

AGENCY INFORMATION LIST

The following contacts may be useful resources to families and children experiencing homelessness.

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline

www.dss.virginia.gov 800-552-7096

Childhelp USA Hotline

www.childhelp.org 800-422-4453

Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan

www.famis.org 866-873-2647

SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

www.dss.virginia.gov/benefit/foodstamp.cgi
804-726-7361

Free Tax Assistance and Earned Income Tax Credit

www.irs.gov/eitc 800-829-1040

Hill Burton Free Hospital Care

www.hrsa.gov/gethealthcare/affordable/hillburton
800-638-0742

Medicaid Provider Information

www.virginiamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov/wps/portal
800-552-8627

National Center for Homeless Education

www.serve.org/nche 800-308-2145

National Runaway Safeline

www.1800runaway.org 800-786-2929

Virginia School Immunization Requirements

www.vdh.state.va.us/epidemiology/immunization/requirements.htm
1-800-568-1929

Pupil Transportation

www.doe.virginia.gov/support/transportation/index.shtml 804-225-2037

Social Security Administration Hotline

www.ssa.gov 800-772-1213

Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission

jlarc.virginia.gov 804-786-1258

VA Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance

www.vsdvalliance.org 804-782-1986

Virginia Housing Development Authority

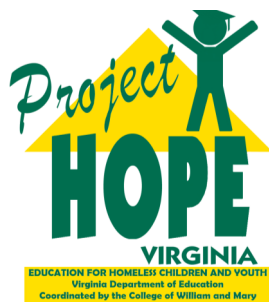
www.vhda.com 877-843-2123

Virginia Lawyer Referral Service

www.vsb.org/vlrs 800-552-7977

The federal McKinney-Vento Act guarantees school enrollment for anyone who, *due to a lack of permanent housing*, lives in *inadequate* or *temporary* settings, such as:

- In emergency or transitional shelters
- In motels, hotels, or campgrounds
- In cars, parks, public places, bus or train stations, or abandoned buildings
- Doubled up with relatives or friends
- In these conditions and is a migratory child



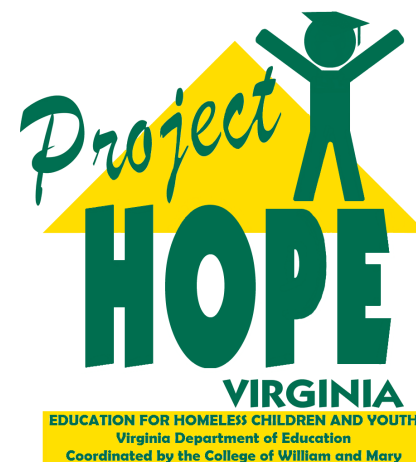
Virginia Department of Education
The College of William and Mary – SOE
P.O. Box 8795
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795
Office: (757) 221-4002
Toll Free in Virginia (877) 455-3412
homlss@wm.edu | www.wm.edu/hope

Local Homeless Education Liaison:

Paid for by funds from the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001 through the Virginia Department of Education

What Families Need to Know

Your Child Can Enroll in School...



Even if you have:

- Uncertain Housing
- A Temporary Address
- No Permanent Physical Address

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EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH LACKING FIXED, REGULAR, AND ADEQUATE HOUSING

Families should know:

- You do not need a permanent address to enroll your child in school.
- Your child cannot be denied school enrollment when school records or other enrollment documentation are not immediately available.
- Your child may be able to remain in the same school (school of origin) even if you move.
- When in your child's best interest, he or she has the right to transportation services to remain in the school of origin.
- Schools must provide you with a written explanation if a placement dispute occurs, and you may appeal the school's decision.
- Your child automatically qualifies to participate in free breakfast and lunch programs.
- Your child has the right to participate in extracurricular activities and all federal, state, or local programs for which he/she is eligible.

Unaccompanied youth lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing have these same rights.

AT SCHOOL, ASK ABOUT THESE SPECIAL SERVICES

- Tutoring programs
- Programs to help children learn English
- Gifted or talented programs
- Summer school programs
- Preschool programs
- Before and after school programs
- Homeless assistance programs
- Mentoring programs
- Special education programs for students with disabilities, especially if the student has previously received special education services

Schools give children and youth experiencing homelessness hope and a chance for a better future.

SCHOOLS ALSO MAY PROVIDE:

- Quiet time or a personal space to allow your child to complete homework at school
- Basic school supplies
- Contact information for community agencies and helpful resources

If you have questions, contact the school division's local homeless education liaison or Project HOPE-Virginia.

TIPS FOR FAMILIES WHO MOVE OFTEN

- Keep a copy of birth certificates and school records accessible.
- Safeguard all health and immunization records.
- Have a reliable person keep a second copy of the child's birth certificate, school records, and health information.
- Enroll children in school as soon as possible.



WHAT YOU CAN DO BEFORE MOVING

- Tell your child's teacher and principal that your child is moving and give them the new address.
- Let school officials know if you want your child to stay in his/her school of origin while you are getting the family stabilized.
- Ask for a copy of your child's school records, including immunizations.