



SchoolHouse
Connection

HIDDEN HOMELESSNESS: CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

October 10, 2019
Orlando, FL



About SchoolHouse Connection

SchoolHouse Connection is a national nonprofit organization working to overcome homelessness through education, from birth through postsecondary. We provide strategic advocacy and technical assistance in partnership with schools, early childhood programs, institutions of higher education, service providers, families, and youth.

- Website
<http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org>
- Facebook Group
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SchoolHouseConnection/>
- Newsletter
<https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/sign-up/>
- Federal and state policy advocacy
- Q&A from our inbox
- Webinars and implementation tools
- Youth leadership and scholarships



1,355,821

Students were identified by a McKinney-Vento Liaison
as experiencing homelessness in 2016-2017.

Federal McKinney-Vento Data

1 IN 10

young adults ages 18-25 experienced a form of homelessness over a 12-month period.

Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in America

Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in America

72%

Who slept outside or in shelters also stayed with others.

42%

Experienced two or more episodes of homelessness.

73%

Experienced an episode lasting more than one month.

Homelessness is just as prominent in rural communities as it is in non-rural communities.

Hidden in Plain Sight: Homeless Students in America's Public Schools

50%

Slept in a place not
meant for human
habitation.

44%

Slept in a hotel or
motel.

34%

Slept in a shelter.

45% experienced homelessness more than one time and 47% experienced homelessness both on their own and with their family.

94%

**stayed with other people, rather
than in one consistent place.**

Hidden in Plain Sight: Homeless Students in America's Public Schools

“Staying with a stranger exposes adolescents to greater threats of violence and victimization than shelter stays, and staying with a stranger may put young people at particular risk for sexual exploitation.”

Families with children often become homeless due to complex traumatic experiences such as domestic violence, substance abuse, mental health challenges, community and individual job loss, and economic shifts.



The Homeless Children and Youth Act of 2019 H.R. 2001 (HCYA)

Corrects long-standing flaws in U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) homeless assistance for children, youth, and families. Aligns federal definitions of homelessness; requires HUD to honor local community priorities and needs; improves data on homelessness.

Sponsored by:

- U.S. Representatives Steve Stivers (R-OH) and Dave Loebsack (D-IA) in the House of Representatives



Higher Education Access and Success for Homeless and Foster Youth (HEASHFY) S.789 / H.R. 1724

Removes barriers to higher education access and success caused by homelessness and foster care. Simplifies eligibility for federal financial aid (annual redeterminations, documentation). Improves access to housing, TRIO/GEAR-UP, other resources.

Sponsored by:

- U.S. Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) and U.S. Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) in the Senate
- U.S. Representatives Katherine Clark (D-5th/MA) and Don Young (R-At Large/AK) in the House of Representatives



Housing for Homeless Students Act, S.767

Updates the Low Income Housing Tax Credit so that students, including veterans, who have experienced homelessness or are currently homeless, can access affordable housing while being full-time students.

Sponsored by:

- U.S. Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH) , Rob Portman (R-OH) and Angus King (I-ME) in the Senate

Thank You!



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