

Homeless Students Support

Students who lack a fixed, regular and adequate night-time residence might qualify for services that support their education during times of transition. Skamania School District implements the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, which provides students who are identified as homeless with certain support services to assist them with their educational success.

Under the definition in the law, the term “homeless” includes individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate night-time residence. This may include children and youth who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as doubled-up);
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Abandoned in hospitals; or
- Awaiting foster-care placement
- Have a primary night-time residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for people;
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings;

It also applies to migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

Skamania School District may assist with the following services:

- Assistance in preventing barriers to immediate enrollment in school
- Free lunch
- Transportation to a student’s school of origin
- Referral to community resources such as food banks, clothes closets, medical and/or dental care facilities
- Academic support
- Urgently needed clothing items

For more information about services for homeless students, please contact the Skamania School District’s Homeless Liaison, Sally Godwin, at 509-427-8329 or sgodwin@esd112.wednet.edu

Local Resources:

WGAP 427-8229 or 800-755-1192

<http://www.wgap.ws/index.php>

WGAP is a non-profit, serving the Klickitat & Skamania, Washington, communities as an action agency for the public benefit of the following:

- Community Services
- Family Services

- Weatherization
- Emergency Assistance
- Emergency Services
- Food Assistance
- Emergency Shelter
- Housing Development
- Domestic violence
- Sexual assault

Washington state Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) -- (360) 759-2800
Stevenson's branch of DSHS 427-0713

Additional information may be found at:

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg116.html>

National Coalition for the Homeless

<http://www.nationalhomeless.org/>

National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth

<http://www.naehcy.org/>

Housing Connections

<http://www.housingconnections.org/>

National Center for Homeless Education at the Serve Center

<http://www.seirtec.org/nche/>

National Runaway Switchboard

<http://www.nrs Crisisline.org/>