

Buffalo McKinney-Vento Workshop | November 7, 2019

Session Descriptions

First Block of Sessions (9:00 – 10:00)

What's New? A Review of Recent Resources (for attendees with significant McKinney-Vento experience) (Ballroom, 4th Floor)

Presented by: Jennifer Pringle, NYS-TEACHS

This session will provide information about new resources that have come out in the last year or so. We will discuss best practices and resources related to McKinney-Vento policies, liaison responsibilities, early childhood education, supporting unaccompanied youth, college counseling, data collection and reporting, and more. There will be time for Q&A.

Overview of McKinney-Vento Services (for attendees new to McKinney-Vento) (3 East, 3rd Floor)

Presented by: Arija Linauts, NYS-TEACHS

Are you new to the McKinney-Vento Liaison role or looking to refresh your knowledge? Are you a school administrator, school staff member, or local service provider who works with students in temporary housing? Join us for an overview of McKinney-Vento services. This session will provide procedures and best practices for immediate enrollment, transportation, free meals, Title I services, and more. Please note that we will *not* be reviewing McKinney-Vento eligibility during this session – please attend one of the two *Determining Eligibility* sessions later in the day to discuss eligibility in depth!

Second Block of Sessions (10:15 – 11:15)

Navigating Conversations with Families (Ballroom, 4th Floor)

Facilitated by: Emily Kramer, NYS-TEACHS

Effective conversations with families are essential for a successful McKinney-Vento program. Districts must be able to facilitate conversations with students and families that allow them to gather accurate information and provide appropriate services and supports. Based on our “Navigating Challenging Conversations” tip sheet, this interactive session will help participants get organized and provide an opportunity to share ideas and discuss resources that will help enhance liaison and LEA communications.

Mentoring Mindset: Improving Student Outcomes through Mentoring (3 East, 3rd Floor)

Presented by: Jack Kavanaugh, Mentor NY

Research has shown that a strong connection to a nurturing adult can improve a student’s attendance and performance in school. This is especially true for students experiencing homelessness. While not every school is able to sustain a formal “mentoring program,” everyone can positively influence the lives of students by having a “mentoring mindset.” During this session, Jack Kavanaugh from Mentor NY will provide tips and strategies for connecting with students both informally and through more formalized mentoring programs.

Determining Eligibility: A Deeper Dive (3 West, 3rd Floor)

Presented by: Michelle Frank, NYS-TEACHS

This session is designed to assist school staff and service providers in applying the definition of homelessness under the McKinney-Vento Act when identifying students in temporary housing. Through a series of sample scenarios, participants will discuss strategies for identifying students experiencing homelessness and collecting and analyzing information to confirm eligibility.

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Third Block of Sessions (11:30 – 12:30)

Connecting Young Children Experiencing Homelessness with Early Care and Education Services (Ballroom, 4th Floor)

Presented by: Jennifer Pringle, NYS-TEACHS

Did you know that school district McKinney-Vento liaisons are required to help young children who are homeless enroll in early care and education programs? Did you know that shelter providers and local departments of social services also have the responsibility to help families access certain early childhood programs? This workshop session will give you the information and tools you need to carry out these responsibilities and better connect families with early care and education resources. We will walk you through the "Early Care and Education Services for Children Experiencing Homelessness" guide recently published by the Early Childhood Advisory Council and help you create a customized list of local early care and education resources for your community to share with parents.

Mentoring Mindset: Improving Student Outcomes through Mentoring (3 East, 3rd Floor)

Presented by: Jack Kavanaugh, Mentor NY

Repeat from Session 2. Please see description above in "Second Block of Sessions" section.

Determining Eligibility: A Deeper Dive (3 West, 3rd Floor)

Presented by: Michelle Frank, NYS-TEACHS

Repeat from Session 2. Please see description above in "Second Block of Sessions" section.