

### **Accomack County Public Schools**

Accomack County Public Schools is located on Virginia's Eastern Shore. Pre-K to 12 enrollment is approximately 5,200 students with 3,646 considered in poverty (70%). A needs assessment conducted using national homeless program standards outlined three areas of need: identification/ access, student progress, and resources/ capacity. Additional training and technical assistance for staff will allow for review and revision of current enrollment requirements, as well as greater consistency in identification of homeless students. Accomack County Public Schools will also increase the role of the homeless liaison in collaborating with school staff to monitor student progress, expand current needs assessments, and provide for additional needs.

### **Albemarle County Public Schools**

Albemarle County Public Schools Project Hope – *Families in Crisis* Program is designed to continually improve and sustain an effective structure to identify and support the academic and environmental needs of homeless students. Clients include students and their families throughout the region forced to move out of their school district due to circumstances beyond their control, those just arriving in the area, and those living in substandard, overcrowded and inadequate situations.

Identification of all eligible students is increased through a systematic program of training and awareness of the rights and needs of our homeless students. Transportation is quickly arranged when needed through this system, and follow-up enhanced to meet unmet needs. Collaborating with existing resources and utilizing a comprehensive referral service assure that students and their families know about and are able to take advantage of available services. New services are continuously identified, developed and provided through collaborative efforts coordinated through the *Families in Crisis* program. Tutoring and mentoring are facilitated to assure that students succeed in school and meet or exceed the Virginia Standards of Learning, and assistance is offered to students and their families in securing a stable and safe living environment for the future.

### **Alexandria City Public Schools**

Alexandria City Public Schools will provide transportation to 200+ homeless students to support regular attendance at their home school. ACPS will purchase public transportation tokens and fare cards for utilization by homeless unaccompanied minors, homeless students who live outside the ACPS jurisdiction, and for homeless students residing outside of their home school boundaries while ACPS bus transportation is arranged. ACPS will also purchase and distribute school supplies, clothing, other emergency supplies to at least 150 homeless students identified by school social workers, homeless shelters, school administrators, and the Homeless Education Liaison.

Five ACPS elementary-aged homeless students will attend high-quality, academically-focused, before- and after-school tutoring and academic enrichment. Students will receive tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational services. ACPS will fund the enrollment of 1-2 preschool age homeless children in the Campagna Early Learning Center program located at George Washington Middle School. This center is within walking distance of the Carpenter's Shelter, one of the homeless shelters in Alexandria that serves families.

ACPS will send its Homeless Education Liaison and one ACPS School Social Worker to the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) conference in Kansas City, Kansas in 2014 to build division knowledge of the legal rights of homeless students, and the educational issues and challenges facing homeless students, both preschool and school age. ACPS staff who attend the NAEHCY conference will distribute information and resources from the conference to school personnel. This training and information sharing will result in no homeless students being inappropriately removed from the school division next year, and will facilitate the provision of academic and other supports for homeless students in a timely manner.

### **Arlington Public Schools**

Arlington Public Schools' program is designed to address some of the multitude of challenges faced by students experiencing homelessness. Among those challenges are: academic inconsistency caused by multiple school changes; regression of academic skills due to stressors caused by the trauma of homelessness; and stigmatization caused by lack of school and community awareness.

Stigmatization caused by potential lack of school and community awareness of homelessness and its impact on families and children will be addressed through continuing staff development. The project coordinator will provide in-service awareness opportunities that focus on school personnel including, teachers, counselors, registrars, administrators, and other support staff. Efforts to sensitize and educate personnel to the warning signs of homelessness and the need for supports will be continued.

Through an increased Title I set-aside, APS has prioritized summer school registration fees to support homeless children in area shelters and transitional housing programs, as well as "Lola's Lab," a program that provides a concentrated atmosphere of critical thinking challenges, social skills training, and expressive arts opportunities to elementary school age children through summer camps, interim break classes and creative lab experiences. Other collaborative efforts include APS's partnership with the Arlington Food Assistance Center to provide McKinney-Vento identified students a backpack filled with non-perishable food items for the weekend, information on school success disseminated through engagement with families and support of the Arlington Department of Human Services Child and Family Services Division and the Parent Resource Center at APS, and an increased focus on outreach to existing local preschool academic programs and other community programs supporting preschool-age children.

### **Charlottesville Public Schools**

Charlottesville Schools grantee plans to continue to fund slots in grades K-6 for before and after school care in the schools' C.L.A.S.S. program. This program affords our homeless elementary youth equal footing for high quality childcare with their peers by providing structured homework assistance and targeting SOL group activities. These added instructional hours for the children also allow parents to fulfill their employment obligations without interruption. The summer extension of C.L.A.S.S. enables children in grades K-4 opportunities to continue enriching educational themes and activities so they will be prepared for the fall start-up of school. Additionally, academic intervention and tutoring for our identified students will be delivered within the context of their

school's intervention program so the intervention will be targeted and evaluated for maximum effectiveness.

The Charlottesville Schools' Child Advocacy Program along with Albemarle County Families in Crisis program will continue to work together and plan to re-start the Blue Ridge Homeless Children's Network, which serves as an Advisory Council for both programs. This network is a forum for shelters such as MACAA, Salvation Army, Shelter for Help and Emergency) (SHE) as well as agencies like Region 10 Community Services Board, Social Services, PACEM and Cares. These agencies who work closely with the needs of homeless families and school representatives in the region use this forum to share information, develop contacts, avoid duplication of services, identify unmet needs, and form new collaborations to make Project Hope's objective more attainable. Our combined programs approach serves as a resource and model for other Homeless Education programs in the region.

### **Colonial Beach Public Schools**

"Creating a Rainbow of Hope: Program for Children and Youth Experiencing Transitional Living" is an intervention effort that began in 2008 with the receipt of grant funding through Title X funds. The intervention effort is a five-tiered effort that encompasses a cadre of services designed to minimize the negative effects that homeless children and youth face when attempting to enroll, attend, and succeed in school.

Tier I consists of a comprehensive effort to identify all children and youth experiencing homelessness and to continuously update the roster. Individual student profiles are created to determine specific services required for enrollment and academic success for each child. Each child's profile is evaluated by a team and a continuing education plan is developed to assist the child by closing the achievement gap that often occurs with homeless children and youth. Tier II includes high quality professional development utilizing procedural manuals aligned with the statutory requirements and focusing on the dissemination of rights and services to all stakeholders. This will create an awareness of the challenges that face children and youth experiencing homelessness. Tier III is an early intervention program targeting 15 to 18 identified three and four year old students at risk of failure due to substandard living conditions. Tier IV encompasses and expands the Experiential Literacy Learning Outreach program and will consist of after-school tutoring and one-to-one instruction. This time also provides the higher achieving student a place and time to finish homework in a safe and comfortable environment. Students will continue to receive high quality early literacy and emergent literacy instruction utilizing a scientifically research-based curriculum. Tier V includes on-going high quality comprehensive efforts to collect data to determine program efficacy and to ensure that the program is outcome driven. Continuing education plans will include data from various sources such as standard based tests and classroom data.

### **Fairfax County Public Schools**

Fairfax County Public Schools' Homeless Liaison Office coordinates resources to ensure that homeless children have every opportunity to succeed in school. Homeless families are provided with resource and referral information and are assisted with accessing outside community services designed to support them. The Homeless Liaison Office staff meets regularly with county shelters and community agencies that support

homeless families to assess family service needs and to maintain school stability for the children, as well as with school staff to connect homeless children with appropriate school support. Collaborative work promotes coordination with other agencies such as The Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, shelter providers, mental health services throughout Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, Department of Family Services, and Child Protective Services.

The program manages a shelter tutoring program with 17 teachers, one specifically charged with providing college preparation to unaccompanied homeless youth. The program social workers collaborate with the liaison to provide additional case management to homeless children and assist in coordinating resources to children referred by program tutors. Case management of our most needy children and our unaccompanied youth is a priority for the homeless program social workers, as is support for preschool-aged homeless children.

### **Goochland County Public Schools**

Goochland and Cumberland are collaborating in a regional effort to improve the identification and services of students who are experiencing homelessness. We would like to concentrate on properly identifying students and families. We also want to improve the academic success of students who are experiencing homelessness, especially those who are unaccompanied youth or in preschool. The joint effort will concentrate on providing professional development for staff to ensure immediate enrollment as well as identification of students who are enrolling that are experiencing homelessness. We would like to provide training for parents. We feel extra remediation for students who are struggling academically is a key to their success. With the subgrant we will be able to provide additional tutoring as well as transportation for parents and students in order to attend tutoring and meetings.

### **Hampton City Schools**

The McKinney-Vento Subgrant shall be used to launch and sustain Hampton City Schools (HCS) through its Homeless Initiative, SUCCEED, Supporting and Unifying Children in Crisis while Encouraging Educational Development. The major components of the SUCCEED initiative proposal are supplying basic needs for families monitored by a caseworker, increasing school attendance tracked by part-time attendance assistants, and providing afterschool tutoring with transportation available. Each of these is a direct service to students and the components address enrollment, attendance and success. After school tutoring for homeless children will be offered through an integrated approach with nutritious food provided. In collaboration with Title I and family engagement specialists, Out of School Time (21<sup>st</sup> Century), and Title III (ESL), funding and In-Kind services will be provided. Transportation expenses will be provided in partnership with Hampton City Schools. The coordinator of school social work services for HCS will serve as project liaison to monitor and ensure compliance of our SUCCEED initiative. Professional development will be ongoing for school personnel and central office staff to include attendance assistants and the project case manager with sessions related to McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and Project HOPE.

### **Henrico County Public Schools**

At Henrico County Public Schools, the primary goal of the program is to ensure student identification, enrollment, and success as described in Section 723 under the McKinney-Vento Act. To meet this goal effectively and to serve Henrico families experiencing homelessness, programmatic needs have been identified and fall into three broad categories: ongoing support of students' basic and academic needs, transportation, and improved program evaluation. McKinney-Vento funds provide direct services to identified students in the form of transportation assistance, various school supplies, and school-based enrichment and remediation, including math and reading instruction, before and after school tutoring, Saturday and Summer Reading Academies, and SOL remediation. HCPS' Project HOPE program works in concert with Title I family engagement activities such as the Fatherhood Initiative, Family Night, CoC Family Connect regional event and Preschool programming to reach out to children experiencing homelessness, especially preschool children, who traditionally have not been enrolled in school programs. Title I set-aside funds for homeless education are used to provide educational enrichment, summer school tuition, tutoring services, school fees, instructional materials/supplies, and emergency needs. Regular scheduled meetings with the homeless education staff are held at least quarterly to ensure the needs of the program, students and families are being met.

### **Loudoun County Public Schools**

R.I.S.E.S. (Reaching Individuals, Securing Educational Success) is the name given to Loudoun County Public Schools' McKinney-Vento initiative. The McKinney-Vento subgrant monies allow us to sustain our support efforts to include but not limited to student nutrition and health, counseling, transportation, parent and staff education, community collaboration as well as the necessary academic supports. Our program is designed to blend seamlessly with our staff supporting the needs of all of our students. With a focus on rapid and accurate identification of eligible students, whether they are current LCPS students experiencing changes or students new to our school division; this is the cornerstone on which all succeeding actions are based. All McKinney-Vento students' needs are accessed and the customized case management plan initiated. This approach allows for both the delivery of the precise resources needed as well as building the foundation for the student's academic home and the building block for success. Loudoun County Public School's McKinney-Vento R.I.S.E.S. initiatives are based on compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Act. Our focus for the current grant cycle will be on continuing to work diligently to identify individuals eligible for services under the law in an accurate and timely manner. Second, we are striving to work more closely with our partners in the community to allocate resources and, connect those who need help with the existing programs.

### **Lynchburg City Schools**

Lynchburg City Schools uses funds available under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Improvement Act of 2001 (Title X, Part C of the No Child Left Behind Act) to ensure the enrollment, attendance and success of homeless students. Lynchburg City Schools continue with a full-time Homeless Education Liaison (HEL) to monitor and coordinate services for homeless children and their families. The liaison

assists the school division in complying with the requirements of the McKinney-Vento Act while providing direct services to homeless children and youth housed in the five local programs; The Salvation Army, Hand Up Lodge, YWCA Domestic Violence Prevention Center (emergency shelters), The Family Living Center and Miriam's House (transitional housing). The need exists to continue to provide direct services to this population. Currently, in addition to specific educational support for students in schools, the liaison works directly with the five local programs to assist them in providing early childhood education to pre-school children; before and after school programs for school age children; summer camps and enrichment opportunities. Collaborative goals for the school division and the shelter programs include: strengthening students' academic skills, providing greater access to technology, promoting good study habits, providing pre-literacy training to pre-school children, increasing parental involvement in their child's education and making referrals for assessment to facilitate the social/emotional well-being of this at-risk population of students.

### **Montgomery County Public Schools**

The New River Valley comprises the counties of Montgomery, Pulaski, Floyd, Giles and the independent City of Radford. For the upcoming three-year grant period, Project Hope, New River Valley (PHNRV), in partnership with the participating school districts, will work toward achievement of the following outcomes: 1) Establish or refurbish the children's libraries, especially at the preschool level, at each of the shelter locations in the New River Valley. 2) Encourage and facilitate school district participation in the annual *State and Federal Point-In-Time Count* and *Homeless Survey* conducted by the local Continuum of Care committee to ensure the accuracy of data that is provided to local governments and agencies as they make decisions on behalf of the area's homeless population. 3) Enhance the safety of the region's homeless students by providing safety planning services for schools, families, buses, and shelters in situations where students feel threatened with violence. 4) Increase collaboration between Head Start and Project HOPE NRV. 5) Continue a partnership with Radford University's early childhood prevention and awareness SPROUT program to refer children ages 0-5 who live in the Radford University referral area. 6) Provide finances for older homeless youth for expenses such as phone cards, bus tickets to get to work, toiletries, and graduation expenses.

### **Newport News Public Schools**

Newport News Public Schools is committed to being a place of safety, structure, and opportunity. Keeping the city's homeless youth population attached to an educational program by removing barriers provides the best hope of escaping poverty as an adult. It also is important to provide support services to the children by supplying them with school supplies, clothing and advocacy services as needed. The school division's McKinney Vento Liaison and Liaison Assistant are co-located with the Housing Broker Team of the Newport News Department of Human Services (assists individuals / families with housing barriers to locate and secure affordable housing; assists households by providing limited financial assistance and intensive case management services). The parents and guardians of identified homeless students can be provided services at one site. Youth and their families also are referred to Newport News DHS-TOP Program; a

centralized intake, assessment, referral, and monitoring strategy providing critical wraparound and case management services to disconnected youth and families in Newport News. TOP is co-located at the South Morrison Family Education Center as well. This proposed program will maintain the services of the previous twelve years by continuing the funding for the part-time Homeless Liaison Specialist, reprinting of posters and update brochures and reprinting of parent resource packets. School supplies and clothing are donated throughout the school year and kept in a room at the South Morrison facility, known as Tori's Closet, which is staffed by volunteers.

### **Norfolk Public Schools**

Norfolk Public Schools "Raising Awareness to Increase Student Excellence," program (RAISE) will be a joint effort with Norfolk Homeless Shelters. These five shelters include The Dwelling Place, For Kids, Inc., Salvation Army, Union Mission, and YWCA Women in Crisis. The Homeless Action and Response Team (HART) will also serve and assist families. Working together, these partners and Norfolk Public Schools will provide on-site case management services to families residing in shelters and motels, such as one-on-one assistance to families with school-age children, assistance in completing all necessary paperwork for enrollment, distributing school supplies, and partnering with families to advocate for their children. Together RAISE will remove barriers and increase school participation and parent involvement. The liaison will make sure that transportation to and from school is tendered and that after school tutorial services are held at the shelters. School supplies, uniforms and health related needs such as medical and dental care if needed will be assisted by the liaison. Professional development for school office managers and student data specialist will also be held to raise awareness of students in transition, and to inform them of procedures to identify and immediately enroll students while making sure they have full access to school services.

### **Portsmouth Public Schools**

Portsmouth Public Schools (PPS), in collaboration with the H. E. R. (Help and Emergency Response) Shelter, will implement the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program. The purpose of our program, HARNESS (Homeless Assistance Regarding Needed Educational Service Support), is to remove barriers and provide direct services that ensure the timely enrollment, daily attendance, and academic success of homeless children and youth in our city. To enhance the level of service provided by Portsmouth's HARNESS Program for the 2014-2015 school year and beyond, a planning meeting was held with the PPS Homeless Education Liaison, the Coordinator of Youth Risk Prevention, and representatives from the H. E. R. Shelter to review current program services, as well as identify needs and obstacles. From that meeting, it was determined that the local Homeless Education Liaison will identify students and families in need of services, assess their situation, then funnel them through the Homeless Children's Referral Network. The Homeless Children's Referral Network in conjunction with the Rapid Re-Housing Program is designed to minimize the impact of homelessness on a child by creating a less traumatic transition, reduce the effects of emotional and physical disturbance, and help each family through all stages of a housing crisis. This program will also strive to help homeless children exceed national averages for reading levels, as well as promotion and graduation rates.

### **Prince William County Public Schools**

Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS) Office of Student Services plans to implement a pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade tutoring program and a parent education program at five area temporary and transitional shelters from September 2014 through June 2017. The goals of the program are to provide tutoring, offer parent education, and provide preschool screening and child/parent interaction groups, in order to support the academic success of children experiencing homelessness. The present proposal will continue to promote academic progress and literacy of children in shelters through tutor reports, measure parent satisfaction with the educational component, count the number of preschoolers involved in developmental screenings and subsequent referrals for early intervention, and offer parent-child social-emotional play groups. The goals of the program are to improve and maintain academic progress, increase parental support and involvement in their children's academic success through participation in the parent education program components, provide opportunities for preschoolers to have developmental screenings, and to provide the opportunity for parents to learn how to interact with preschoolers in academic readiness activities.

### **Richmond City Public Schools**

The McKinney-Vento Regional Education Program, Richmond Office of Student and Family Services will utilize grant funds to provide educational services to homeless children, youth and their families according to the definitions set forth by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act in the school divisions of Chesterfield, Petersburg and Richmond, with Richmond acting as the lead division and fiscal agent. The target population will include parents, and children and youth from birth-18 years of age or until such youth complete their high school education. Program services will be provided within the targeted shelters, supportive housing and schools, specialized school programs, i.e. Title I, Early Head Start, Head Start, and the Virginia Preschool Initiative along with outreach and collaborative services from community agencies. Services will be provided to homeless children and youth in the following areas: (1) on-site homework assistance and remediation in language arts and math in emergency shelters/supportive housing programs (2) tutoring in core subject areas for at-risk high school youth to meet State academic standards, increase the rate of grade promotion and to support a higher education initiative (3) case management services for homeless high school students and families (4) transportation to facilitate homeless students' return to school and to promote school stability; (5) school supplies and educational materials; (6) parent training pertaining to the rights of homeless children and youth, resources, personal advocacy, and educational support (7) early intervention for pregnant homeless mothers and (8) early childhood and readiness programs for preschool children.

### **Roanoke City Public Schools**

The Roanoke City Public Schools Homeless Student Program will continue to provide critical services to the City of Roanoke's growing homeless youth population. Given the continuing increase in the number of homeless students in the school division, it is projected the program will serve a minimum of 600 students in SY 2014-15 and the following two subsequent years. The Homeless Student Coordinator will continue to develop and monitor all program goals, activities, and objectives and continue to serve as a member of the Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness as well as various other community boards and advisory councils addressing the selected target population.

### **Spotsylvania County Public Schools**

Grant funds will be used to fund salary and benefits for a school social worker dedicated to our highest need school and a program support staff person to support programming for students and families who are displaced. Grant funds will also be utilized to pay for professional development and to purchase gas cards to provide to families in emergencies until transportation can be arranged to the school of origin.

### **Stafford County Public Schools**

Objectives should be directly related to the identified needs; all children in homeless situations are identified; within one full day of an attempt to enroll in school, homeless students are in attendance ; all homeless unaccompanied youth enroll in and attend school; district help with the needs of all homeless children and youth through collaborative efforts both within and beyond Stafford. Grant funding will support a part time hourly case manager to work in Stafford County with the primary focus being to provide systematic case management services to meet the educational need of preschool families, hotel families, families in shelters and unaccompanied youth. Individual case management services help address the needs of these sub groups by ensuring equal access to public education, providing services that do not isolate or stigmatize and promoting school success. The case manager serves as a personal connection to school as evidenced by school attendance and successful completion of the school year. Case management services offer a bridge between home and school and help support all students served.

### **Virginia Beach City Public Schools**

A comprehensive, community approach to addressing the needs of homeless children and youth will continue through collaboration between the school division and our partners. The over-arching goal of our program is to identify, serve and support children and youth identified as homeless through continued collaboration between the school division, city agencies, community partners and members of the Continuum of Care. This will be accomplished through the following objectives: to offer training on how to respond to children and youth exposed to trauma to providers of services to children and youth living in homelessness; to offer training to best recognize age typical behaviors and how to effectively respond to difficult behaviors to parents and providers of children and youth living in homelessness; to expand outreach activities within the schools and the community at large to increase awareness of McKinney-Vento rights and services; to provide a variety of educational supports during out of school time to students identified as living in homelessness; to develop guidelines, resources and

practices that supports the retention of unaccompanied homeless youth in school through graduation; to be staffed adequately so as to ensure the timely implementation of transportation plans.

### **Williamsburg/JCC Public Schools**

To meet the identified needs of students and families experiencing homelessness in WJCC thoroughly and appropriately and to ensure their success through a coordinated and collaborative system of service delivery. This system of service delivery will integrate the WJCC homeless education program and Title I services provided through the Erase the Need Center. Intervention and follow-up will be a focus and key components in their effective delivery of services. The areas of need will be addressed through: Direct service/case management to students and families experiencing homelessness; coordination and collaboration between WJCC and service agencies; professional development; and transportation.

### **Winchester City Public Schools**

Homeless Students at Winchester Public Schools (WPS) will experience stability in their school placement through the provision of adequate and timely transportation as measured by all students missing 0-1 days of school while transportation is being arranged. All children at WPS experiencing homelessness will be identified in a timely and respectful manner through increased awareness of staff and outreach through print and social media to secondary students as measured by less disparity between the number of enrolled middle school and high school students. All homeless students at WPS will demonstrate significant academic progress at levels consistent with the general population through the provision of case management and tutoring services specific to their needs as measured by 80% of homeless elementary and middle school students reaching grade appropriate reading and math levels as measured by the STAR assessment tool. Additionally, 80% of identified high school students will accrue adequate credits to be promoted to the next grade level.