

## **McKinney-Vento Act**

The McKinney-Vento Act, a federal law of 1987, defines the educational rights of homeless children and youth and exists to eliminate barriers to education for children and youth experiencing homelessness. The purpose of Title X Homeless Education Act is to remove hurdles to school enrollment and provide stability in school for students experiencing homeless living situations and to ensure that homeless students have the same access to all educational opportunities as students with permanent housing.

Our district McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison works with the schools and individual families to help minimize disruption caused by homelessness. She assists students with enrollment and making sure they receive other services, such as transportation, health care and dental care.

### **\*\* Who qualifies as homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act:**

- Families temporarily doubled-up with other family members or friends due to loss of housing because of financial problems.
- Families temporarily staying in a motel, hotel, transitional shelter, domestic violence center or safe house.
- Families temporarily staying in a camp trailer, 5<sup>th</sup> wheel or other RV shelter due to loss of housing because of financial situations. This includes camping areas or parked on private property.
- Families or students living in barns, cars, parks or any location not designed with typical living conditions for human beings.
- Students who are not in the physical custody of a parent or legal guardian.
- Any abandoned, runaway or pushed out youth or child living in any of the above situations.

### **\*\* Children & Youth experiencing homelessness HAVE THE RIGHT to:**

- Go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there
- Continue in the school they last attended before becoming homeless
- Receive transportation to the school they last attended
- Enroll in school without giving a permanent address
- Enroll & attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer of immunization records and/or any other documents required for enrollment
- Participate in extracurricular activities
- Receive free school meals

These rights are established under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, Title X, Part C of the “No Child Left Behind Act” (McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act f2001. [Public Law 107-726])