

SDCOE HOMELESS EDUCATION PROGRAM 2025-26 IMPACT



Through the **Homeless Education Services (HES) Program**, the San Diego County Office of Education's (SDCOE) Student Services & Programs Division supports the county's 42 school districts, Juvenile Court and Community Schools (JCCS), and countywide charter schools in implementing the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. HES provides technical assistance, training, and resources to homeless liaisons and other education professionals who serve children and youth experiencing homelessness. This brief highlights the impact of SDCOE's HES Program in strengthening homeless education services across San Diego County during the 2025-26 school year.

318 Technical Assistance
consults provided

District and charter school staff received the largest portion of TA consultations from SDCOE HES. Other recipients included agency staff, families, students, and early education representatives. The four topics most frequently asked about during TA contacts were:

- Transportation
- Eligibility
- Unaccompanied Youth
- Resources



19 Trainings and
webinars
provided

During the 2025-26 school year, SDCOE provided the following professional development and trainings for district homeless liaisons and school staff :

- McKinney Vento 101
- Transportation under the McKinney-Vento Act
- Identification & Eligibility of McKinney Vento Students
- Trauma, Hope, and Engagement
- New Liaison Academy

445 Individuals Trained



Collaborative Meetings

9 Regional
3 Countywide

Foster Youth and Homeless Liaisons are encouraged to attend these meetings where we provide:

- Important updates on legislation, policies, and best practices related to foster and homeless youth
- Sharing of community resources to support students and families effectively
- Peer-to-peer learning opportunities to exchange strategies and effective practices.
- Networking and collaboration on region specific challenges with other liaisons across the region

16 Shelter Visits

Conducted in partnership with community agencies and local liaisons to provide:

- Enrollment and transportation assistance;
- Access to special education and early learning.
- McKinney-Vento training and resources for shelter staff
- School supplies and basic needs resources.



Stuff the Bus 2025



Thanks to the generosity of our community, Stuff the Bus equipped thousands of students experiencing homelessness with the supplies they needed to start the school year ready to learn.

- Raised **\$117,353**
- Distributed **8,850** backpacks
- Packed **217,140** school supplies
- Served 25 districts and 29 charter schools

FAFSA/CADAA Support for Unaccompanied Youth

During the 2025–26 school year, SDCOE's HES Program strengthened FAFSA/CADAA completion for unaccompanied youth by providing guidance, resources, and technical assistance to LEAs, connecting eligible students with financial aid opportunities for postsecondary education.

Support included:

- School-site FAFSA/CADAA application assistance.
- Distribution of **72** school supply prepaid cards to students.
- Participation in a national community of practice to strengthen postsecondary support for unaccompanied homeless youth.