

McKinney-Vento Liaison Training

Jeff Ojeda – McKinney-Vento Program Specialist
Jeff.Ojeda@schools.Utah.gov

Madeline Kjar– Executive Assistant
Madeline.kjar@schools.Utah.gov

Intro Music

<https://youtu.be/PwuwDddZPpg>

Who We Are

- * Respond to the following questions: What was your path to becoming a liaison or director?
- * What's your greatest accomplishment?
- * What's your greatest challenge?
- * What or who helped you handle that challenge?
- * What help, if any, do you still need?

McKinney-Vento Act

The McKinney-Vento Act provides a number of LEA requirements for serving homeless children and youths [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)].

McKinney-Vento Means...

Individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and:

- (i) children and youth who are sharing the housing of other person due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.
- Children and youth living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Children and youth living in emergency or transitional shelters, cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, and public spaces not meant for habitation such as bus stations or train stations.

Student Identification

A key responsibility of the liaison is to identify possible homeless students and identify them as McKinney-Vento students in the LEA's student information system.

Liaisons should be actively seeking McKinney-Vento students throughout the year through various means to identify the most students.

Once identified, students should be informed of their rights under the law and services should begin immediately.

Funding For McKinney-Vento Programs and Alternate Homeless Funding

The following are possible sources of funding for your programs:

1. McKinney-Vento Funding; requires an application submitted to USBE through UtahGrants in order to be funded. This federal funding is on a three-year cycle. The new cycle applications will go out in April of 2024.
2. Title I Homeless Set-aside; This funding is required under Title I. It is a set-aside amount specific for meeting the needs of homeless students in your district or charter school
3. ARP-HCY I & II funding: This funding was made available through the American Recovery Plan of 2021 by the US Dept of Education.
4. Homeless Teen Centers Grant Program: This funding is state funding specific to meeting the needs of homeless and at-risk students through centers created in student specific spaces.

ARP-HCY I & II Funds

ARP-HCY I funds were awarded to 12 LEAs.

A total of \$1,008,005.99 was awarded

ARP-HCY II funds were awarded to 19 LEAs.

A total of \$3,027,154.67 was awarded.

The closing date for BOTH of these funds is: September 30th, 2024.

All invoices for reimbursement must be submitted by January 31, 2025.

How are you spending your money?

Please discuss:

- * How are you using the funding provided?
- * What hurdles or barriers have you come across?
- * What gave you the support you needed to break through those barriers?
- * If you're still working on breaking those barriers, what help or support do you need?

The LEA must...

continue a homeless child's or youth's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness and for the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year.

enroll the homeless child or youth in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(A)].

School Stability

presume that keeping the child or youth in the school of origin is in the child's or youth's best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied homeless youth) the youth.

School Stability

consider student-centered factors related to the child's or youth's best interest, including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youths, giving priority to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian or (in the case of an unaccompanied homeless youth) the youth;

School Stability

provide a written explanation of the reasons for the LEA's decision, including information regarding the right to appeal, to the parent or guardian of a homeless student or to an unaccompanied homeless youth, if the LEA sends the child to a school other than the one requested; and...

School Stability

ensure, in the case of an unaccompanied homeless youth, that the local liaison assists in placement or enrollment decisions, gives priority to the views of the youth, and provides notice of the right to appeal an LEA's best interest determination that is contrary to the youth's request [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(B)].

Liaison Role

The local liaison is the key to ensuring homeless children and youths receive the services they need. Required in all LEAs regardless of subgrant status, the liaison is the primary contact between homeless families, school and LEA staff, shelter workers, and other service providers.

Liaison Responsibilities

In 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(6)(A), the McKinney-Vento Act lists the responsibilities of the local liaison. The law states that local liaisons will ensure that:

homeless children and youths are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination with other agencies;

homeless children and youths are enrolled in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, school;

homeless families, children, and youths have access to and receive educational services for which they are eligible, including Head Start programs, early intervention services under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and other preschool programs administered by the LEA;

Liaison Responsibilities

homeless families, children, and youths receive referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services;

the parents or guardians of homeless children and youths are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;

Liaison Responsibilities

public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of homeless children and youths, and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form understandable to parents and guardians and unaccompanied youth;

enrollment disputes are mediated according to 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(E);

Liaison Responsibilities

the parent or guardian of a homeless child or youth, and any unaccompanied homeless youth, is fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin;

school personnel who serve homeless children and youths receive professional development and other support;

unaccompanied homeless youths are enrolled in school, have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards established for other students, and are informed of their status as independent students and assisted to receive verification of their status for completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Student Privacy & Rights

treat information about a homeless child's or youth's living situation as a student education record and not deem it to be directory information [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(G)].

Use the term McKinney-Vento in any open conversations regarding students in a homeless situation.

Disclosing that a student and family are McKinney-Vento is on a need-to-know basis.

Comparable Services

Provide services comparable to those received by other students in the school [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(4)]

Funding for services provided to non-McKinney kids, should also provide for those same services for McKinney-Vento students.

Be sure to track and have proof of McKinney-Vento, ARP-HCY I & II, and Title I set aside expenses.

Coordination Provisions

Coordinate with local social services agencies and other agencies or entities providing services to homeless children and youths and their families, including services and programs funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(5)(A)(i)].

UHMIS

The USBE has an MOU in place with the Utah Homeless Management Information System (UHMIS).

This service is available to all who wish to use it in their duties as liaison for their charter or district.

The following presentation was sent for our viewing:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Gf7B4jRlkO864KrWJq8bmWMDqzuMNZH4/view?usp=share link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Gf7B4jRlkO864KrWJq8bmWMDqzuMNZH4/view?usp=share_link)

Did you know you have a USICH?

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness:

Coordinates the federal response to homelessness

Develops and implements the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

Creates partnerships between national, state, local, and private stakeholders; and helps them use resources efficiently

The *only* federal agency with the sole mission of preventing and ending homelessness

Council members represent 19 federal agencies

Federal Reporting

The USBE Reports various data sets regarding homelessness to the US Dept of Ed.

The data sets include: the number of students reported as McKinney-Vento; the ethnicity of those students; the state assessment scores of those students, grade levels of those students, graduation rate of McKinney students as compared to the overall graduation rate of all students; and various other data points.

The submission of Edfacts and CSPR data happens every Dec and is reviewed and verified in Feb of the following year.

Resources

Providing Wraparound Services Under the ARP-HCY Program <https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Wraparound-Services-Final.pdf>

Best Practices in Interagency Collaboration Brief: When Working Together Works <https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Working-Together.pdf>

Resources

Data Collection Briefs: <https://nche.ed.gov/data-collection/>

National Summary Briefs: <https://nche.ed.gov/data-and-stats/>

Consolidated State Performance Reports:
<https://eddataexpress.ed.gov/resources/reports-and-files/cspr-state-files>

ED Data Express: <https://eddataexpress.ed.gov/>

NAEHCY

ORLANDO, FLORIDA WELCOMES THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS
CHILDREN & YOUTH!

NAEHCY 2023 Annual Conference: November 16-19, 2024

McKinney-Vento Liaison Training

JEFF OJEDA – MCKINNEY-VENTO PROGRAM SPECIALIST

JEFF.OJEDA@SCHOOLS.UTAH.GOV

MADLINE KJAR– EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

MADLINE.KJAR@SCHOOLS.UTAH.GOV

