short-term placement.

The youth is not a danger to himself/herself or others.



What makes this program unique?

In order to provide both the youth and the Host Home families the greatest support and supervision, the following procedures are adhered to:

A Sanctuary staff member will be available to the youth and Host Home family on a 24-hour basis.

A Sanctuary staff member will maintain daily telephone contact with both the youth and the Host Home family.

The youth will be met with at least once every three days or more frequently as needed.

The location of the Host Home will be kept confidential.

The parents of the placed youth must contact Sanctuary staff if they need to be in touch with their child.

*"They were both really nice. They made me feel at home, and I think they enjoyed my company." – Tori, Age 17**

*"Nice people, nice home! They took me to dinner, and I felt included. I had my own space, my own room, and my own bathroom. They seemed very happy to have me there" – Jenny, Age 16**

**Names have been changed.*