



# Teen Residential Center

## *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)*

Davis County faces a serious and often overlooked problem among its youth population: homelessness. Despite its reputation as a prosperous area, there are 20,000 children in Davis School District who lack reliable access to food. There are more than 1,600 children who meet the federal definition of homelessness under the McKinney-Vento Act, 300 of whom are high school students.

Some of these children live in cars, abandoned buildings or storage units. Others move from one couch to another. Many do not have a place to shower, wash clothing or attend to basic hygiene needs. These hardships affect their academic performance and prospects. The graduation rate for homeless students in Davis School District is 64% -- 28 percentage points lower than the District average of 92%. Homeless students are 80% more likely to experience chronic absenteeism than those who are classified as merely "low-income" - and chronic absenteeism leads to students being 7.4 times more likely to drop out of school and have significantly lower reading levels, GPAs and standardized test scores.

### **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CENTER?**

The goal is to keep students in school while equipping them with life-long skills as they transition to adulthood. The strongest predictor of homelessness among young adults is lack of a high school diploma. This is an upstream effort to prevent cycles of abuse, trafficking, substance addiction and unaddressed mental health issues before they become the entrenched behaviors that are sadly common among the adult homeless population.

### **WHAT IS A RESIDENTIAL CENTER FOR TEENS?**

The center is a supportive and supervised environment that offers food, shelter, clothing and emotional and mental resources to teens. It offers temporary housing to displaced students in crisis. The philosophy of the center is one of opportunity with accountability through self-empowerment.

### **WHO WILL OPERATE THE CENTER?**

A third-party nonprofit organization will provide operations for the facility with Davis School District, Layton City and Davis County acting as coordinating partners in accessing key community resources.

### **HOW IS THE CENTER FUNDED?**

Funding for construction and operations of the center will come from:

**PUBLIC/PRIVATE  
PARTNERSHIP**

**INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

**CORPORATE DONORS**

**GRANT FUNDING**

## WHAT IS THE ROLE OF DAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE CENTER?

The role of the District is to facilitate the educational process of the students and ensure that they meet academic and extracurricular expectations.

### WHAT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CENTER?

SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT SERVICES

DAVIS COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES

POST-SECONDARY  
EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION

LIFE SKILLS TRAINING

BASIC NECESSITIES (SHELTER, FOOD, ETC.)

STUDENT MENTORS AND ADVOCATES

### STUDENT-RESIDENTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS FOR PLACEMENT & CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY:

- School attendance
- Maintenance of passing grades
- On-site case management review
- Setting and striving toward academic, extracurricular and personal goals
- Maintenance of employment or extracurricular activities

*Davis School District will assist students in extracurricular activity participation.*

*Davis Education Foundation, through the McKinney-Vento program, will provide financial resources to assist with transportation and school fees.*

### HOW DOES A STUDENT ACCESS THE CENTER?

Eligible *primarily* secondary school students must engage in the following intake process:

- All students will be required to complete a referral process through a steering committee.
- Residents will typically be Davis School District students

### WHAT AGENCIES ARE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CENTER?

UTAH AUTHORITY

DAVIS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

OPEN DOORS

HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL-DAVIS

PANTRY SMILES

LAYTON INTERMOUNTAIN HOSPITAL

SALVATION ARMY

LAKEVIEW HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER

DESERET INDUSTRY

DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES

BOUNTIFUL FOOD PANTRY

LOCAL ECCLESIASTICAL & CIVIC GROUPS

### WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE PARENT & GUARDIAN?

Parent or guardian consent is part of the referral process as appropriate. Proper protocol is followed in cases of neglect, abuse or other legal issues.

### WHAT IS THE DURATION OF THE STAY?

Length of stay is determined by regular committee evaluation and review.