

Our Mission

To provide educational opportunities that enable students without a home, and unaccompanied youth, to achieve academic success. To connect families with community resources that support school and family stability.

RESOURCES

- ◆ ARCHES Day Center 503.399.9080
- ◆ Center for Hope & Safety 503.378.1572
- ◆ Congregations Helping People 503.391.4365
- ◆ Crisis & Information Hotline 503.581.5535
- ◆ DHS Self Sufficiency: *Keizer: 3420 Cherry Avenue NE, # 110, 503.373.0808 *North Salem: 4074 Wine-
ma Place Bldg.# 53, 503.378.2731 *South Salem:
1185 22nd Street SE, 503.378.6327

- ◆ Helping Hands Resources 503.364.9936
- ◆ HOME Youth & Resource Center 503.391.6428
HOST (Youth) 503.588.5825 TLP 503.361.0380
- ◆ Jackson Street Youth Services 541.2200.2950
- ◆ Marion-Polk Food Share 503.581.3855
- ◆ MWV Community Action Agency 503.585.6232
- ◆ National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)
www.serve.org/nche
- ◆ Salem Housing Authority 503.588.6368
- ◆ Salem Interfaith Hospitality 503.370.9752
- ◆ Salvation Army 503.585.6688
- ◆ Simonka Place (Women & Children) 503.362.7487
- ◆ St. Joseph's Shelter 503-845-6147
- ◆ Union Gospel Mission (men's shelter) 503.362.3983

Contact a STEP Advocate at:

Paulus Administration Center

1309 Ferry Street SE, Salem, Oregon 97301

503.391.4060 phone

503.399.3260 fax

Program Associate/Homeless Liaison

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S.T.E.P.

Students in
Transition
Educational
Program



*"Taking STEPS towards
Academic Success"*

McKinney-Vento Act

Protecting the Educational Rights



of Youth and
Children
Experiencing
Homelessness

Who is eligible?

Homeless children and youth are defined as those who lack a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence including:

- "Doubled up" sharing the housing of others due to the loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in motels, trailer parks or camping due to a lack of alternative accommodations
- Living in cars, parks, or other public spaces
- Living in abandoned buildings or substandard housing with no heat, electricity, water, or floors
- Migrant students living in any of the above
- Unaccompanied youth not in physical custody of a parent/guardian **and** living in any of the above, including runaways or youth denied housing by their families

Educational Rights

Students experiencing homelessness have the right to:

- Enroll and attend classes *immediately* even if unable to provide proof of residency, immunization records, or other documents
- Attend the neighborhood school or the school of *origin* (the school student attended when permanently housed or last enrolled)
- Attend their school of origin until the end of the school year, even if they become housed or move out of district, if feasible
- Receive a written explanation and appeal if educational placement is denied
- Attend school while a dispute resolution or disagreement is resolved
- Receive transportation to and from the student's school of origin
- Access school services needed such as Title 1, Special Education, Migrant Education, ELL Services, and Student Access & Advancement (TAG) Services
- Participate in extracurricular activities
- Free and reduced school meals
- Attend district pre-school programs



Program Services



- Ensure that homeless students are identified, enrolled and attending school
- Offer assistance with alternative educational placements and enrollment
- Educational advocacy and access to special programs (IEP, TAG, ELL)
- Monitor grades and attendance
- Access to academic support (tutoring, credit recovery, graduation support)
- Parental support at school meetings (discipline, diversion)
- Assist in obtaining educational records
- Providing student school supplies and backpacks as available
- Transportation via school bus or public transportation
- Resolve enrollment and/or transportation disputes
- Disseminate public notice of the educational rights of students in homeless situations
- Refer students and families to community resources and programs