9. Involving and educating parents, siblings and peers of runaway and homeless youth receiving drug abuse prevention services;

10. Developing and implementing programs designed to reduce drug involvement among the target population by improving coping skills and reducing stress factors arising from such problems as homelessness, family dysfunction, and peer pressure; and

11. Establishing linkages with community mental health programs that will provide comprehensive substance abuse counseling and/or treatment to runaway and homeless youth.

Efforts that will not be funded under this priority area include research and demonstration projects on illicit drug use by runaway and homeless youth, and the direct provision of drug treatment services such as those services provided in a medical setting or by medical personnel.

This priority area is specifically targeted to runaway and homeless youth. Potential applicants interested in providing drug abuse prevention services to high-risk youth other than those who are runaways or homeless are encouraged to contact the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). For information on CSAP grant programs and other drug abuse prevention resources, applicants should contact the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, Maryland 20847–2345; telephone: 1–800–729–6686.

Background: Abuse of drugs has had an increasingly severe effect on runaway and homeless youth. In 1994, approximately 20 percent of youth entering the Basic Centers identified alcohol and other illicit drugs as a personal problem. Approximately the same percentage identified substance abuse by household members as a problem.

The Drug Abuse Education and Prevention Program (DAPP) provides Federal Assistance to comprehensively address the problem of drug involvement among runaway and homeless youth. Since the program's inception in 1989, ACYF has awarded approximately \$90 million in discretionary grants to approximately 475 agencies and organizations located throughout the United States, including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

While varying degrees of success have been reported by DAPP grantees, many of the most promising programs have implemented one or more of the following components:

1. Candid discussions between youth and street-wise peer counselors and/or recovering youth substance abusers who can discuss addiction and recovery from their personal experience;

2. Sessions in which youth obtain accurate facts on any and all aspects of substance abuse and treatment;

3. Presentation of decision-making and self-assertiveness skills and techniques that assist youth in making independent choices and avoiding druginvolved friends and environments;

4. Counseling and/or other strategies for helping youth to understand both the underlying causes of drug use and the effect of drugs on them, their families, their peers and their communities;

5. Educational information that portrays the consequences of overdosing, the effects of drug withdrawal, and the increased chances of contracting the HIV virus and AIDS; and

6. The provision of specific and realistic information on various treatment options that are available, assistance in enrolling in such programs, and appropriate follow-up by the service provider.

Minimum Requirements for Project Design: As a part of addressing the evaluation criteria outlined in Part II of this announcement, applicants must address the following items in the program narrative sections of their applications.

Objectives and Need for Assistance

1. Applicant must specify the goals and objectives of the program and how implementation will fulfill the requirements of the legislation identified in Part I, Section C.2., of this announcement.

2. Applicant must discuss the rates of illicit drug use by juveniles, specifically addressing the incidence related to runaway and homeless youth in the community(ies) to be served and the availability (or lack) of services for runaway and homeless youth in those communities.

3. Applicant must identify the extent to which the proposed projects or activities will provide services in geographic areas where similar services are unavailable or in short supply.

4. Applicant must demonstrate an understanding of the issues related to alcohol and other drug abuse among runaway and homeless youth and the provision of services to that population.

Results and Benefits Expected

1. Applicant must identify the number of runaway and homeless youth and their families to be served, the types and quantities of services to be provided and how units of service will be defined and measured. 2. Applicant must discuss how the project will enhance or increase the capacity of the applicant to provide services to address the illicit use of alcohol and other drugs by runaway and homeless youth.

3. Applicant must describe the extent to which the project will maintain, increase or improve the community's level of services and/or the coordination of services for runaway and homeless youth.

4. Applicant must discuss the expected impact of the project on the availability of services to homeless youth in the local community and indicate how the project will enhance the organization's capacity to provide services to address youth homelessness in the community.

Approach

1. Applicant must describe how the project'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 the program will maintain, improve, and/or expand direct alcohol and other drug abuse prevention, intervention and reduction services in their community.

Applicant must include detailed plans for implementing direct services based upon identified goals and objectives. Applicant must identify the strategies that will be employed and the activities that will be implemented. These should include innovative approaches to securing appropriate drug treatment services for the runaway and homeless youth to be served, for involving family members as an integral part of services provided, 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 who are street youth.

4. Applicant must identify, when appropriate, the short-term prevention and intervention strategies to be used with runaway and homeless youth in temporary emergency shelters and explain the follow-up efforts to be implemented with the youth once they leave the shelters.

5. Applicant must discuss how the proposed project will be integrated with other services to runaway and homeless youth that are provided by the applicant or that are available in the community. In addition, applicant is encouraged to show evidence of collaboration with other agencies in the development of a comprehensive approach to service