

## Helping the Homeless

Each school district in the United States has a designated Homeless Liaison. This person is responsible for assuring that each homeless child or youth receives all the services guaranteed by federal law.

In addition, Pennsylvania is served by eight regional PA ECYEH Programs that cover all counties and school districts in the state. The contact information for each region can be found on the web at:

[http://homeless.center-school.org/  
homelessdirectory](http://homeless.center-school.org/homelessdirectory)

Contact may also be made to:

**Pennsylvania Department of Education  
Division of Student & Safe School Services  
Pennsylvania Education for Children and  
Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program  
Harrisburg, PA 17126  
Phone: 717-772-2066**

### Region 6 Contact Information:

ARIN IU 28  
2895 W Pike  
Indiana, PA 15701  
Phone: 724-463-5300  
FAX: 724-463-5315

Sarah Schroth  
Regional Coordinator  
Phone: 724-463-5300 x1203  
E-Mail: [sschroth@iu28.org](mailto:sschroth@iu28.org)

Irene Walker  
Homeless Specialist  
Phone: 724-463-5300 x1207  
E-Mail: [iwalker@iu28.org](mailto:iwalker@iu28.org)



ARIN Intermediate Unit  
2895 W Pike  
Indiana, PA 15701-9769

*An Equal Opportunity Agency*

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## Pennsylvania Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program



### Region 6 Counties:

- Armstrong
- Blair
- Cambria
- Cameron
- Centre
- Clearfield
- Clinton
- Elk
- Indiana
- Jefferson
- Potter



## The Pennsylvania Education for Children and Youth Experiencing

The Pennsylvania Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program (PA ECYEH Program), assures execution of the federal legislation, *McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act* of 1988; also incorporated into the 2001 *No Child Left Behind Act*. Implementation of this program ensures that homeless children and youth have equal access to the same, free, appropriate, public education; including preschool education, as provided to other children and youth.

Some of the main objectives of the PA ECYEH Program are to inform local school districts of their responsibilities to homeless children and youth, to increase awareness about the needs of homeless children, reveal and overcome possible educational barriers, explain current legislation and policies, and provide practical tips for working with homeless children.



## Homeless Children and Youth May be Found Living in the Following

- Public or private shelters;
- With a parent in a domestic violence shelter;
- Transitional housing programs;
- Public or private places not designated for, or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations such as; vehicles, parks, hotels/motels, campgrounds, etc.;
- Individuals and/or families staying with relatives or friends due to lack of housing;
- Unaccompanied Homeless Youth—a child not in the physical custody of a legal parent or guardian. Includes: runaways, children thrown out or kicked out of their home;
- Children abandoned or separated from their parents;
- Children of migrant families who lack adequate housing.

## Rights of Homeless Children & Youth Include:

- Continuing their education in their current school, and provide transportation to that school, (if feasible);
- Immediate enrollment in the school district where they are temporarily housed;
- Assistance with obtaining school records  
\*Note: lack of school records may not affect the right to immediate enrollment;
- Participation in all applicable school programs, including supplementary instructional programs, field trips, and other enrichment activities as well as after-school recreational programs, etc.;
- Assistance with school-related expenses, such as: supplies, clothing, uniforms, meals, etc.



*“Safety and security don’t just happen, they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear.”*

-Nelson Mandela