

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

The Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness program (ECYEH) was established by the PA Department of Education based on the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The purpose of the program is to ensure that homeless children and youth have access to free, appropriate, public education and school stability.

The McKinney Vento Act defines homelessness for children and youth as being displaced from their homes and living in a place that is not fixed, regular, or adequate, such as:

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, domestic violence, etc.
- In a place not designated as regular sleeping accommodation, such as a vehicle, park, hotel or campground.
- In a homeless or domestic violence shelter or transitional housing placement.
- Outside of his/her home as an unaccompanied youth.
- In any of the situations listed above as the child of a migrant family.

Through the McKinney-Vento Act children and youth who have been displaced from their homes and are living in a place that is not fixed, regular, or adequate may:

- Continue their education in their current school, and receive transportation to that school regardless of what school district they currently reside in
- Enroll immediately in the school where they are temporarily housed, even if they are lacking the paperwork normally required
- Participate in all applicable school programs
- Receive free lunch
- Receive assistance with school-related expenses such as supplies, clothing, etc.

For any additional information involving the ECYEH program at Williams Valley School District you may contact:

- Mrs. Jolene Smith, Assistant to the Superintendent – 717-647-2167, Ext. 1224
- Mrs. Susan Clough, Jr. High Guidance Counselor – 717-647-2167, Ext. 1235
- Mrs. Jennifer Cecco, Sr. High Guidance Counselor – 717-647-2167, Ext. 1234
- Mrs. Elizabeth Burkhardt, Elementary Guidance Counselor – 717-647-2167, Ext. 2209