

Putting the Pieces Together-
What you need to know as a
McKinney-Vento Liaison

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History of NCSD#1 Homeless Program

- *1999-Natrona County School District developed the first homeless program in the state of Wyoming
- *Started with 19 students identified as homeless
- *Program has grown by more than 2000%
- *Averaging 350-400 homeless students per year
- *30-40 graduates each year

History of LCSD#1

Started in 2000

Working with homeless students providing support through community services.

Staff training on McKinney-Vento

Hygiene, housing, gas/grocery cards etc...

Definition of Homeless

“A child that lacks a fixed nighttime adequate residence”

Who is Homeless?

Families who are:

- *Sharing housing of other people due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
- *Living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or campground due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- *Living in emergency housing or transitional shelters

Who is Homeless continued...?

- *Living in cars,parks,public spaces, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations
- *Living in migratory situations

Generational or Situational??

Generational poverty is 2 or more generations of a family have never owned a home.

Situational poverty is poverty due to a death, divorce, domestic violence, etc....

Common Signs of Homelessness

Lack of Continuity in Education

- *Attendance at many different schools
- *Lack records needed to enroll
- *Inability to pay fees
- *Gaps in skill development
- *Poor organizational skills
- *Poor ability to conceptualize
- *Mistaken diagnosis of abilities

Common Signs Continued...

Poor Health /Nutrition

- *Lack of immunization records
- *Unmet medical/dental needs
- *Skin rashes
- *Chronic hunger (hoarding)
- *Fatigue

Common Signs Continued....

Transportation and Attendance Problems

- *Erratic attendance and tardiness
- *Numerous absences
- *Lack of participation in after -school activities and field trips
- *Inability to contact parents

Common Signs Continued...

Lack of Personal Space After School Hours

- *Consistent lack of preparation for school
- *Incomplete or missing homework(no place to do homework or keep supplies)
- *Lack of basic school supplies
- *Loss of books or other supplies on a regular basis
- *Concern for safety and belongings

Common Signs Continued...

Social and Behavioral Concerns

- *A marked change in behavior
- *Poor/short attention span
- *Poor self-esteem
- *Extreme shyness
- *Aggression
- *Unwillingness to form relationships with peers and teachers

Common Signs Continued....

- *Old beyond years
- *Protective of parents
- *Fear of abandonment
- *Anxiety late in the day

Database Components

McKinney-Vento Database (2016-17)

Use for your district data and WDE 530 reports

Date Identified	Student Number	Last Name	First Name	Grade	DOB	School	Where Identified	Credits	Sped Y/N
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Liaison Duties

Identification of homeless students

Enrollment

Transportation

Free/Reduced meals

School supplies

Attendance checks

Credit checks/graduation goal setting

Emergency Housing

Basic needs-Clothing/shoes/coats

FAFSA letter verification

Staff training-teachers, para pros, nurses, bus drivers, social workers

Coordination of Community Resources

School district employees

Community Action Partnership

Mercer Resource

Interfaith

Healthcare for Homeless

Food Pantries

Food for Thought

Annual Point in Time Count

Continuum of Care

Churches

Businesses

Individuals

Rotary

Lions Club

Kiwanis

Shriners Club

*Cowboy Ethics

*Framework of Poverty

Resources

Financial-Having money to purchase goods and services

Emotional-Being able to choose and control emotional responses,without engaging in self-destructive behavior.

Mental- Having the mental abilities and acquired skills(reading,writing computing) to deal with daily life

Spiritual- Believing in a divine purpose (hope)

Physical- Having physical health and mobility

Resources Continued....

Support Systems- Having friends, family, and backup resources available to access in times of need.

Relationship/Role Models-Having frequent access to adults who are appropriate, who are nurturing to a child,and who do not engage in destructive behavior

Knowledge of Hidden Rules- Knowing unspoken cues and habits of a group

Formal Register- Having the vocabulary, language ability, and negotiation skills necessary to succeed in school/work

Training Tips for IEP Teams

- *Definition of Homeless

- *Entitlement to FAPE-Homeless children with disabilities must have equal access to FAPE(free access to public education) under IDEA Part B

- *Evaluations of homeless students must be conducted in a timely manner just as they would be for any student with a disability

- *Free transportation must be provided for all homeless students to and from their school of origin.

Things homeless students have to endure

- *Substance abuse
- *Incarcerated parents
- *Parent choosing a girlfriend/boyfriend over the child
- *Rent over food, bail money over utilities, car payment over medication
- *How to enroll in school without a parent, school records, no vaccination records
- *Lack of basic health care- no health insurance

Things homeless students have to endure continued.....

*No money for extracurricular activities-music, sports, clubs etc...

*No positive adult role model

*Having to take on adult roles as a child

*Transportation

*Illiterate parents- Parent can't read school forms, rent applications, etc...

*Family that does not value education

Reaction Statements by Parent/Guardian

“I don’t remember the name of the last school”

“We’ve been moving around alot”

“We’re staying with relatives”

“We’re going through a bad time”

Mention of staying with a relative, friends, motel etc..

Anger or embarrassment when asked for a current address

Student Stories

Stories

*Student who slept on her computer as her source of heat

*Student whose feet where out the end of shoes

*No coats

* Reposed violin

* Students who don't eat well over vacation or weekends

*Student who have never owned a dress shirt or tie for graduation/ concerts/

*Can't see due to broken or no eye glasses

* Student who no one in their family comes to watch them graduate

*Student who had to chose between his job requiring him to work late and coming to school

*Students who don't understand the banking system-no checking or savings account
cash your check at the bar and see how long it lasts (1 or 2 days)

Questions????

Contact Information

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