

WHSD McKinney-Vento Homeless Coordinator:

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What is McKinney-Vento?

The McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth Assistance Act is a federal law that ensures immediate enrollment and educational stability for homeless children and youth. McKinney-Vento provides federal funding to states for the purpose of supporting district programs that serve homeless students.

The McKinney-Vento Definition of *Homeless*

Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (per Title IX, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act) defines *homeless* as follows:

The term "homeless children and youths"--

(A) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103(a)(1)); and (B) includes--

(i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;*

(ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 103(a)(2)(C));

(iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

(iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

*Per Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act, "awaiting foster care placement" was removed from the definition of *homeless* on December 10, 2016; the only exception to his removal is that "covered states" have until December 10, 2017 to remove "awaiting foster care placement" from their definition of *homeless*.

Community Resources:

Martha and Mary House is a homeless shelter, located at 899 Bedford St. in Johnstown. The shelter can accommodate up to 15 people, and residents can stay for up to 30 days--enough time to secure financial stability and a more permanent residence. Priority will be given to Cambria County residents. (814) 254-4413

Women's Help Center, located at 809 Napoleon Street, provides emergency shelter and services for women and children who are fleeing violence in their home. 24 Hour Hotline : (814) 536-5361

<https://www.womenshelpcenter.org/services>

DPW – Department of Public Welfare Rental Assistance Program provides assistance to low income families facing eviction or without a place to live in to form of funds to obtain permanent housing or prevent loss of the current housing situation. To determine eligibility and learn more about this program, contact Community Action Partnership of Cambria County at 516 Main Street, or by phone (814) 536-9031

<http://www.capcc.us/community-services/>

The Johnstown Housing Authority, located at 501 Chestnut Street, provides income based housing for eligible individuals and families. Phone: (814) 535-7771

<http://jhaonline.org/>

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, located at 927 Franklin St, will provide assistance to those in need with food, shelter, and financial aid as well as in kind material goods such as clothing, furniture, household goods and other basic necessities of life. Phone: (814) 539-4627

<https://www.svdpcares.org/>

Produce to People provides individuals and families with 30 to 50 pounds of food for those who qualify for assistance. The distribution site for Cambria County is located at the Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon.

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