

## **Awareness: The Basics**

- Contacted Carle Mobile Health Clinic to come do physicals and immunizations for our students that were struggling to get to a doctor. This included our homeless students. Carle along with Champaign-Urbana Public Health came to our district on August 12, 2019 to provide this free service to our families. They saw almost 90 students that day. At that time it was the largest one day mobile clinic that Carle/CUPHD had done. This was advertised to our families via email, phone blasts and personal phone calls. This information was also communicated to the Community Service Center of Northern Champaign County here in Rantoul to give to any families that they work with that were in need of this service.
- Update - Carle Mobile Clinic comes to our district twice a year, April and July to do physicals and immunizations for students and basic health care. They are also in Rantoul the first Monday of every month to do the same services. This is free of charge for families.
- Our McKinney Vento Homeless Rights posters are posted near the entrances of our schools where parents come in to register their students. We have 5 schools and each school has a poster in English and Spanish posted.
- I attended the McKinney-Vento Act Training on August 30, 2019 at our local ROE office. At that meeting we were provided United Way 211 brochures and Healthy Beginnings brochures for health services. I brought these flyers back and distributed them to our social workers who are in the buildings with the students and see the families before I do.
- Update - I attend homeless training each year.
- I had my annual enrollment meeting with secretaries on August 13, 2019. At this meeting I go over with the secretaries their role in making sure homeless students are enrolled immediately, to complete the ISBE McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Common Form and send to me so I can make sure they are reported to our ROE and entered into SIS. If there are specific items that the family is need of I will set up shopping trips to Wal-Mart, set up busing or cabbng to and from school if necessary, help the families contact shelters if needed. Schools supplies are given to the students.
- Update - I do annual homeless training for the district.

## **Policies and Procedures (ESSA 2018)**

- **Board Policy:**

- **6:140 Education of Homeless Children**

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths, including a public pre-school education. A *homeless child* is defined as provided in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act and the III. Education for Homeless Children Act. The Superintendent or designee shall act as or appoint a Liaison for Homeless Children to coordinate this policy's implementation.

A homeless child may attend the District school that the child attended when permanently housed or in which the child was last enrolled. A homeless child living in any District school's attendance area may attend that school.

The Superintendent or designee shall review and revise rules or procedures that may act as barriers to the enrollment of homeless children and youths. In reviewing and revising such procedures, consideration shall be given to issues concerning transportation, immunization, residency, birth certificates, school records and other documentation, and guardianship. Transportation shall be provided in accordance with the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act and State law. The Superintendent or designee shall give special attention to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths who are not currently attending school. If a child is denied enrollment or transportation under this policy, the Liaison for Homeless Children shall immediately refer the child or his or her parent/guardian to the ombudsperson appointed by the Regional Superintendent and provide the child or his or her parent/guardian with a written explanation for the denial. Whenever a child and his or her parent/guardian who initially share the housing of another person due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar hardship continue to share the housing, the Liaison for Homeless Children shall, after the passage of 18 months and annually thereafter, conduct a review as to whether such hardship continues to exist in accordance with State law.

LEGAL REF.:

McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, [42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq.](#)

III. Education for Homeless Children Act, [105 ILCS 45/](#)

CROSS REF.: [2:260](#) (Uniform Grievance Procedure), [4:110](#) (Transportation), [7:10](#) (Equal Educational Opportunities), [7:30](#) (Student Assignment), [7:50](#) (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), [7:60](#) (Residence), [7:100](#) (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students)

ADOPTED: October 8, 2015

- **Information from our Student/Parent Handbook:**

**HOMELESS CHILD'S RIGHT TO EDUCATION** When a child loses permanent housing and becomes a homeless person as defined at law, or when a homeless child changes his/her temporary living arrangements, the parent or guardian of the homeless child has the option of either; 1. continuing the child's education in the school of origin for as long as the child remains homeless or, if the child becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year during which the housing is acquired; or 2. enrolling the child in any school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend. If you need more information please contact the office in person or call 893-5400

- **Our current procedures related to homeless children and youth include the following:**

1. New students are enrolled automatically without the need of proof of residency, physicals, immunizations, birth certificate, etc.
2. For new and existing students when we are made aware that a student is homeless the either the registrar or social worker will complete the ISBE McKinney Vento Common Form and send to Darcy Widener. Darcy will then forward a copy to the ROE and put the information in SIS.
3. We then evaluate family to determine their current needs:
  - If the family is in need of housing assistance we encourage them to call 211 or we get them in contact with shelters in the county.
  - We ask if there are students in the family between the ages of 3-5 that we could enroll in our pre-k program.
  - We contact the previous school to see if we can obtain records as soon as possible to make sure we are enrolling the student in the correct programs, IEP, etc.

- If the child is in need of a physical or immunization we work with the family to assist them with getting appointments and if necessary pay for any uncovered expenses related to school required items.
- If the family reports they are needing clothing, we arrange with our local ROE for the family to go to Wal-Mart to get necessities for school.
- If the child is needing transportation to school, setting up bussing or cabbng if necessary. Working with other school districts to split the cost when necessary. Giving gas cards to families if needed.
- Assist the family in enrolling the child in our after school program or the Boys and Girls Club program.
- Give students school supplies.

### **Identification**

- Our McKinney Vento Homeless Rights posters are posted near the entrances of our schools where parents come in to register their students. We have 5 schools and each school has a poster in English and Spanish posted.
- Posters are also placed in our pre-k office and our central office.
- We have NCHE parent booklets in English and Spanish to give to parents
- We have enrollment foldouts (Enrollment: Ready Reference for Schools) given to each registrar at each of our schools. Along with sample questions to ask.

### **Transportation (ESSA 2018)**

- Busing will be provided by First Student. They will put students on existing routes to get them to their school of origin.
- If the student requires cab transportation, i.e. is staying in another district, we will contact Yellow Cab in Champaign. We will split the cost with the other district.
- Provide parents with gas cards if other options are not available.

### **Hotel/Motel Emergency Stays**

- We can provide a 3 night emergency stay at a hotel for families who find themselves with nowhere else to stay.

### **Professional Development**

Training will be provided at Principal meetings, Secretary Meetings and with Social Workers annually by the Homeless Liaison.