

Definition of Homelessness

Children and youth who lack a regular, adequate and fixed nighttime residence including: children who share housing with other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship; children living in emergency or transitional shelters; children living in motels, campgrounds, trailer parks, etc., as well as unaccompanied youth.

If Your Family Lives in any of the Following Situations:

- In a shelter, motel or campground
- On the street
- In an abandoned building, trailer or other inadequate accommodations, or
- Doubled up with friends or relatives because you cannot find affordable housing

Then your preschool-aged and school-aged children have certain rights or protections under the MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT.

When you move, you should do the following:

- Contact the school district's local liaison for homeless education for help in enrolling your child in a new school or arranging for your child to continue his/her former placement.
- Contact the school and provide information that will assist the teachers in helping your child.
- Ask the local liaison for homeless education, the shelter provider or social worker for help with clothing and supplies, if needed.

Homeless students and their families have the following rights:

- **To go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there.**
They must be given access to the same public education, including pre-school education, provided to other children.
- **To stay in their original or last school even if they move to another district.**
Homeless students have the right to stay in the school they attended prior to the loss of housing, or to remain in the school they were last enrolled, unless the parent or unaccompanied youth chooses otherwise. This is called the school of origin.
- **To get transportation to their original school.**
School districts must arrange transportation for students in homeless situations so that students can stay at their school of origin, even if students move to a different city, county, or school district.
- **To immediately enroll in the school district in which they are situated.**
Schools in the district in which a homeless student is situated must immediately enroll the student, allowing them to attend classes and participate fully in school activities. These students are able to enroll even if they do not have records or other items that are required for non-homeless students. This includes: immunizations or immunization records; physical examinations or medical records; academic records; proof of residency; a parent or legal guardian; birth certificates; and/or other documents.
- **To receive automatically free breakfast and lunch at school.**
A shelter worker or parent may contact the school to verify the child's homelessness. The school must immediately begin providing meals based on verification.
- **To receive Title 1 services.**
- **To receive all the educational and supplemental services that all other children are provided.**

For Assistance with Medical Services

Newton Health and Human Services Department

Deborah Youngblood, PhD, Commissioner
(617) 796-1420

Newton Division of Social Services (617) 796-1420

The Newton Division of Social Services provides case management, outreach, information, and referral for Newton residents related to:

- Budget/Financial Planning
- Emergency Oil/Fuel Assistance
- Financial Assistance
- Food Insecurity
- Housing/Shelter
- SNAP Applications
- Mental Health Referrals
- Legal Assistance
- Substance Use Referrals
- Support Groups
- WIC Referrals
- Workforce Development

Additional Social Service Agencies

YMCA of Greater Boston.(617) 782-3535

EmPath Economic Mobility Pathways.(617) 782-7600

Middlesex Human Services Agency(781) 647-9957

Jewish Family and Children's Services(781) 647-5327

Action for Boston Community Development(617) 783-5646

Family Aid Boston(617) 542-7286

Resources for the Homeless

FOOD

- Newton Food Pantry (617) 796-1233
Family Table. (781) 693-5593
Allston-Brighton Food Pantry (617) 254-4046
Brookline Food Pantry (617) 800-5339
Boston Food Pantry. (617) 375-0700
x210
Helping Hand Food Pantry (617) 576-2329
Greater Boston Food Bank (617) 427-5200
Centre Street Food Pantry (617) 340-9554
Arabic Baptist Church Food Pantry . . (617) 723-9766
WIC (781) 642-7194
SNAP (877)382-2363

FURNITURE/CLOTHING

- Salvation Army (617) 427-6700
Solutions At Work. (617) 492-0300
St. Francis House (617) 542-4211

HOUSING

- Newton Housing Authority. (617) 552-5501
Homes for Families (617) 227-4188
Metropolitan Boston
Housing Partnership (617) 859-0400
Dept. of Transitional
Assistance, Boston. (617) 348-8400
Dept. of Housing and
Community Development. (617) 573-1100
MetroList (617) 635-3321

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

- Safelink (877)785-2020
National Domestic Violence Hotline . (800)799-7233
Second Step (617) 965-3999
Casa Myrna (617) 521-0100
Crittenton Women's Union (617) 259-2900
Elizabeth Stone House (617) 427-9801
FINEX House. (617) 288-1054

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Boston Medical Center
Homeless Program (617) 534-2526
Boston Healthcare for the
Homeless Program (857) 653-1000
Head Start Brighton (617) 783-5646
Friends of Boston's Homeless (617) 534-2526
Society of St. Vincent De Paul (617) 268-0710
Department of Children & Families . . (781) 641-8500
American Red Cross (617) 274-5200

Homeless Shelters

- Crittenton Hastings House. (617) 782-7600
10 Perthshire Road, Brighton, MA
Crittenton Women's Union (617) 259-2900
One Washington Mall, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA
Pine Street Inn (617) 482-4944
444 Harrison Ave, Boston, MA
Heading Home Boston Shelter. (617) 267-8081
656 Massachusetts Ave, Boston, MA
St. Francis House (617) 542-4211
39 Boylston St, Cambridge, MA
Harvard Square Homeless Shelter . . . (617) 547-2841
66 Winthrop St, Cambridge, MA
Crossroads Family Shelter (617) 567-5926
56 Harve St, Boston, MA
Muliservice Center Homeless (617) 349-6340
19 Brookline St, Floor 1, Cambridge, MA
Rosie's Place. (617) 442-9322
889 Harrison Ave, Boston, MA

Hotlines

- National Domestic Violence Hotline . (800) 799-7233
Parent Stress Line (800) 632-8188
Greater Boston Legal Services (800) 323-3205
National Runaway Hotline (800) 786-2929
Project Bread Hotline. (800) 645-8333

The Mission of the Newton Public Schools:

To educate, prepare, and inspire all students to achieve their full potential as lifelong learners, thinkers, and productive contributors to our global society

NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF AGE, RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, DISABILITY, RELIGION, OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR GENDER IDENTITY.



McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001



*"Supporting the Academic
Achievement of Students in
Non-Permanent Housing"*

Local Liaison for Homeless Education:

Jill Glashow

617-559-9003

glashowj@newton.k12.ma.us

**Newton Public Schools
McKinney-Vento Liaison
and Foster Care Liaison**