Serving Students Experiencing Homelessness

Wichita Public Schools McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program
What is McKinney-Vento?

- The McKinney-Vento law was passed in 1987 in response to homelessness under President Reagan.

- The term “homeless means children and youth who lack a fixed, regular and night time residence.”
The purpose of the McKinney-Vento Act is to focus on:

• All homeless children and youth so that they have equal access to an education
• School stability
• Support for academic success
• The best interest of the child
Classifications of homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act
Doubled up with family or Friends...

Families and unaccompanied youth who are temporarily sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar reasons
Family staying in a hotel or motel...

Children and youth who are temporarily staying in a hotel due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar reasons
Families living in hotels due to fire or disaster may also qualify for McKinney-Vento services.
Families living in an emergency or domestic violence shelter, transitional housing or drug rehab facility...
Student living in a parked car, park, public place, abandoned building, campground or inadequate trailer park
Unaccompanied Youth

Living on their own without parental or guardian support (Also known as couch-surfers). This includes immigrants coming to the United States without their parents.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Range</th>
<th>Students Served</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>1750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>2200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>2761</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>2438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>2315 includes 0-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>2050 includes 0-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>1656 includes 0-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-2019</td>
<td>1801 includes 0-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Decrease in students is due to intervention and prevention services provided by the program.
Causes of Homelessness

• Lack of affordable housing
• Loss of job
• Deep poverty
• Health problems
• Domestic violence
• Natural and other disasters
• Abuse and neglect
Signs of Homelessness

While these are considered common signs, please recognize that they are only for general guidance.

• Erratic attendance and tardiness
• Hygiene issues
• Lack of cleanliness
• Hungry (may hoard food)
• Change in academic performance
• Fatigue
• Consistent lack of preparation for school
• Incomplete or missing school assignments
• Change of behavior
• Difficulty socializing
• Anxiety late in the day
• Reaction/statements by parent, guardian or the child
The McKinney-Vento Program will help the family overcome barriers so that they can enroll their child in school and connect with school staff with the students educational needs. The program also assist with:

- Waiving student fees
- Students remaining in school of origin
- Immediate nutrition services
- Back packs and school supplies
- School uniforms/athletic uniforms
- Transportation-Must qualify (2.5 miles)
- Immunization assistance
- Hygiene products
- Birth Certificates
- Social service referrals
- Family engagement / Parent Meetings
- Cap and Gowns for Seniors
- FASFA Letters for college-Students must be unaccompanied youth and in the McKinney-Vento Program.
The program also assist with providing referrals to other agencies and organizations for:

- Medical / Health care
- Immunizations
- Case management and follow-up
- Stabilizing living situations for the family
- Housing
- Crisis intervention
- Rental assistance
- Utility assistance
- Food and clothing
Referring a student or family:

- If a parent comes to enroll a child at the school and they do not have proof of residency you will need to give them an enrollment residency questionnaire form so that it can be determined if they qualify for the McKinney-Vento program
- Parents must complete the Enrollment Residency Questionnaire form every school year
- The office staff or designee will fax or email it to the McKinney-Vento program to be verified
- Fees will be temporarily waived until the family has been verified and they qualify for our program
- Unaccompanied youth who have no parent or guardian support may enroll in school without an adult. They will need to fill out the Enrollment Residency Questionnaire form so that they can be verified
- The McKinney-Vento office will notify the school if a student qualifies or does not qualify for the program
- If the McKinney-Vento office is unable to get a hold of the parent or student then an unconfirmed notice will be sent
- If there are any questions contact the McKinney-Vento Liaison
The McKinney-Vento program provides assistance to ensure that the children and youth have the resources and services to help them overcome the obstacles and barriers to an education. Sometimes it the little things that we do that makes a difference in the lives of a child....
Movies on Homelessness

- Beyond the Blackboard
- The Blind Side
- Homeless to Harvard
- Homeless the Kids of Orange County
- A Walk in Your Shoes
- MTV: Inocente

http://www.shineglobal.org/projects/inocente/
McKinney-Vento Office

Cynthia Martinez
903 S. Edgemoor Rm 418
Ph: 316-973-4670
Cell: 316-210-3309
cmartinez@usd259.net

Fb: McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program USD259