

## **McKinney-Vento**

### **McKinney-Vento Overview**

The Stewart B. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act authorizes direct services that enable homeless children, including preschool-aged children and youth, to enroll, attend, and achieve success in school. Seeds of Health Schools' primary goal is to ensure that barriers are reduced or eliminated so that the students served in the program will enroll and attend school.

### **Program Requirements:**

- To identify children and youth who are homeless
- To enroll homeless children in school
- To provide intervention services to homeless students
- To track homeless students
- To provide awareness training to School staff, students, parents, and community agencies

### **Definition of Homeless Children and Youth:**

The definition of homelessness, under the McKinney-Vento Act within No Child Left Behind is: individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, including individuals doubled up with family or friends due to economic conditions, migratory children staying in housing not fit for habitation, individuals abandoned in hospitals, or individuals living in:

- Motels and hotels for lack of other suitable housing
- Homeless and domestic violence shelters
- Transitional housing programs
- The streets
- Abandoned buildings
- Public places not meant for housing
- Cars, trailers, and campgrounds
- Children awaiting foster care placement

The Seeds of Health Schools' have resources to help families and students who find themselves in a situation where they may be homeless. Call one of our schools' Homeless Liaisons' for resource and referral information.

### **Homeless Liaison Information:**

CONTACT PERSON: Carol Pook  
EMAIL: cpook@seedsofhealth.org  
PHONE: (414) 390-0815

### **Dispute Resolution**

If a homeless child is eligible to attend a school and is denied placement, the parent/caregiver or youth has a right to dispute that placement. The homeless child or youth shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought,

pending final resolution of the dispute. The student has the right to all appropriate educational services, transportation, free meals, and Title 1 services and is eligible to receive all McKinney-Vento services while the dispute is pending.

The district shall provide the parent/caregiver or unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of its placement decision, the right to dispute this decision, and how to file a dispute. The school shall work to resolve the dispute as expeditiously as possible.

The parent/caregiver or unaccompanied youth may appeal the liaison's decision by filing a complaint with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, in accordance with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Complaint Resolution and Appeals Process. Complaints may be sent to State Superintendent of Public Instruction, P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI, 53707-7841.