



## PROCLAMATION

### NATIONAL RUNAWAY PREVENTION MONTH NOVEMBER 1 - 30, 2016

***WHEREAS,** Youth and Family Services YMCA, believes the future wellbeing of our nation is dependent on the value we place on our young people; and*

***WHEREAS,** the nearly 2.8 million youth from every life circumstance that are in a runaway and homeless situation each year in our nation share the fact that their home environments are unsafe and unhealthy, resulting in limited access to the essential opportunities to acquire the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to develop into healthy productive adults; and*

***WHEREAS,** the first step in preventing youth from making the decision to run away is gaining an understanding of the facts about runaway youth and dispelling the myths; and*

***WHEREAS,** we must challenge adults to act as mentors and role models for youth, guiding them towards resources and safe, healthy and productive choices.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, HELENE SCHNEIDER,** as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby proclaim **November 2016** as **NATIONAL RUNAWAY PREVENTION MONTH** in support of increasing public awareness, advocating on behalf of, and providing positive and safe alternatives to, runaway and homeless youth and their families.*

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 1st day of November 2016.*

  
**HELENE SCHNEIDER**  
Mayor

