McKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION UPDATE
2017 UP MV CONFERENCE

Presenters:
Pam Kies-Lowe, State Coordinator for Homeless Education
Michigan Department of Education, Office of Field Services, Special Populations Unit
Today’s Goals

- Participants will be able to identify the changes in the education sections of the McKinney-Vento Act, related to the 2016 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

- Participants will understand the implications of the ESSA amendments to the McKinney-Vento Act.

- Participants will be able to gain additional details through a question and answer period, in order to enhance collaboration between McKinney-Vento Housing and Education Programs.
Today’s Topics

- Overview of the McKinney-Vento Act: Housing AND Education
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) UPDATES to the MV Act-Education Sections
  - Education Definition CHANGED
  - Duties CHANGED for –
    - State Coordinators
    - District Liaisons
  - District Requirements CHANGED
    - School Stability
    - Enrollment & Participation
    - PRESCHOOL
    - Credit Accrual & Recovery
    - Title I, Part A Support for Homeless Students
    - Title I, Part A Support for Foster Youth
Dive into the Homeless Education World
History of the McKinney-Vento Act – Education Sections

- State Coordinators
- Remove Barriers
- Stay in original school or enroll in new school
- $4.6 million funding

1987

- Liaisons required for sub-grants
- Anti-segregation policy
- $30 million funding

1994

- Liaison able to carry out duties
- Professional development
- School of origin expanded to PreK
- Credit accrual, counselors, FAFSA
- $85 million funding

2015

- Liaison in all LEAs
- Immediate enrollment
- School of Origin
- Transportation
- Disputes
- $70 million funding

1990

- Local grants
- Permits liaison

2001

2017

You Are Here
The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, Education Sections

This law gives homeless children and youth the right to:

- Remain in the same school even if they move
- Enroll immediately in a new school without typically required records, such as proof of residency, immunizations, school records, or other papers
- Receive transportation to school
- Receive school services in which they qualify
- A dispute/appeal process
The Education Definition

- Individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence
- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals
- **Awaiting foster care placement** (ended 12/10/16)
Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

**Definition**: child or youth who meets the McKinney-Vento definition and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

- Many youth become separated from parents due to lack of space in living situations or shelter policies.
- Many flee abuse: 20-50% sexual; 40-60% physical.
- Many flee family dysfunction: Over 2/3 Hotline callers report at least one parent abuses drugs or alcohol.
- Roughly 1/3 homeless youth identify as LGBTQ.
- 10% of currently homeless female teens are pregnant.
- Many are not enrolled in school.
Understanding the Education Definition

- Shelters often are not an option
- Not all communities have shelters, esp. youth
- Shelter demand often exceeds supply, requiring shelters to turn away people in need
- Families and youth may avoid entering shelter due to concerns regarding safety and the shelter environment
- Shelter policies (no adolescent boys, stay limits, curfews, religious practices, etc.)
- Shared housing arrangements often are unstable
How many student experience homelessness in Michigan?

Michigan Homeless Student Enrollment Data
2007 - 2017

Unduplicated at the State level;
Michigan Student Data System, MDE
## Homeless Student Subgroups Identified and Served

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Year</th>
<th>IEP/IDEA (Std with Disability)</th>
<th>UHY (Unaccompanied Homeless Youth)</th>
<th>LEP/ELL (English Learner)</th>
<th>Migrant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>1,608</td>
<td>3,114</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>4,238</td>
<td>2,626</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>5,690</td>
<td>3,543</td>
<td>1,078</td>
<td>447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>7,892</td>
<td>4,769</td>
<td>1,709</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>7,709</td>
<td>4,861</td>
<td>1,706</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>7,911</td>
<td>4,807</td>
<td>1,223</td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>9,532</td>
<td>5,629</td>
<td>1,799</td>
<td>448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>8,522</td>
<td>5,077</td>
<td>1,737</td>
<td>545</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Homeless Students Primary Nighttime Residency, 2015-16

- 71% Doubled Up/Sharing Housing
- 6.4% Hotel/Motel
- 21% Sheltered
- 1.6% Unsheltered

27,923
8,044
2,514
611
State, Regional and Local Levels
McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program
Michigan Department of Education

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Grant Consortia 2017-18

34 Regional MV Grants
83 Counties
921 School Districts
State Coordinator Duties under the MV Act

Must coordinate and collaborate with:
[42 U.S.C. 11432(f)(4)(A)-(E)]

- **Homeless services providers** -
  - Public and private child welfare and social services agencies,
  - Law enforcement agencies, juvenile and family courts,
  - Agencies providing mental health services,
  - Domestic violence agencies,
  - Child care providers,
  - Runaway and homeless youth centers, related service providers
  - Providers of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing
  - Community organizations and groups representing homeless children and youths and their families
State Coordinator for Homeless Education serves on -

- **MICH** - MI Interagency Council on Homelessness
- **MICH** - Regional Midwest Interagency Council on Homelessness (MI, WI, IN, IL, OH)
- **HPAT** - Homeless Policy Advisory Team
  - Communications Workgroup
- **MHAAB** - MI Homeless Assistance Advisory Board
  - Steering Committee and Full Board

Regional MV Grant Coordinators also serve on CoCs, committees & workgroups in their areas.
District MV Liaison Responsibilities

- Every local educational agency (LEA) must designate a liaison to identify and serve homeless children and youth.

- Liaisons must be “able to carry out” ten specific duties. [11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)]

What does this mean?

The U.S. Department of Education Guidance states that districts “should allocate sufficient time for... liaisons to do their jobs effectively and should support them in fulfilling their duties as outlined in the law and in making timely decisions.”
McKinney-Vento liaisons must ensure that:

1. Homeless children and youth are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination with other entities and agencies;

2. Homeless children and youth are enrolled and have full and equal opportunity to succeed in school;

3. Homeless families, children and youth receive educational services for which they are eligible, including Head Start, early intervention (IDEA Part C), and preschool programs administered by the district;

4. Homeless families, children, and youth receive referrals to health, dental, mental health, housing, substance abuse, and other appropriate services;
Local Liaisons: Duties 5 - 8

- McKinney-Vento liaisons must ensure that:

5. Parents and guardians are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate;

6. Public notice of homeless students’ rights is disseminated in locations frequented by parents, guardians and unaccompanied youth, including schools, shelters, libraries and soup kitchens, in an understandable manner and form;

7. Enrollment disputes are mediated by the Liaison;

8. Parents, guardians and unaccompanied youth are informed of and assisted in accessing transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin;
Local Liaisons: Duties 9 - 10

- McKinney-Vento liaisons must ensure that:

  9. School personnel providing McKinney-Vento services receive professional development and other support;

  10. Unaccompanied youth are:
      
      a. Immediately enrolled in school,
      
      b. Have opportunities to meet the same challenging academic standards other children and youth, including through receiving partial credits, and
      
      c. Are informed of their status as independent students for the FAFSA and receive verification of that status.
ESSA expanded school of origin definition to include **preschools**.

Subsequently that means they have a right to transportation to the school or origin, even if the program does not typically transport students.
Early Childhood Landscape in MI

- Federally Funded Programs
  - Head Start
  - Early Head Start
  - Early On (IDEA Part C)

- State Funded
  - Early Childhood Special Education (partially federally funded)
  - Great Start Readiness Programs
Early Childhood Homelessness in My State

688,381 children under age 6 live in Michigan

41,276 children under age 6 experienced homelessness in 2015 in Michigan

1 out of every 17 Michigan children EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS in 2015

Early Childhood Education for Children Experiencing Homelessness

11% of children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start/Early Head Start or McKinney-Vento-funded ECE programs

89% of children experiencing homelessness were unserved by federally-funded ECE programs

Number of children under 6 served by federally-funded education programs for which data was available in 2015

School Stability

- School of origin is the school attended when permanently housed or school in which last enrolled, including a preschool.
  11432(g)(3)(I); Guidance N4; Federal Data Guide

- School of origin includes the designated receiving school at the next grade level for feeder school patterns, when the student completes the final grade level served by the school of origin.

- **EXAMPLE:** Student enrolled in School A in grade 5, the final grade level served by School A. Students at School A are designated to attend School B for grade 6. The school of origin for the student at the conclusion of grade 5 would be School B. (Guidance I-3)
School Stability (cont.)

In determining best interest, the LEA shall:

- **Presume** that keeping the student in the school of origin is in the student’s best interest. 11432(g)(3)(B)(i)-(ii)

- Unless contrary to the request of the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth.

- Consider student-centered factors, including the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety.

- For preschoolers, attachment to teachers; availability and quality of services in the new area; travel time. (Guidance N3)

- Give priority to the parent’s/guardian’s request.

- Give priority to unaccompanied youth’s request.
Enrollment

- The terms “enroll” and “enrollment” include attending classes and participating fully in school activities.

- SEAs and LEAs must develop, review, and revise policies to remove barriers to the identification, enrollment and retention of children and youth in homeless situations, including barriers due to outstanding fees or fines, or absences.
Enrollment (cont.)

- If a student does not have immunizations, or other health records or screenings, the liaison must immediately assist in obtaining them; the student must be enrolled in the interim. 11432(g)(3)(C)(iii)

- Enrolling schools must obtain school records from the previous school, and students must be enrolled in school while records are obtained. 11432(g)(3)(C)(ii)

- Schools must maintain McKinney-Vento students’ records so they are available quickly. 11432(g)(3)(D)
When remaining in the school of origin is not in the student’s best interest or what the parent, guardian or youth requests: 11432(g)(3)(C)(i)

- McKinney-Vento students are entitled to immediate enrollment in any public school that students living in the same attendance area are eligible to attend.

- This includes charter schools with openings.

- DOES NOT INCLUDE any school of choice!
Enrollment of Unaccompanied Youth

- Immediate enrollment applies, even without parent or guardian \[11432(g)(1)(H)(iv)\]
  - Youth self-enrollment; Caregiver forms; Liaison = Advocate

- Liaisons must help unaccompanied youth choose and enroll in a school, give priority to the youth’s wishes, and inform the youth of his or her appeal rights. \[11432(G)(3)(B)(iv)\]

- School personnel (administrators, teachers, attendance officers, enrollment personnel) must be made aware of the specific needs of runaway and homeless youth. \[11432(g)(1)(D)\]
Support for Academic Success: Full Participation

- States must have procedures to eliminate barriers to academic and extracurricular activities, including magnet school, summer school, career and technical education, advanced placement, online learning, and charter school programs. 11432(g)(1)(F)(iii)

- SEAs and LEAs should develop policies to expedite full participation in extracurricular activities and work with athletic associations to adjust policies to facilitate participation. (Guidance p. 25)
Support for Academic Success: Credit Accrual

- LEAs must have procedures to ensure McKinney-Vento students receive appropriate full or partial credit, such as: consulting with prior school about partial coursework completed; evaluating students’ mastery of partly completed courses; offering credit recovery. 11432(g)(1)(F)(ii); 11432(g)(6)(A)(x); Guidance O-2

- MDE policies and procedures are in process
HOW TO LOCATE YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
MV HOMELESS EDUCATION LIAISON

www.michigan.gov/eem

www.michigan.gov/homeless (posted soon!)
Resources

- SchoolHouse Connection: http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/
- National Center on Homeless Education: https://nche.ed.gov
- National Network for Youth: http://www.nn4youth.org
Any Questions?
Presenter Contacts

Pam Kies-Lowe
State Coordinator for MV Homeless Education
Michigan Dept. of Education
Office of Field Services, Special Populations Unit
kies-lowep@Michigan.gov
517-373-6066
www.michigan.gov/homeless

Karen Roy
Director of Special Projects & MV Homeless Education Grant Coordinator
Mecosta-Osceola ISD
kroy@moisd.org
231-592-9605
www.moisd.org/early-childhood/homelessness