


Appendix B: ARP HCY Homeless II Cover Sheet

Grantee Information Cover Sheet	
Region Number to Be Served	Scranton School District
Name of Intermediate Unit Applicant	
Address	425 N. Washington Ave
City, State and Zip Code (9 digits)	Scranton, PA 18503
County	Lackawanna
Name of Contact Person	Molly Abdalla
Title of Contact Person	Title Program Manager
Telephone	570-348-3414
Email	molly.abdalla@ssdedu.org
DUNS Number	079158523
Federal Identification Number	24-6001221
Vendor Number	141756
Performance Period	July 1, 2021 to September 30, 2024
Total Amount of Funds	\$150,141.00
Number of Students & Children to Be Served (by grade/age)	
High School/Junior High	100
Elementary	150
Preschool	N/A
Birth to 3 Years	N/A
Total Number to Be Served	250

Certification by Authoring Official

The applicant hereby certifies to the best of his/her knowledge and belief that the information and data contained in this application are true and correct and the filing of the application has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and that applicant will comply with the assurance required of applicants if the grant is approved.


 Authorized Signature _____ Print Name Melissa McTiernan Date 3-4-2022
Superintendent
 Title _____ Region Number _____

Appendix C: ARP Homeless II Application

For the grant narrative, answer the following questions using 10 pt. Arial font and single line spacing. Narrative answers should be limited to no more than five sentences per question.

1. The number of identified children and youth experiencing homelessness in the applicant region, preschool through high school:

- a. 2018-19 school year: 252
- b. 2019-20 school year: 151
- c. 2020-21 school year (*available to date*): 84

2. If the number of identified children and youth experiencing homelessness in the region has changed by more than 10% since the 2018-19 school year, explain the difference.

The Scranton School District (SSD) went to a 100% virtual instructional model from March 13, 2020-March 2021. In the spring of 2021, students were able to attend in person with a hybrid model or remain virtual. Many families decided to stay virtual. In the 2021-2022 school year, the district has already surpassed the number of homeless students from the entire 2020-2021 school year. The anticipated total for the 2021-2022 school year is 250 students.

3. What is the average attendance for identified children and youth experiencing homelessness in the LEA(s) for the 2019-20 or 2020-21 school year? How does this compare to the average attendance for all students in the same year?

In 2019-2020 the average daily attendance for all students in the SSD was 86.7%. For this same year, the average attendance for students experiencing homelessness was 76%.

4. What are the primary current educational and related needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness in the LEA as they relate to eligible uses of funds (check all that apply)?

- Outreach and identification
- Enrollment
- Attendance
- Transportation
- Academic support
- Extra-curricular participation
- Trauma-informed care
- Social emotional learning
- Mental health support
- Supplies (school, health, hygiene, clothing, etc.)
- Cell phones, laptops, internet, or other technological devices
- Access to early childhood programs
- Short-term, temporary housing
- Other (please describe)

5. Funds will be used to facilitate (check all that apply):

- Identification of children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Enrollment of children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Retention of children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Educational success of children and youth experiencing homelessness

6. How will the LEA use subgrant funds to identify and outreach to children and youth experiencing homelessness?

Currently, on the SSD registration form, applicants are asked if they are experiencing homelessness. The Office of Family and Youth Services notifies the SSD if youth are homeless. Many students move into Scranton from other locations and are already identified as homeless. It's a continuing struggle for families and children as they move from one district to another. High school students don't tend to inform, because they may be afraid of a social stigma. In a SAIP (Student Attendance Improvement Plan) meeting, students and administrators discuss barriers to attendance and as a result of this meeting students may reveal their homeless status. Title II funding may be used to provide additional professional development to teachers and staff on recognizing potentially homeless students.

Funding is anticipated to be utilized for a Homeless Outreach Assistant. This hourly position is in addition to, and separate from, the mandated Homeless Liaison. The goal is to provide wraparound services in light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This position would perform additional outreach via phone, email or through visits to families, principals, and shelters to follow up and work on removing barriers to attendance that will help with retention of homeless students.

7. How will the LEA use subgrant funds to connect students experiencing homelessness and their families to summer learning and enrichment programs for summer of 2021 and to engage students and their families in preparation for fall of 2021?

Funds from the subgrant are not intended to be used for this purpose, however the SSD receives other federal and state grants that are intended to support all students, especially those who are experiencing homelessness or are economically disadvantaged.

For example, ESSER I and ELECT funds are and will be used at the secondary level to support any expenses for SSD homeless students who enroll in summer or winter credit recovery courses, take AP exams, and/or receive college credits for dual enrollment programs.

The SSD offers summer academy remedial and enrichment programs K-12, kindergarten and first grade readiness programs, and after school programs for all students including those experiencing homelessness. A daily lunch and transportation is provided for all students.

8. Does the LEA plan to award contracts to community-based organizations to identify historically underserved populations such as rural children and youth, students of color, children and youth with disabilities, English learners, LGBTQ+ youth, and pregnant or parenting youth, and connect them to educationally related support and wraparound services? If so, describe those plans.

The SSD does not plan to award a contract at this time, however, the district will continue making referrals and collaborating with the NEPA Youth Center, McCauley Center, Women's Resource

Center, Head Start, Catholic Social Services, St. Joseph's Center, United Neighborhood Centers and other nonprofit organizations.

9. What other expenses does the LEA plan to pay with this subgrant to facilitate the identification, enrollment, retention, and educational success of children and youth experiencing homelessness?

The SSD plans to hire a homeless outreach assistant on a part-time (hourly) basis to assist with identification and enrollment. This person will be expected to make weekly contact with families, school principals, shelters, and community partners to further identify potentially homeless students. Weekly contact represents a significant increase to the current level of contact with the goal of ensuring wraparound services to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Student retention will be accomplished by removing barriers to attendance and promoting academic success. Attendance is a concern, as students experiencing homelessness have transitioned from virtual instruction to in-person instruction. This is anticipated to be an ongoing concern, as COVID-related absences or school closures will require students to participate in virtual instruction and have internet access.

Funds will be utilized to increase transportation through bus passes for homeless students and Uber or taxi rides for evening hours, after school events, or academic programming. Supplies to support daily attendance and participation in school activities will be provided including, but not limited to the following: uniforms, pillows/blankets, laundry detergent, laundromat credit that will be directly invoiced to the school district, washers and/or dryers for school buildings, sneakers or school shoes, other clothing items necessary to attend school (especially as weather changes) or to participate in school-related activities. Funds may also be used to assist school nurses with feminine needs supplies for homeless students or eyeglasses.

10. List 2-3 state or local agencies with which you are coordinating to meet identified needs.

The SSD works regularly with the Wright Center for Community Health, a physician-led, non-profit organization with locations throughout the region, including a facility located within the West Scranton Intermediate School. This location is used for health physicals and all vaccinations, including the COVID-19 vaccines. The district homeless liaison also makes referrals to the Hometown Healthcare of Northeastern Pennsylvania for flu and COVID-19 vaccinations and booster shots. This is open to all students, families, and public and has run multiple vaccine clinics at Scranton High School.

The SSD also coordinates with the McCauley Center of Scranton which provides temporary shelter for women, children, and individuals experiencing homelessness. Women's Resource Center which helps women and children experiencing domestic abuse to find new housing. United Neighborhood Centers of Scranton helps homeless families to find transitional or permanent housing, food, clothing, preschool, and language interpretation services. The SSD works with the Office of Family and Youth Services of Lackawanna County. Lackawanna College coordinates with the SSD to provide new school supplies for students in need. The SSD refers to food banks in the county and coordinates with St. Joseph's Center which provides a food pantry, uniforms, and a mother's center to provide assistance to teenage mothers who are evicted from their homes.

11. What other federal funds is your LEA using to support the identification, enrollment, retention, and educational success of children and youth experiencing homelessness specifically?

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds (signed into law March 2020)
 Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act (December 2020)

- American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act funds (March 2021)
- Title I, Part A funds reserved for children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Other funds and services available to children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness

12. How will the LEA promote meaningful involvement of parents, guardians, or caregivers in the activities and services proposed?

The Homeless Outreach Assistant will be making contact with parents, guardians, or caregivers weekly to increase awareness of available programs. This person will also participate in parent and family engagement events held at individual schools to increase awareness. Title III funds are used to provide language guides to translate to families in writing or in person in Spanish, Nepali, and Swahili.

School newsletters, One Call services, and flyers, are sent home by each school in backpacks and are posted on school websites and social media. All schools also utilize Title I and/or A-TSI funding to host a minimum of 2-3 parent and family engagement events annually to teach parents and guardians strategies to support their child's academic success.

13. Identify how the LEA will evaluate the impact of the subgrant funds. Check all that apply.

- Data showing increases in the number of identified McKinney-Vento students
- Data showing increases in the attendance rates of identified McKinney-Vento students
- Data showing increases in academic achievement of identified McKinney-Vento students
- Data showing increases in the graduation rates of identified McKinney-Vento students
- Data showing decreases in school discipline rates of identified McKinney-Vento students
- Data showing increases in the number of identified McKinney-Vento children under age six enrolled in early childhood education
- Data showing increased parent/guardian/caregiver involvement
- Data showing increases in the number of identified McKinney-Vento students transitioning to post-secondary education
- Other (please describe): _____

14. Does the LEA plan to provide services specifically for preschool-aged children experiencing homelessness and their families? Explain.

Funds will not be used for preschool-aged children, however the Central Registration Office and Homeless Outreach Assistant make referrals for families who have children in this age group. The SSD does not have a preschool program within the district, however the district works closely with quality early learning programs within the region. The SSD has a MOU with Lackawanna County Agency for Community Empowerment in NEPA which runs the Head Start program. Each elementary school has a transition plan. This includes a provision for principals to reach out to community preschools to coordinate annual visits to their kindergarten classrooms.

15. Does the LEA plan to provide services specifically for unaccompanied youth? Explain.

Yes. The SSD will refer families to the Valley Youth House located in Wilkes-Barre, PA which has beds for unaccompanied youth. This shelter specifically targets youth. The SSD will use funds to provide transportation to and from shelters enabling in-person instruction or participation in programming outside of the school day.

Funds will also be used for hygiene items such as shampoo, deodorant, blankets, or pillows to improve health. The district also refers students to clinics that provide COVID vaccines and/or booster shots for all eligible ages.

16. Check the boxes indicating the policies and/or practices in place in the LEA.

The LEA will ensure that services provided with this subgrant will not isolate or stigmatize children and youth experiencing homelessness.

The LEA will ensure that this subgrant will be used to help children and youth attend, participate fully, and succeed in academic and extracurricular opportunities offered to all students.

The LEA will ensure that services provided with this subgrant will supplement, expand, improve upon, or provide access to services provided as part of a school's academic or extra-curricular program, but not replace such services.

The LEA will ensure that children and youth experiencing homelessness are integrated into the regular education program.

17. Indicate that the LEA makes the following assurances:

The LEA assures that the combined fiscal effort per student, or the aggregate expenditures of that agency and the state with respect to the provision of free public education by such agency for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made, was not less than 90 percent of such combined fiscal effort or aggregate expenditures for the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made.

The LEA assures that the applicant complies with, or will use requested funds to comply with, paragraphs (3) through (7) of section 722(g) of the McKinney Vento Act.

The LEA assures that it will collect and promptly provide data requested by the State Coordinator pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of section 722(f) of the McKinney Vento Act. The LEA assures that it will meet the requirements of section 722(g)(3) of the McKinney Vento Act.