

## Title I and School Support

# **Education for Homeless** STRUCTION Children & Youth (EHCY) eBrief

December 2017

## McKinney-Vento 101 Webinar

In October, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) EHCY staff hosted a McKinney-Vento 101 Webinar. The captioned PowerPoint has just been posted on the DPI EHCY website. We invite homeless liaisons and Local Education Agency (LEA) staff to utilize this resource.

## **New McKinney-Vento Training Module**

We are excited to have developed a new McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act on-line training module! This on-line module utilizes interactive scenarios to walk school staff through determining eligibility, immediate enrollment, school of origin, and unaccompanied homeless youth. Feel free to use this tool in providing McKinney-Vento training to all school staff. The module can be found on the DPI EHCY website.

## Using your website as a McKinney-Vento Tool

The McKinney-Vento Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), requires school district liaisons to ensure that public notice of educational rights is disseminated in "locations frequented by parents, guardians, and unaccompanied youth," in a "manner and form understandable to them." Today many families and youth get information from the internet. This makes it important for school district websites to contain information about the McKinney-Vento Act. Is your school district's website a McKinney-Vento tool? SchoolHouse Connection has created a simple guide to help.

#### New Brief on Supporting Immigrant Students

Federal rules on immigrant youth and families are changing rapidly. SchoolHouse Connection has updated their immigration brief with new information related to "Temporary Protected Status" for Nicaraguans and Hondurans. It is also available in Spanish! It provides basic information about eligibility for education services, and practical suggestions for schools.

## Sample Questions for Determining Eligibility

One of the challenges liaisons face is making a determination of eligibility when a student is experiencing homelessness. DPI has created a Sample Questions resource for liaisons to help in determining eligibility. Feel free to use and share this resource with the appropriate school staff. We hope these questions will help guide you to determining if a student has fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Please remember, a student must first meet the definition of homeless (lacking fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence) and then of unaccompanied (not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian). We encourage liaisons to contact DPI EHCY staff to consult if you have questions about a situation.

#### **Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Caregiver Forms**

When identifying unaccompanied homeless youth (UHY), DPI EHCY staff encourage liaisons to have an adult caregiver complete a caregiver form. Please note this is not required under McKinney-Vento, but may be used as a tool to acknowledge that an adult is taking responsibility for the education of the UHY and may be used as an emergency contact. The National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) provides some example forms on their unaccompanied homeless youth website under "Sample Forms, Materials, and Policies".

#### Additional Liaison Resources

Assessing the Capacity of Homeless Liaisons Tool FAFSA Updates

**DPI EHCY Video Training Resource** 

National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth FAQ

**Homeless Liaison Toolkit** 

**Homeless Student Identification Form for Local Use** 

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing consistent and timely information regarding Education for Homeless Children and Youth, the Title I and School Support Team (TISS) will be providing you with regular eBriefs. We welcome suggestions about topics you would like addressed in future editions.

## **Important Information**

#### **Staff Updates**

Kristine Nadolski continues to be out on maternity leave. State co-coordinator Karen Rice is available to answer any questions you might have. Contact Karen at karen.rice@dpi.wi.gov or (608) 267-1284

## **District McKinney-Vento** Compliance Check

Your district may be monitored for McKinney-Vento compliance this year. We encourage you to visit the DPI EHCY website to view the monitoring guidance and review the monitoring assessment to ensure your district is in compliance with the McKinney-Vento Act as amended by ESSA.

#### Happy Holidays!

The DPI EHCY Staff wishes you and your families, friends, and loved ones a very happy holiday season!

### **Important Websites**

**DPI EHCY website** 

**NCHE** 

**NAEHCY** 

**SchoolHouse Connection** 

McKinney-Vento Act

McKinney-Vento Non-Regulatory

Guidance

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