

National Student Safety Program 2019 Community Service Project



Empower teenagers, young adults, and their families to make and sustain positive changes through prevention, intervention, and life skills services is the mission of Spectrum Youth and Family Services located in downtown Burlington, Vermont. Formed in 1970 by a group of community members that wanted to start a shelter to house the growing number of at-risk youth who were running away from foster homes, they teamed up with the Burlington Ecumenical Action Ministry and founded SHAC, which stood for Shelter Action and later became known as Spectrum Youth & Family Services.

Spectrum has continued to grow and now offers an extensive range of crucial services for youth in the community. Spectrum provides emergency shelter and transitional housing for homeless and at-risk youth through programs designed to help youth transition to and maintain a healthy and stable life. They serve about 100 young people each year, providing a warm place to get a meal or do laundry, coaching and mentoring young people on basic life and survival skills, and helping young people address substance abuse, mental health issues, patterns of violence, and other critical issues that stand in the way of a happy, thriving adulthood.

NSSP 2019 conference participants are asked to bring monetary donations collected in their school community to the conference for presentation to Spectrum on Monday, July 22, 2019, at the Awards Banquet.



*The National Student Safety Program is the youth program of the
American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association,
a non-profit 501(c)3 association of traffic safety educators throughout the United States*