

Ohio McKinney-Vento Community of Practice

Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Special Population
Students Experiencing Homelessness: A Focus on
Unaccompanied Youth and English Learners

Session 3

09/14/2022

Zoom Logistics



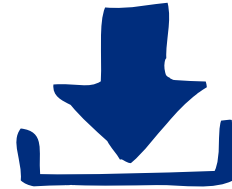
**All participants
can unmute**



**You can share
your camera**



**Questions can be
asked
throughout the
training**



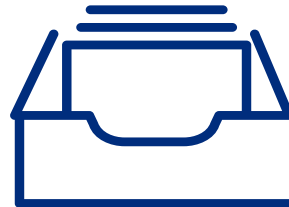
**The powerPoint
will be sent out
after each
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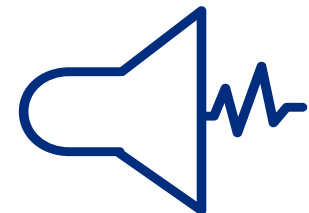
Breakout rooms



**Polls/
quizzes**



**Handouts/
Materials**



**Audio/video
issues**

Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Overview of COHHIO Course to HOME
- Overview of Community of Practice
- Supporting Immigrant and Migrant Students Experiencing Homelessness
- Reminders & Resources
- Closing

Objectives

Attendees will:

- Understand the components of COHHIO Course to HOME
- Understand the educational rights of vulnerable students
- Learn best practices for meeting the needs of vulnerable students
- Learn resources to support unaccompanied youth and English learners experiencing homelessness in Ohio

Welcome!

Please say hello in the chat box and share

- Your name & pronouns
- Name of your District
- Name one small thing you appreciate about your school district



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COHHIO Course to HOME Team



**Lisa Brooks she/her
Youth Housing
Initiative Director**



**Ami Diallo she/her
Youth Housing
Initiative Specialist**



**Evelyn Garon she/her
Youth Housing
Initiative Specialist**

Guest Presenter



Karen Rice
she/her
**Senior Program Manager of
Education Initiatives at
SchoolHouse Connection**

Activity

In breakout rooms, answer the following questions:

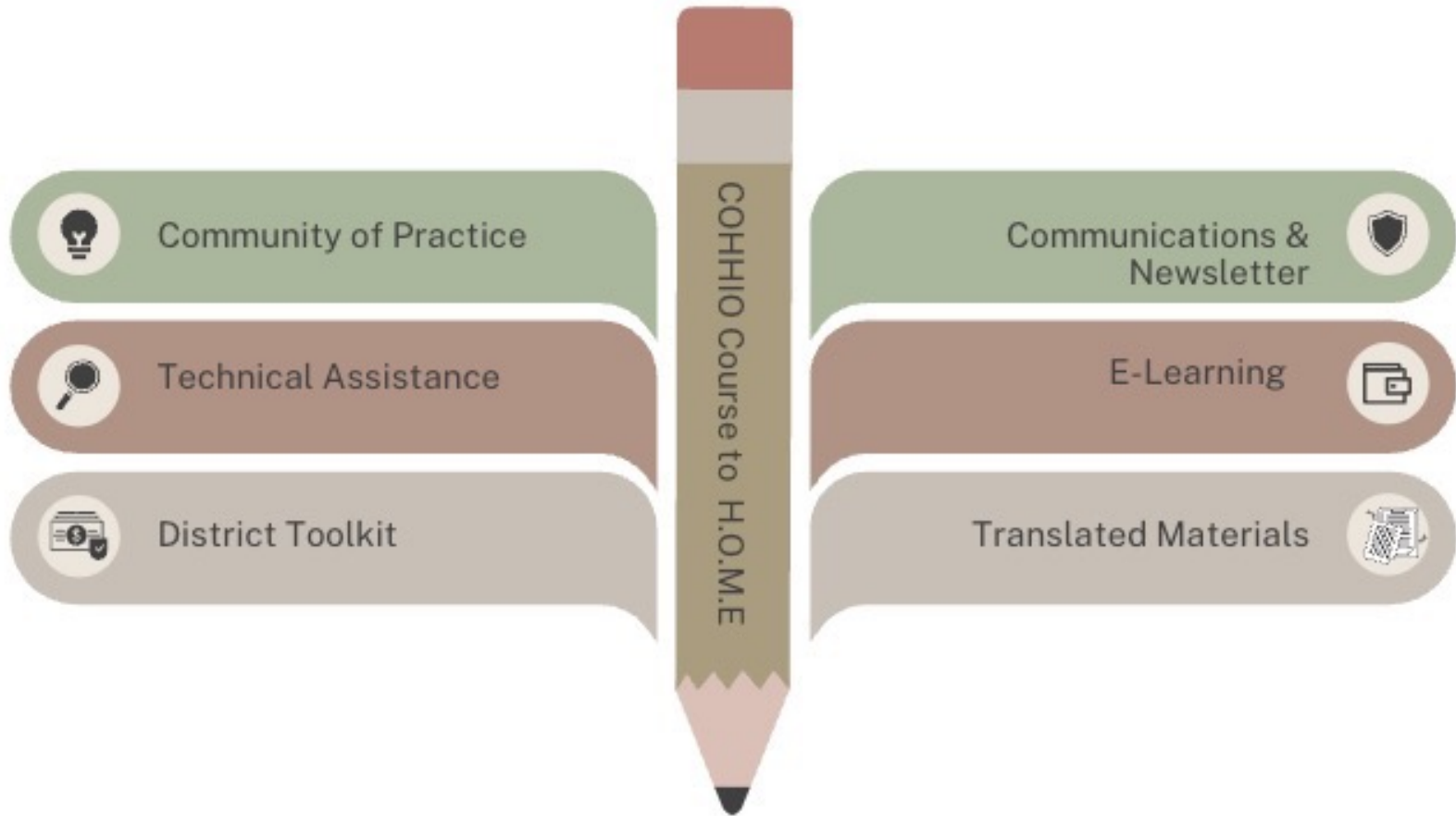
- What is your name?
- What is your role?
- If you had unlimited resources, what's one thing you would implement to meet the needs of vulnerable students in your district/region?





COHHIO is a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to ending homelessness and to promoting decent, safe, fair, affordable housing for all, with a focus on assisting low-income and special needs populations.

COHHIO Course to HOME



Housing. Opportunities. Meaningful. Engagement

COHHIO Course to Home Resources



Training

Provide frequent training on meeting the needs of youth and families at-risk of or experiencing homelessness; including e-learning and support to Ohio's school districts, liaison(s) and key partners.



System Coordination

Provide capacity development support and assistance furthering districts ability to collaborate as strong partners in the coordinated local responses to preventing and ending homelessness among youth and families.



Community of Practice

Coordinate peer to peer learning opportunities -- implementing innovative practices and evidence-based models to support students at-risk of or experiencing homelessness.



Practice Guidance

Provide frequent guidance materials to equipped districts with needed tools to support students at-risk of or experiencing homelessness.



Technical Assistance

Provide homelessness focused -- direct individualized support, assistance, problem-solving, linkages, referrals, resources, and information, upon request, to Ohio's school districts.

Resource Website

Ohio Department of Education Youth Homelessness Program

<https://cohhio.org/homelesseducation/>

Youth Initiative Home

Runaway and Homeless Youth Program

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program

Training and Technical Assistance

Ohio Department of Health Youth Homelessness Program

Ohio Department of Education Youth Homelessness Program

About COHHIO Course to HOME

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) received federal formula allocated funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support school districts to meet the needs of vulnerable student populations experiencing homelessness, including:

- rural children and youth
- students of color
- children and youth with disabilities
- English learners
- LGBTQ+ youth
- students in foster care
- justice-involved youth
- pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students

Visit Website >>



Understanding Ohio McKinney-Vento Community of Practice

Defining Community of Practice

- *Communities of practice are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.*
- The fundamental motivation for our community of practice is a group of people coming together driven by a shared learning need, in this case student homelessness with an emphasis on vulnerable groups
- By engaging each other, over time, in collective learning, we develop a bond that in turn fuels the production of resources to influence our own practices. The combination of a shared field/area of expertise, community, and practice lie at the heart of a community of practice.

Community of Practice Principles

1. We recognize that all communities and districts are unique but have some shared challenges and can learn from each other's experiences
2. We embed student and family leadership in decision-making, designing and implementing strategies
3. We ensure strategies and approaches improve equity, including racial & LGBTQ+ equity
4. We are solution-oriented and creative in our planning and problem solving
5. We promote peer support and shared learning opportunities
6. We explore, develop and integrate best practices at the core of our approaches

COHHIO is here to facilitate the conversation and share knowledge learned from working with communities, not to own the space

Community of Practice Agreements

- Listen for understanding
- Check in and check out
- Expect and accept non-resolution
- Practice “both/and” thinking
- Be aware of intent and impact
- Make space, take space
- Safe Terms:
 - “ELMO”
 - “Ouch”

For more information review the [Guide to Community of Practice](#)



Understanding COHHIO Course to HOME Community of Practice

Introduction

About COHHIO Course to HOME

COHHIO Course to HOME is an exciting new opportunity for Ohio school districts and educational service centers. The [Ohio Department of Education](#) (ODE) received federal formula allocated funds through the [American Rescue Plan](#) to provide increased support, and professional development opportunities to districts specifically in meeting the need of the following vulnerable student populations experiencing homelessness:

- rural children and youth
- students of color
- children and youth with disabilities
- English learners
- LGBTQ+ youth
- students in foster care
- justice-involved youth and
- pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students

ODE has teamed up with the [Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio](#) (COHHIO) to provide communities of practice and other professional development supports, called [COHHIO Course to HOME](#). You can read more about the partnership by reviewing Ohio's ARP-HCY state plan [here](#). The purpose of COHHIO Course to HOME is to increase resources and coordinate intentional responses for districts in order to meet the need of vulnerable students experiencing homelessness. Additionally, COHHIO Course to HOME provides on-demand [technical assistance](#) to help districts respond to the needs of student homelessness.

What is community of practice?

Community of Practice

A widely used definition of community of practice comes from Etienne and Beverly Wenger-Trayner, who helped articulate the concept in 1991 – *Communities of practice are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.*

Why community of practice?

The motivation for convening a community of practice at the most fundamental level, is a group of people coming together driven by a shared learning need, in this case student homelessness with an emphasis on the following vulnerable groups;

- rural children and youth,
- students of color,
- children and youth with disabilities,
- English learners,
- LGBTQ+ youth,
- students in foster care

COHHIO Course to HOME

Important Reminders!



Plan for Upcoming Sessions

Quarter One
3/30/2022

Introduction to Homelessness
3/30/2022



Quarter Three
9/14/2022

Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness; A Focus On Unaccompanied Youth and English Learners-New Comers



Quarter Two
5/18/2022

Identifying and Meeting the Unique Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness in Rural Ohio



Quarter Four
11/02/2022

Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness; A Focus On: Students in Foster Care and Justice-Involved youth

Plan for Upcoming Sessions

Quarter One 3/15/2023

Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness; *A Focus On: Pregnant, Parenting, or Caregiving Students*

Quarter Three 8/9/2023

Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness; *A Focus On: BIPOC and LGBTQ+ youth*

Quarter Two 5/17/2023

Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness; *A Focus On: Children and Youth with Disabilities*

Quarter Four 11/15/2023

Supporting the Health and Well-being of Students At-Risk of or Experiencing Homelessness

Download 2022-2024 Calendars

COHHIO COURSE TO HOME | COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE | CALENDAR

	McKinney Vento Community of Practice 	Click Here & Learn More
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MARCH '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

30 McKinney-Vento
Community of Practice
Session 1 (1p) - *Introduction of
Homelessness*

14 McKinney-Vento
Community of Practice
Session 3 (1p) - *Newcomers
and Unaccompanied Youth*

SEPTEMBER '22						
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OCTOBER '22						
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MAY '22						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

18 McKinney-Vento
Community of Practice
Session 2 (1p) - *Rural
Homelessness*

2 McKinney-Vento
Community of Practice
Session 4 (1p) - *Foster Youth
and Juvenile Justice Involved
Youth*

NOVEMBER '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Preview the schedule [here](#)

Request Technical Assistance

Defining Technical Assistance

- The process of providing guidance, tools, resources, and consultation to assist districts achieve goals

Accessing Technical Assistance

- Email us at homelesseducation@cohhio.org
- Call us at 614-280-1984 ext.143
- Access resources at www.cohhio.org/youth

More Information

- Review the [Guide to Technical Assistance](#)



Join the Mailing List

Sign up to Stay in Touch!

Sign up for the COHIO Course to HOME mailing list and stay up to speed.

* Email

Your **email** here 😊

* First Name

* Last Name

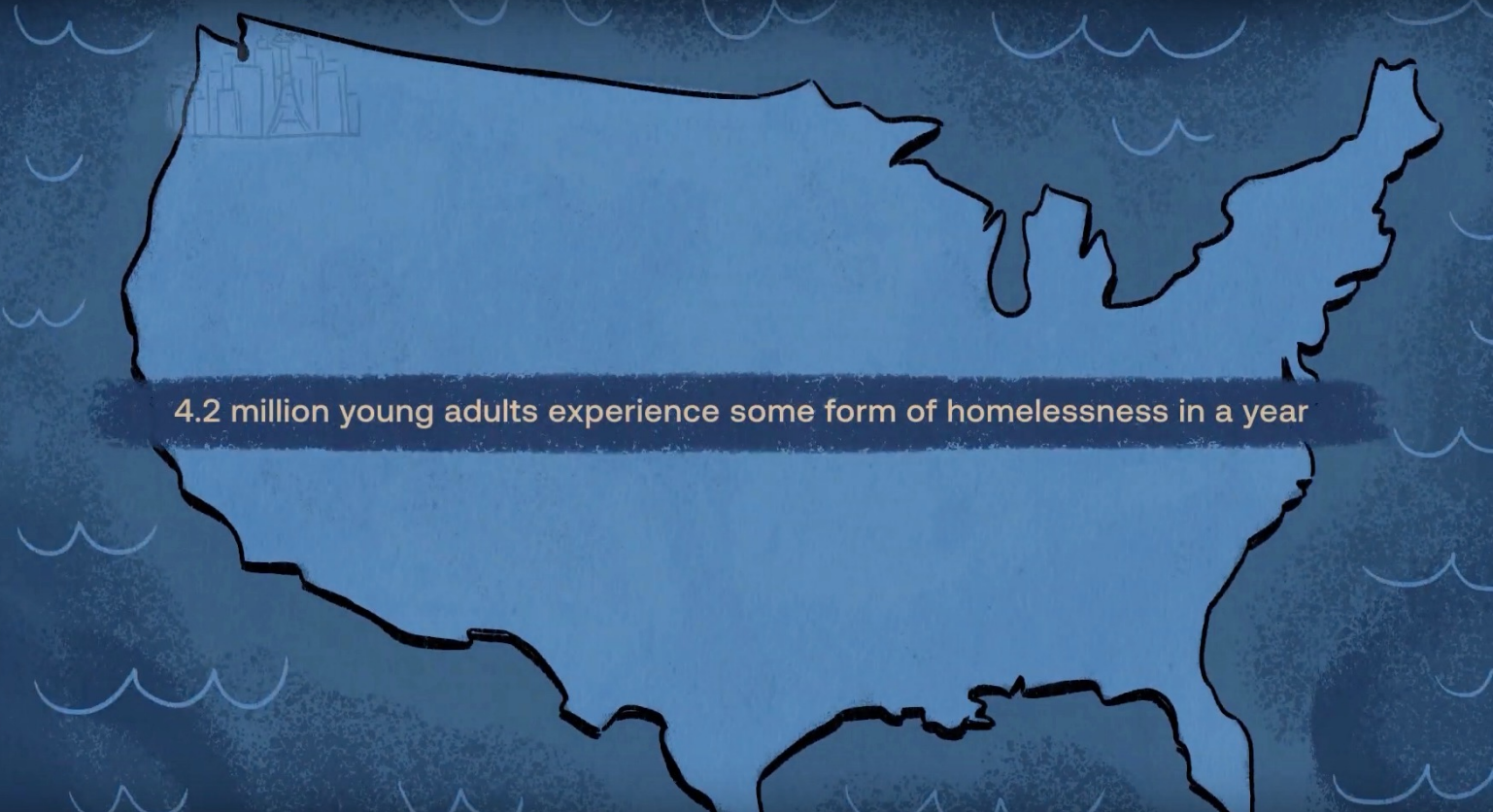
Sign Up



[Sign Up](#)

A Solvable Problem: Preventing Youth Homelessness

A Solvable Problem: Preventing Youth Homelessness



4.2 million young adults experience some form of homelessness in a year

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rKF2JZjoW1g&t=7s>



SchoolHouse Connection

Karen Rice
she/her
**Senior Program Manager of
Education Initiatives at
SchoolHouse Connection**

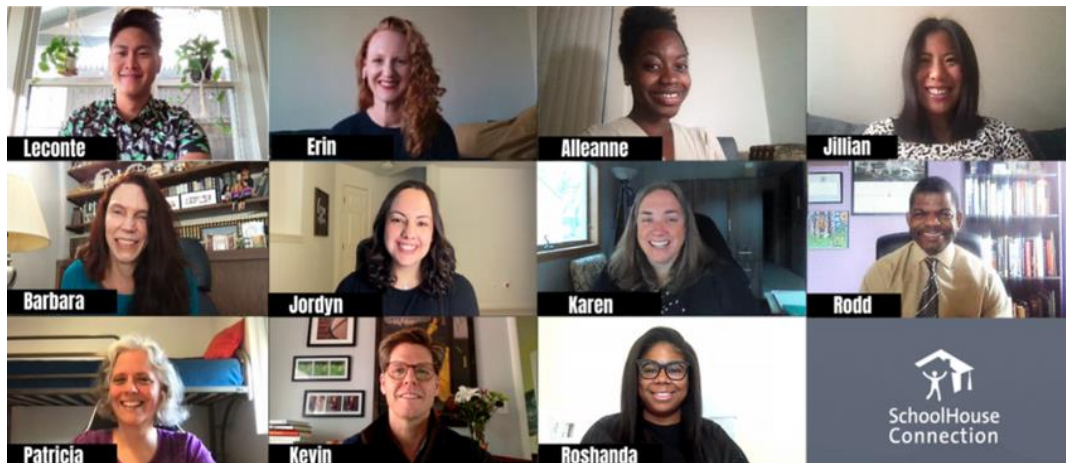


Supporting Immigrant and Migrant Students Experiencing Homelessness

September 2022

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

Federal and state policy advocacy

Q&A from our inbox

Webinars and implementation tools

Youth leadership and scholarship

Important Terminology

- **English Learner:** students who are come from non-English-speaking homes and backgrounds and are learning English as a second (or third) language.
- **Immigrant:** A person who moves to a country and plans to stay permanently.
- **Migrant:** Someone who moves because the student or family are involved in seasonal agricultural or fishing work.

Important Terminology, Continued

- **Refugees:** People who have fled their home country due to fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, and are not in the U.S. while they are going through the initial immigration process.
 - **Asylees:** Refugees who are in the U.S. when going through the initial immigration process.
- **Unaccompanied (alien) minors:** Youth under age 18 who come to the U.S. without an accompanying parent or guardian. The term “unaccompanied” in this context refers to their immigration status, not their McKinney-Vento status.
 - Unaccompanied homeless youth as defined by the McKinney-Vento Act are children and youth who lack fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and are also not under the care of a parent or legal guardian.

Educational Rights of Undocumented Children and Youth

- Children and youth living in the United States have the right to attend and participate fully in public schools, regardless of their immigration status.
- Schools and LEA-administered preschool programs cannot ask about a student's or family's immigration status, or take other actions that could discourage students from seeking enrollment.
- Schools and LEA-administered preschool programs cannot require Social Security numbers or immigration or citizenship documentation.
- Schools and LEA-administered preschool programs cannot contact ICE or other law enforcement officials about a student's or family's immigration status.
- For all McKinney-Vento eligible students, regardless of immigration status, schools must address barriers to full participation in school activities, including transportation.
 - Career and Technical Education (CTE) services may require Social Security numbers or employment authorization if required for an employment or internship opportunity.
 - Foreign travel as part of an activity is not advisable for undocumented students, as their ability to reenter the U.S. is not guaranteed.

Undocumented children and youth and McKinney-Vento

The McKinney-Vento Act covers children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason.
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations.

Undocumented children and youth and McKinney-Vento

- Living in emergency or transitional shelters.
- Living in a public or private place not designed for or regularly used as accommodations.
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
 - What is substandard? Check utilities; infestations; mold; dangers.
- Includes unaccompanied youth and migrant students living in those situations.



Definition: Unaccompanied youth

A child or youth without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence *and* not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

- Youth run away from home due to abuse or neglect.
 - 40-60% of unaccompanied youth were abused physically at home.
 - 17-25% of unaccompanied youth were abused sexually at home.
 - Research links parental substance abuse and youth running away from home.
- Parents force youth out of the home due to conflicts.
 - Sexual orientation and gender identity
 - Pregnancy

Immediate enrollment for unaccompanied youth

- Unlike most education laws, McKinney-Vento gives rights **directly to unaccompanied youth, above the rights of their parents/guardians.**
 - To enroll and make decisions
 - To choose between school of origin and local school
 - To file disputes
 - To participate in activities
- This may require conflict mediation between the school, parent, and youth.
 - Call in back-up when needed! Social workers, community resources, State Coordinator.

Determining Eligibility

Shared housing

- Is it due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason, whether in the US or another country?
- Family lost housing due to natural disaster, violence (war, gangs, coup), loss of employment or subsistence
- Where would they go if they had to leave where they are staying?
- Do they have any right to be there?
- Is the housing adequate?
- “Sponsors” don’t change the analysis.

To ask or not to ask:

- Determining eligibility requires information about the student’s housing situation.
- Federal law says schools cannot ask any questions that might “chill” the right to enrollment for an undocumented student.
- Balance!

McKinney-Vento Eligibility of Immigrant and Migrant Children and Youth

- As with all McKinney-Vento eligibility determinations, each situation should be evaluated individually.
- Immigration or documentation status does not affect McKinney-Vento eligibility.
- The right to public education for immigrant children, including undocumented children, extends to preschool programs run by LEAs and/or state agencies.
 - Families may enroll their children in Head Start and Early Head Start programs regardless of their immigration status.
- Unaccompanied minors who are living with a sponsor do not necessarily have fixed, regular, and adequate housing. Sponsors are not legal guardians.

Cultural Considerations of Doubled Up

Shared housing or multigenerational living situations:

- Who is included on the lease?
- Who is contributing to household costs?
- Does everyone have adequate space to sleep?
- Is the living arrangement for everyone's mutual benefit?
- Are any members of the household looking for their own place to live?
- Was one family already living in the space and another family moved in?

Just because multigenerational families may be cultural, homeless liaisons still must evaluate each situation individually



Strategies and Best Practices to Support Immigrant and Migrant Children and Youth

- Identify Immigrant Families Experiencing Homelessness
- Collaborate across Programs to Provide Wrap-around Services
- Provide Families with Information and Support They Can Access
- Remove Barriers for Immigrant Children, Youth, and Families
- Build Relationships with Community Partners

Examples:

- New Philadelphia City Schools, Ohio
- Metro Nashville Public Schools, Tennessee
- Shakopee Public Schools, Minnesota

Strategies and Best Practices to Support Immigrant and Migrant Children and Youth, Continued

- Building trust is essential
- Identification
- Accommodate unique circumstances

Example: New Philadelphia City Schools, Ohio

Additional Resources:

- Colorín Colorado: [How to Build Relationships with Immigrant Families](#)
- Colorín Colorado: [How Immigration Status Affects Students, Families, & Schools](#)
- Colorín Colorado: [Helping Students Heal Through Love and Trust: A Social Worker's Perspective on Serving Immigrant Youth](#)

Consider the Unique Needs of Migrant Families Experiencing Homelessness

- Train migrant recruiters on the McKinney-Vento Act, including basic understanding of eligibility.
- Establish a clear process for migrant educators to make referrals to the homeless liaison.
- For states with summer-only migrant programs, work with program staff or family liaisons to help transition students to sending states, including referring to the homeless liaison in the sending district.
- When working with migrant families experiencing homelessness who have young children (ages birth – six), **check to see if there is a Migrant and Seasonal Head Start program nearby.**

The Head Start Program Performance Standards and Homelessness

Higher Education Opportunities for Undocumented Youth

- Undocumented youth can apply to public colleges and universities in every state, except Alabama and South Carolina.
- Youth with legal immigration status can apply for federal aid, even if their parents are undocumented, but undocumented youth are not eligible for federal financial aid.
- A number of states offer in-state tuition and/or state financial aid to undocumented students. [See what your state offers.](#)

(Please note that states are frequently updating and changing in-state tuition and financial aid information for undocumented youth. Please make sure to check this information your state)

Using ARP-HCY Funds

Examples:

- Middletown, RI used ARP-HCY funds to hire a Family Services Coordinator to support multilingual families and contracts with Boys and Girls Clubs to provide wraparound services.
- New Philadelphia, OH used ARP-HCY funds to purchase bikes to support attendance of immigrant students within the LEA's walk zone.
- Grand Island, NE used ARP-HCY funds to hire a bilingual parent liaison to support families in the district's Early Learning Center access summer resources.
- Monte del Sol, NM used ARP-HCY funds to hire a bilingual benefits navigator to help families navigate housing in their native language.
- Shakopee Public Schools, MN is using ARP-HCY funds to provide mental health supports for immigrant high school students to navigate and manage the trauma of their immigration experiences.

For more ideas about how to use ARP-HCY, take a look at SchoolHouse Connection's Resources:

- [Allowable and Strategic Uses of ARP-HCY Funds](#)
- [ARP-HCY spotlights](#)

SchoolHouse Connection Scholarship

Deadline early October

Eligible students:

- Under 20 years old
- Entering college for the first time

<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/youth-leadership/scholarship-program/>



Resources & Contact Information

- School House Connection: [Strategies for Supporting Immigrant and Migrant Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- SchoolHouse Connection: [Immigrant Students Experiencing Homelessness: Liaisons' Strategies](#)
- SchoolHouse Connection: [Immigrant Students: How Schools Can Help](#)
- Sesame Street In Communities: [Supporting Families Resettling in the U.S.](#)
- Colorín Colorado: [Guides and Toolkits](#)
- National Immigration Law Center: [Basic Facts about In-State Tuition for Undocumented Immigrants](#)



Karen Rice

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www.schoolhouseconnection.org

Feedback

We invite you to provide feedback about todays here:
<https://forms.gle/cdaEBnQPPeNW9UzaA>



Resources

Ohio Supports, Interpreters, Services

- Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Refugee Services
 - Refugee Cash Assistance
 - Refugee Health Services
 - Ohio Refugee Resettlement Agencies
- Ohio State Refugee Coordinators
- CRIS – Community Refugee & Immigration Services
- C4Kids Ohio Resource List
- Ohio Immigration Legal Services Resource List
- Ohio Medicaid Emergency Medical Care (AEMA)
- The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland Immigrant FAQs & Resources
- Ohio Interpreters Resource List

Resources

Guidance, Tip Sheets, Trainings

- International Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference (Sept 21-23, 2022)
 - National High School Trafficking & Social Justice Summit (Sept 20, 2022)
- NCHE – Unaccompanied Homeless Youth
- NCLEA – English Learners and Homelessness Fact Sheet
- SchoolHouse Connection - Unaccompanied Youth
- SchoolHouse Connection – Strategies for Supporting Immigrant and Migrant Students Experiencing Homelessness
- America Academy of Pediatrics: Immigrant Health Toolkit
- The Annie E. Casey Foundation English Learners Resource Round Up

General Resources

[Ohio Department of Education Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)

[Ohio Department of Education American Rescue Plan Homeless II Funds](#)

[Ohio Department of Education Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness with ESSER and ARP Funds](#)

[Ohio Department of Education Local School District Liaison Duties, Roles and Responsibilities](#)

[Ohio Department of Education English Learners Webpage](#)

[Ohio Department of Education Unaccompanied Youth FAQ](#)

[COHHIO Emergency Rental Assistance](#)

[COHHIO Course to HOME](#)

[COHHIO Youth Housing Initiative](#)

[COHHIO On-Demand Recorded Trainings](#)

[COHHIO Housing Now for Homeless Families](#)

[COHHIO Homeless System Resource Map](#)

General Resources

[Ohio Resource Guide](#)

[COHHIO Guide to the Resource Guide](#)

[School House Connection](#)

[National Center for Homeless Education](#)

[Ohio Bridges Program](#)

[Child and Family Health Collaborative of Ohio](#)

[Ohio Reach](#)

[Ohio Domestic Violence Network](#)

[The Center for Family Safety and Healing](#)

[HUD Exchange Connecting Housing and Education](#)

[Health and Human Services Runaway and Homeless Youth](#)

Contact Information



COHHIO Course to HOME

homelesseducation@cohhio.org



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