Virtual Conversation with SHC on COVID-19:
Questions, Strategies, Information
Thursday, March 19, 3:00 - 4:15PM

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About SchoolHouse Connection

SchoolHouse Connection works to overcome homelessness through education. We provide strategic advocacy and practical assistance in partnership with schools, early childhood programs, institutions of higher education, service providers, families, and youth.

- Website: http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org
- Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/SchoolHouseConnection/
- Newsletter: https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/sign-up/
- Federal and state policy advocacy
- Q&A from our inbox
- Webinars and implementation tools
- Youth leadership and scholarships
Introductions

HAVE A QUESTION?

This webinar is for you. Enter your questions in the questions pane and click ‘Send’.

RECORDING & HANDOUTS

An archive of this webinar and all materials will be posted here.

If you’ve signed up for this webinar, you will receive a link to the recording in an email after the webinar is over.
Today’s Agenda:
Listen, Learn, Share

- Where to Find SHC Resources
- Federal Funding/Philanthropic Survey: **Deadline March 20**
- Facilitated conversation:
  - Outreach and communications
  - Health, Safety, Basic Needs
  - Access to Learning
- Federal Legislative Update
- Resources links
Education Week Map: Coronavirus and School Closures

COVID-19 and Homelessness:
Strategies for Schools, Early Learning Programs, and Higher Education Institutions

As COVID-19 disrupts education, services and life across the country, children and youth experiencing homelessness are exceptionally vulnerable. This page offers resources to help meet their needs as we respond to this global crisis.

- Checklist for Local Education Agencies and Early Childhood Providers
- Strategies for Schools and Early Learning Programs
- Higher Education Resource: COVID-19 Response for Youth Who Are Homeless or in Foster Care
- Survey: What Do You Need Now to Respond to COVID-19?
- Upcoming Webinars
- Policy Updates
- Other Resources
COVID-19 Survey to Drive Funding to Local Communities:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9VHYF6H
Facilitated conversation on known challenges/responses
Outreach, Identification, Communication

CHALLENGES
● McKinney-Vento students staying outside of school district.
● Maintaining contact with MV students, including Unaccompanied Youth

STRATEGIES
● Coordinating with area liaisons to get resources to MV students living in their attendance areas (resource lists)
● Pre-paid cell phones
Health, Safety, Basic Needs

CHALLENGES

● Access to temporary housing for self-isolation/recovery/safety
● Food: access, delivery
● Access to hygiene and health service

STRATEGIES

● Motel vouchers, RVs
● Gift cards
● Repurposing bus drivers for delivery of items
● Community foundations, faith-based supports

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E-Learning

CHALLENGES
- Mobile hotspots
- Devices (laptops, tablets, phones)
- Places to charge devices
- Stable environment conducive to learning
- Early childhood: are shelters, other locations “child-proofed?”

STRATEGIES
- Spectrum internet
- Comcast offer

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Federal Legislative and Policy Update
Federal Waivers and Other Action

- ED is considering broader waivers of ESSA accountability/assessment requirements
- USDA has granted some waivers on school meals; additional waivers anticipated
- HUD/FHA: foreclosure and eviction moratorium for single family homeowners with FHA-insured mortgages for the next 60 days (effective March 18, 2020)
“Families First Coronavirus Response Act” (HR 6201)

- President signed H.R 6201 into law last night.
  - Free coronavirus testing
  - Paid emergency leave
  - Unemployment insurance
  - Food security
  - Increases Medicaid assistance
Families First Coronavirus Response Act (HR 6201):
Provisions Related to Food

- Allows USDA to approve state plans to provide emergency SNAP assistance to households with children who would otherwise receive meals if not for their schools being closed due to the COVID-19 emergency.
- Suspends the work/work training requirements for SNAP during this crisis.
- Allows USDA to issue nationwide school meal waivers during the emergency.
- Provides $500 million to provide access to nutritious foods to low-income pregnant women or mothers with young children who lose their jobs or are laid off due to the emergency.
- Provides $400 million to the Emergency Food Assistance Program to help food banks meet increased demand.
Families First Coronavirus Response Act (HR 6201):
Provisions Related to Income/Paid Leave

- Provides emergency paid leave for workers of 2/3 their average monthly earnings (capped at $4,000) for each month (up to 3 total months) in which they must take off 14 or more days from work for various COVID-19 related reasons. Applications will be taken online, by phone, or mail, through the Social Security Administration.
- Provides $1 billion to states to process unemployment insurance (UI) claims (and requires employers to inform laid-off workers of their potential UI eligibility) and to help pay UI in states with at least a 10% increase in unemployment.
- Requires all employers to provide an additional two weeks sick leave immediately, which can be used when a child’s school is closed, employer is closed, or the employee or family member is quarantined.
Future Legislation: Third Coronavirus/Economic Stimulus
Early, K-12, and Higher Education Advocacy Items

- Child care/early learning - program operation, staffing, cleaning
- K-12 - support services, technology, health, mental health
- Higher education -
  - Emergency financial aid for students to address basic needs
  - Flexibility on loans, other financial aid rules
- Supplemental McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Funding with broader eligible activities

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Future Legislation: Third Coronavirus/Economic Stimulus
Housing and Homelessness Assistance Advocacy Items

- Broader moratorium on evictions and foreclosures for renters and homeowners, minimally for federally-subsidized housing
- Runaway and Homeless Youth Act
  - Emergency funding to existing grantees, with flexibility
- Homeless Assistance and Housing
  - Emergency Shelter Grants (motel vouchers, shelters)
  - Eviction Prevention
  - Rental Assistance
SchoolHouse Connection and Other Education Resources

- [SchoolHouse Connection] COVID-19 and Homelessness: Strategies for Schools, Early Learning Programs, and Higher Education Institutions
- Supporting Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness during the COVID-19 Outbreak: Questions to Consider | United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
- COVID-19 ("Coronavirus") Information and Resources for Schools and School Personnel
- COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Information
- AASA Provides Resources on Coronavirus
- Chronic Absenteeism in the Time of Coronavirus
- ACF-HS-IM-19-01 General Disaster Recovery Flexibilities
Food and Nutrition Resources

- [COVID-19 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Meal Delivery Using Existing Authority](#)
- [FNS Response to COVID-19](#)
Mental Health Resources

- Mental Health and Coping During COVID-19 | CDC
- Taking Care of Your Behavioral Health During an Infectious Disease Outbreak
- Coping With Stress During Infectious Disease Outbreaks
- Talking to Children About COVID-19 (Coronavirus): A Parent Resource
Questions
Thank you!

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