Virtual Conversation #2 with SHC on COVID-19: Questions, Strategies, Information
Wednesday, March 25, 3-4PM Eastern

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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](http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org)
- Facebook Group: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/SchoolHouseConnection/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SchoolHouseConnection/)
- Newsletter: [https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/sign-up/](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
- Facilitated conversation:
  - Outreach and communications
  - Health, Safety, Basic Needs
  - Access to Learning
  - Unaccompanied Homeless Youth
- Federal Legislative Update
- Resources links
Education Week Map: Coronavirus and School Closures

Reaching ‘Our Most Invisible Population’ During a Pandemic: How Schools Are Scrambling to Protect Homeless Students as Coronavirus Disrupts Lives

Mark 24, 2020

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*https://www.the74million.org/article/reaching-our-most-invisible-population-during-a-pandemic-how-schools-are-scrambling-to-protect-homeless-students-as-coronavirus-shatters-safety-nets
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
- Upcoming Webinars
- Policy Updates
- Q & A and Discussion on COVID-19 and Homeless Students
- [Guest Perspective] Supporting Our Students Amidst the Unknown: Evolving Lessons During COVID-19
- Other Resources
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
- Coordinated outreach to families, students, campgrounds, motels

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Health, Safety, Basic Needs

**CHALLENGES**
- Access to temporary housing for self-isolation/recovery/safety
- Food: access, delivery
- Access to hygiene and health services

**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
● Xfinity offer
● Cox offer
● Wifi in school parking lots
● Child-proofing checklist

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Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

CHALLENGES

● Isolation
● FAFSA determinations
● Consent to health care for minors

STRATEGIES

● Regular check-ins
● Prepare FAFSA determinations in advance for all identified UHY, and also as new UHY are identified
● State Laws on Minor Consent for Routine Medical Care
● State Laws to Support Youth Experiencing Homelessness

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Federal Legislative and Policy Update
Federal Waivers and Other Action as of March 25, 2020

- ED is offering waivers of ESSA accountability/assessment requirements
- USDA:
  - Waived requirement to provide school meals in group setting
  - Waived meal time requirements
  - Allowing delivery of school meals
- 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 on March 18.
  - Free coronavirus testing
  - Paid emergency leave
  - Unemployment insurance
  - Food assistance and school meal waiver authority
  - Increases Medicaid assistance
- See https://bit.ly/covid19-policy for more detailed summary of provisions with most relevance to homelessness
Third Coronavirus/Economic Stimulus - S. 3548
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)

- Bipartisan agreement on $2 trillion emergency legislation.
- Senate vote likely this afternoon.
- Expedited House consideration, possibly to vote tomorrow (Thursday, March 26).
- Extremely fluid situation; lawmakers are not ruling out additional response packages/funding.

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Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

- $13B to SEAs on Title IA formula.
- Timing: Application from ED to SEAs within 30 days; applications approved 30 days from receipt.
- Awards to LEAs also based on Title IA formula.
- Allowable uses of funds specifically include activities authorized under the McKinney-Vento Act and activities to address the unique needs of students experiencing homelessness, including how outreach and service delivery will meet their needs.
Other allowable uses of funds include:

- Planning for and coordinating how to provide meals and technology.
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software and connectivity) for students.
- Mental health services and supports.
- Ensuring access to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs for student experiencing homelessness.
Third Coronavirus/Economic Stimulus - S. 3548
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund

- $14B to higher education institutions based primarily on percent of Pell Grant recipients.
- Institutions must use at least 50% of funds to provide emergency financial aid grants to students.
Governors Emergency Education Relief Fund

- $3B to states on combination of number of children 5-24 and Title IA children.
- For grants to LEAs most significantly impacted by coronavirus.
- For grants to institutions of higher education.
- For grants for emergency educational services for K-12, higher education, child care and early childhood education, social and emotional support, and protection of education-related jobs.
Third Coronavirus/Economic Stimulus - S. 3548
Housing/Homelessness: Top Line Summary

- $4B in Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)
- $5B in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Can be used for rental assistance.
- $685M Public Housing
- $1.25B in Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
- $1B in Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA)
- An additional $30B in Disaster Relief Funds. Can supplement some ESG and CDBG uses.
Third Coronavirus/Economic Stimulus - S. 3548
A Closer Look at Emergency Solutions Grant

- $4 billion in Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)
  - Up to $2 billion to 2020 grantees under same formula, allocations to be made within 30 days.
  - Remaining to be allocated to states or local units of government by formula determined by Secretary.
  - Includes “at risk of homelessness.” Per HUD, it would include those defined as homeless by ED and HHS.

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Evictions and Foreclosures

- Landlords who receive forbearance on mortgage payments of rental properties (available for 90 days) cannot evict renters or charge late fees or penalties for nonpayment of rent.

- Federally-backed mortgages cannot be put in foreclosure until at least May 17.
Third Coronavirus/Economic Stimulus - S. 3548

Early Care/Child Care/Runaway and Homeless Youth

- **$3.5B** for Child Care and Development Block Grant
- **$750M** for Head Start
- **$45M** for Family Violence and Prevention Act
- **$25M** for Runaway and Homeless Youth
Third Coronavirus/Economic Stimulus - S. 3548
Food Assistance

- **$8.5B** for Child Nutrition Programs
- **$15.5B** for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
[Webinar]

Federal Policy Update: Coronavirus Funding and Policy on Child and Youth Homelessness

Wednesday, April 1, 2020 \ \ 1-2:15PM ET

Register Now
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
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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