



McKinney-Vento Homeless  
Assistance Act and the  
Laconia School District  
2014-2015

## McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

- means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103(a)(1))
  - **Fixed:** Not subject to change; securely placed
  - **Regular:** Recurring, used on a regular basis
  - **Adequate:** Lawfully and reasonable sufficient, healthy for physical and psychological purposes

# Specified Subsections

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Awaiting foster care placement

## Subsections cont.

- Living in a public or private place not designed for humans to live
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, etc.
- Migratory children living in above circumstances

# Unaccompanied Youth

- Includes young people who have runaway from home, been thrown out of their homes, and/or been abandoned by parents or guardians
- May have left by choice but without resistance from parent/guardian
- Otherwise meet the McKinney-Vento definitions

# Rights of McKinney- Vento Eligible Student

The overall goal is to remove any barriers which prevent a homeless child from receiving the same educational experience as a permanently housed child.

# Rights of McKinney-Vento Eligible Student Cont.

- Immediate enrollment in school without normally required paperwork or medical requirements
- Receive transportation to school of origin
- Can remain in school of origin for remainder of school year/time of homelessness
- Immediate access to educational services as needed, i.e. tutoring
- Access to counseling services

# Homeless Education Liaison/Families in Transition Liaison

- McKinney-Vento requires each district to appoint one
- Role is to remove barriers
  - Done through prevention and intervention-based efforts

# Specific Job Responsibilities/Activities

- Identify students within the Laconia School District who are homeless/in transition and are eligible for McKinney-Vento
  - Create registration forms that include McKinney-Vento definitions
  - Provide professional development to school staff regarding signs of homelessness and how to respond
  - Ongoing conversations with staff to continue awareness
- Ensure immediate school enrollment
  - Provide professional development to staff responsible for enrollment at each level
  - Provide documents for enrollment staff such as a ready reference guide and missing documents form

# Responsibilities/Activities Cont.

- Organize transportation as needed to ensure student attendance
  - Help family connect with busing system
  - Locate and schedule private transportation services
  - Provide gas cards to family to supplement travel expenses
- Ensure that student is immediately eligible for free and reduced lunch

# Responsibilities/Activities Cont.

- Meet needs to ensure that school and supportive programming is accessible
  - Complete intake meeting with family and conduct needs assessment (clothing/footwear, school supplies, academic programs, after school programming, enrichment, summer opportunities)
- Support Post-Secondary Needs
  - FASFA letter
- Participate in PD

# Responsibilities/Activities Cont.

- Act as a resource to help families meet needs that are associated with homelessness and poverty
  - Food pantries, housing assistance/referrals, domestic violence support, mental health support
- Ensure that public has opportunities to become aware of rights under McKinney-Vento
  - Posters/flyers

# McKinney-Vento in Laconia

Current Data:

LHS-23

LMS-22

ESS-8

PSS-17

WHS-36

=106

# The Laconia School District Team

- We will help students in homeless situations to maintain access to a full education
- We will work to help them maintain social relationships and community ties
- We will respect the wishes of each family, and treat each situation with the privacy it deserves

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Questions?