WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CHILD COMES BACK FROM BEING MISSING
OR ON THE RUN?

1. Try showing your concern in a positive way even though you may feel angry and hurt.
National Runaway Safeline at 1-800-RUNAWAY can help you with this if you don’t have other people to talk to.

2. Give your child a chance to eat and rest.

3. Contact your care coordinator right away. Depending on your plan, you can talk about
who to call (police, Center for Missing and Exploited Children, child welfare,
Delinquency Management, the courts, etc) and what to do.

4. If you think your child may have been harmed or hurt in any way, talk with your care
coordinator right away and talk about where to take them for a medical exam.

5. Ask for an emergency team meeting. Talk about what could have been done
differently and what worked well and what did not. Talk about what needs to change
and who and what will help your child stay safe and in one place. Make a “just in
case there is a next time plan”.

6. Know that you and your child may need to go to a court hearing with your care
coordinator to present your plan to the judge depending on what happened while
they were gone, and if they have to clear their CAPIAS.

7. Offer your child a chance to be a part of the support group for youth who have
runaway. The groups meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Your care
coordinator can provide you with more information.