

MAKING STONE SOUP with the ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM



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WELCOME

2015 SUMMIT ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS

Today's Agenda

- What IS the *Elephant in the Room*??
- Definition of Collaboration
- Overview of MI collaboration between ED & HUD
- McKinney-Vento (MV) Statutes: Education & Housing
- Identifying the *Elephant in the Room*
- The story of *Stone Soup*
- Activity: *Create Your Own Recipe* for Stone Soup
- Benefits of close collaboration (ED & HUD)
- Q & A



Who or what IS the Elephant in the Room??

The Elephant in the Room

... an English metaphorical idiom for an obvious truth that is either being ignored or going unaddressed.

The idiomatic expression also applies to an obvious problem or risk no one wants to discuss.

*Let's think of our elephants as
BARRIERS TO COLLABORATION...*



What barriers to collaboration exist for you?



Collaborate / Collaboration

From Merriam-Webster Dictionary

- To work with another person or group in order to achieve or accomplish something
- To give help to an enemy who has invaded your country during a war



Which definition will YOU choose??

MDE's MV Collaborative Partners

States are mandated to have an Interagency Council on Homelessness, representing all state agencies, departments and programs that serve children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness, *including the italicized agencies listed below.*

- MDE Office of Special Education (State Advisory Councils, SEAC and MICC)
- MDE Office of Great Start - Early Childhood Education and Family Services
- State Head Start State Collaboration Office (now in MDE Office of Great Start)
- MDE Office of Career & Technical Education
- Michigan Alliance for Families (parents of SWD)
- MI College Access Programs and Personnel
- MI College Access Network
- MI School - Justice Partnership
- *MI Coalition Against Homelessness*
- *MI Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence*
- *MI State Housing Development Authority*
- *MI Dept. of Health and Human Services*
- *MI Dept. of Corrections*
- *MI League for Public Policy*
- *MI Association of United Ways*
- *MI Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs*
- *MI Corporation for Supportive Housing*

Why is collaboration important?

School Year	EHCY Funding
2001-02	\$1,163,694
2002-03	\$1,385,466
2003-04	\$2,011,297
2004-05	\$1,761,339
2005-06	\$1,919,003
2006-07	\$2,087,295
2007-08	\$2,143,532
2008-09	\$2,234,452

School Year	EHCY Funding
ARRA*	\$2,360,691
2009-10	\$2,364,749
2010-11	\$2,391,894
2011-12	\$2,279,817
2012-13	\$2,143,532
2013-14	\$2,234,452
2014-15	\$2,234,321
2015-16	\$2,091,649

**American Reinvestment & Recovery Act*

Levels of federal funding for Education for Homeless Children & Youth (EHCY) Programs have not changed much in 10 years!

Federal Definitions of *Homeless*: *USED*

As established by Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

SEC. 725. DEFINITIONS.

(2) The term homeless children and youths' —

(A) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103(a)(1)); and

(B) includes —

Source: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg116.html#sec725>

Federal Definitions of *Homeless: USED*

- (i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;
- (ii) (ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 103(a) (2)(C));

Source: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg116.html#sec725>

Federal Definitions of *Homeless*: *USED* *continued*

(iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

(iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

Source: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg116.html#sec725>

Federal Definitions of *Homeless*: HUD

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Definition of Homeless as established by **The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009**

SEC. 103. [42 USC 11302]. GENERAL DEFINITION OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUAL.

(a) IN GENERAL. — For purposes of this Act, the term “homeless”, “homeless individual”, and “homeless person” means—

(1) an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;

Source: <https://www.onecpd.info/resources/documents/HomelessAssistanceActAmendedbyHEARTH.pdf>

Federal Definitions of *Homeless*: HUD

(2) an individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;

(3) an individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including hotels and motels paid for by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals or by charitable organizations, congregate shelters, and transitional housing);

Federal Definitions of *Homeless: HUD* *continued*

(4) an individual who resided in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation and who is exiting an institution where he or she temporarily resided;

(5) an individual or family who —

(A) will imminently lose their housing, including housing they own, rent, or live in without paying rent, are sharing with others, and rooms in hotels or motels not paid for by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals or by charitable organizations, as evidenced by —

(B) (i) a court order resulting from an eviction action that notifies the individual or family that they must leave within 14 days;

Federal Definitions of *Homeless*: HUD *continued*

- (ii) the individual or family having a primary nighttime residence that is a room in a hotel or motel and where they lack the resources necessary to reside there for more than 14 days; or
- (iii) credible evidence indicating that the owner or renter of the housing will not allow the individual or family to stay for more than 14 days, and any oral statement from an individual or family seeking homeless assistance that is found to be credible shall be considered credible evidence for purposes of this clause;
- (B) has no subsequent residence identified; and
- (C) lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing; and

Federal Definitions of *Homeless: HUD* *continued*

(6) unaccompanied youth and homeless families with children and youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes who —

(A) have experienced a long term period without living independently in permanent housing,

(B) have experienced persistent instability as measured by frequent moves over such period, and

(C) can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities, chronic physical health or mental health conditions, substance addiction, histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse, the presence of a child or youth with a disability, or multiple barriers to employment.

Remember our *Elephant in the Room*?

What are some

ELEPHANTS IN THE ROOM

when HUD/Housing programs

and USED/MV Education

programs get together?



All this talk of working together reminds me of a story...



*The Story of Stone Soup**

**adapted especially for the Homeless Summit*

Once upon a time...

Somewhere in the **Midwest**, there was a great famine in which people jealously hoarded whatever **food** they could find, hiding it even from their friends and neighbors **and colleagues**.



One day a wandering **Homeless Education Coordinator** came into a village and began asking questions as if she planned to stay for the night.

"There's not a bite to eat in the whole province," she was told. "Better keep moving on."



"Oh, I have everything I need," she said.
"In fact, I was thinking of making some *stone soup* to share with all of you."

She pulled a **Crockpot** from her **minivan**, filled it with water, and built a fire under it. Then, **with great ceremony**, she drew an ordinary-looking stone from a velvet bag and dropped it into the water.





By now, hearing the rumor of food, most of the **caseworkers, agency staff and HARA staff** had come to the square or were watching from their windows.

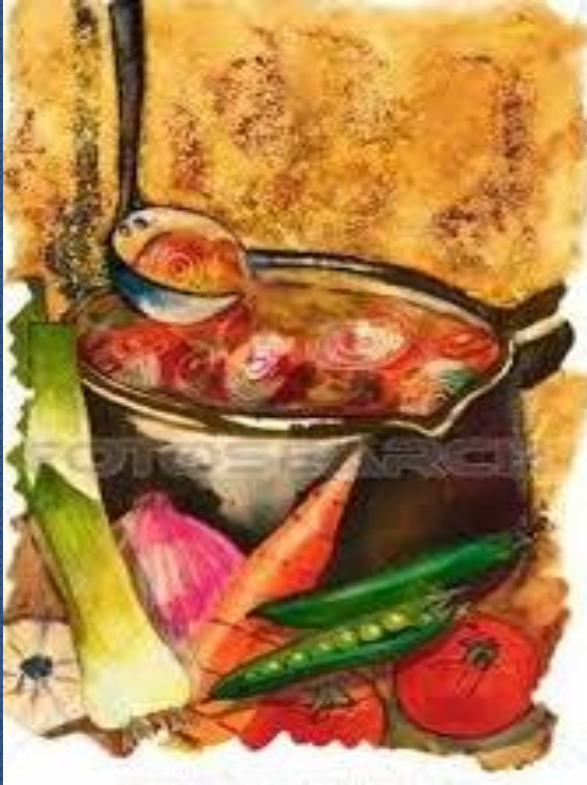
As the **coordinator** sniffed the "broth" and licked her lips in anticipation, hunger began to overcome their skepticism.



"Ahh," the **coordinator** said to herself rather loudly, "I do like a tasty stone soup. Of course, stone soup with *cabbage* – now, that's hard to beat."

Soon an **intake worker** set aside the SPDAT she was entering into the HMIS and approached hesitantly, holding a cabbage she had retrieved from its hiding place, and added it to the pot.





"Excellent!" grinned the **coordinator**.
"You know, I once had stone soup with cabbage *and* a bit of beef as well, and it was fit for a king."

The village **director** managed to find some **beef**...

and so it went, with various staff sharing potatoes, onions, carrots, peas, tomatoes, mushrooms, spices and so on, until there was indeed a delicious meal for all.



The villagers offered the **coordinator** a great deal of money for the **magic stone**, but she refused to sell and traveled on the next day.

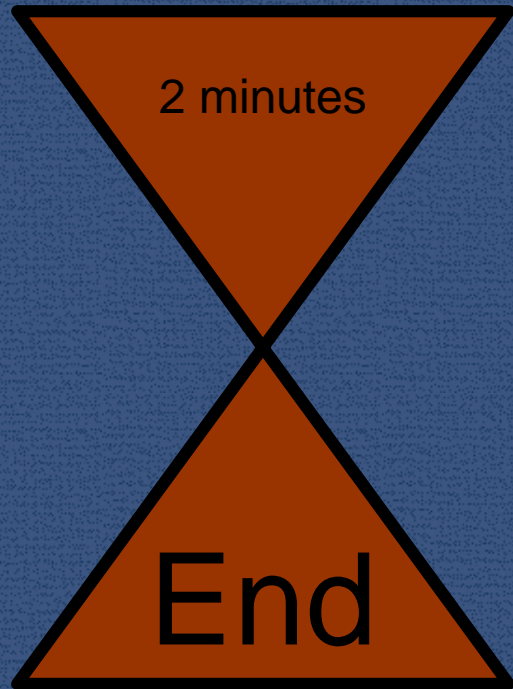
The moral of this story, of course... By working together, with everyone contributing what they can, a greater good is achieved.



Create Your Own Recipe for Stone Soup

- What does HUD/Housing *bring to the table*?
- What does USED/Homeless Education *bring to the table*?
- What do YOU *bring to the table??*
- What is your *Magic Stone*?
- How can you use *YOUR MAGIC STONE* to get others to toss their contributions into the pot?

Create Your Own Recipe for Stone Soup



- **Two minutes for Table Talk**
- **Table Report Outs**
- **Write down ONE THING**

WHY Collaborate with That Elephant??

- Both education and supportive housing provide *pathways out of homelessness*
- *Overall goal of supporting vulnerable families* is the foundation for both agencies
- Provide *comprehensive and coordinated services* that meet the range of needs of homeless families, children, and youth
- Children and youth will benefit directly as *cross-agency referrals* are made quickly and effectively



Benefits of Close Collaboration: ED & HUD

Understanding Each Other

- Both programs are authorized by *different sections* of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- Learn to “*speak the same language*” to support mutual clients
- *Share information and data* about programs and resources
- *Become familiar with the challenges* of each other’s program to understand how we can collaborate and coordinate services
- *Attend each other’s meetings* and conferences & cross-train
- Make use of common tools to work with clients (SPDAT, NCHE Best Interests Checklist...)



Benefits of Close Collaboration: ED & HUD

Working Together

- Get in touch with each other! *REACH OUT!*
- Meet regularly to exchange information
- Inform parents & youth about available services *ON BOTH SIDES*
- Develop *MOUs* (Memoranda of Understanding)
 - Share and establish protocols for student identification, service referrals, and data or information sharing.
 - Specify mutually-accepted expectations, protocols, parameters, and best practices for achieving the shared goals of CoCs and school districts.



Questions on this section?



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