

## \*McKinney-Vento Act

The first Federal law to directly impact the education of students experiencing homelessness was enacted in 1987 as part of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. Since the initial passage, the homeless education law has been reauthorized with stronger and more specific requirements for State educational agencies (SEAs) and LEAs to ensure the immediate enrollment, school stability, and academic support needed to increase the educational success of homeless children and youths.

### Who is homeless?

The term "homeless children and youth":

- A. means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence...; and
- B. includes —
  1. children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason;
  2. living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals;
  3. children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
  4. children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
  5. migratory children who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

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ATLANTA  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

## Office of Student Services



# Homeless Education Program

## Atlanta Public School Policy

### ENROLLMENT OF HOMELESS STUDENTS

- \* Any person, including unaccompanied youth, considered homeless within the zone of the school shall be accepted immediately into and registered as a student by the school.
- \* Students who become homeless shall be enrolled in schools, zoned school or school of origin, based on the best interest of the children.
- \* If a student does not have the required documents (birth certificate and certificate of immunization) school personnel will assist the family in getting those documents.
- \* The lack of a permanent address will not stop school enrollment. The address of a shelter or temporary residence can be used by the student/parent/guardian for enrollment.
- \* Verification of McKinney Vento status must be evaluated every school year.
- \* If questions or disputes arise, please contact the Homeless Education Liaison.



## RESOURCES

### United Way 2-1-1 Contact Center

Connects families with community resources that enables them to thrive. Resources include food pantries, job search and placement agencies, and financial emergency assistance agencies. This help is provided so that families can recover and become sustainable once again.

### Shelters for Youth

**\*Safe Place:** A national youth outreach program that reaches out to youth between the ages of 12 to 17. Youth are easily able to access immediate help wherever they are by “texting for help” or by simply walking into a Safe Place Location (any QuikTrip). Teenagers can text the word “safe” and their current location (street address, city, state) to 69866 for immediate assistance. They can also call The Children’s Village directly at 770-964-3301.

**\*Covenant House Georgia:** Opened its doors to provide shelter and services to Atlanta’s homeless and run-away youth. For more information, call 404-589-0163.

### Shelters for Families

**\*Solomon’s Temple:** 2836 Springdale Rd, Atlanta, 30315 404-762-4645

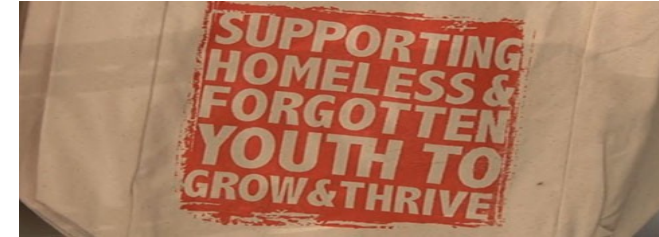
**\*My Sister’s House:** 921 Howell Mil Rd, Atlanta, GA 404-588-4007

**\*City of Refuge:** 1300 Joseph E. Boone Blvd Atlanta, GA 404-874-2241

**\*Salvation Army, Red Shield:** 469 Marietta St, Atlanta, GA 404-486-2700

## Healthcare

**The Good Samaritan Health Center:** Offers medical, dental, health education, mental health, and social services. Patients pay on a reduced sliding fee scale based on income and household size with the remaining costs provided by donations. Please call 404-523-6571 to schedule your orientation appointment.



## SERVICES

The Homeless Education Liaison coordinates the identification of students experiencing housing instability and offers educational support services that increase students’ success in school. This program reports to the Department of Social Work Services in the division of Student Services.

Services Provided:

- \* Sensitivity Training
- \* Informative Parent/Teacher Workshops
- \* Technical Assistance regarding the McKinney-Vento Act
- \* Establishment of Community Partnerships with the Homeless Education Program
- \* Transportation Assistance Referrals
- \* Community Based Services Referrals
- \* Educational Support
- \* Post-Secondary Support