

How to help your child(ren) and youth be successful in school.

#### Tips for Parents:

- Talk to your child's teacher or school about any changes to your living situation. Your child may qualify for additional help through other school programs and resources.
- Be sure your child is well rested (8-10 hours) and arrives at school on time. Children who miss part of all of school, miss important school lessons.
- Read to or with your child each day. Reading is the key to success in school.
- Talk to your child's teacher or librarian. They can help to obtain age appropriate books for you to read together.
- Ask your child to share about their day in school.

### If you require further assistance,

#### WUHS Local Liaison:

Karlie Francour, MSSW
School Social Worker
Transitional Services Coordinator
Homeless Liaison
Waterford Union High School
kfrancour@waterforduhs.k12.wi.us
262-210-8966 (work cell)

#### DPI Consultants:

#### Karen Rice

karen.rice@dpi.wi.gov 608-267-1284

#### Kristine Nadolski.

kristine.nadolski@dpi.wi.gov, 608-267-7338, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Education Coordinators, Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY)



School Website http://www.waterforduhs.k12.wi.us/

# The Educational Rights of Children and Youth in Transitional Situations



## WATERFORD UNION HIGH SCHOOL

611 West Main Street Waterford, Wisconsin 53185 Phone: 262-534-3189 (Main Office)

## WHAT IS THE MCKINNEY- VENTO ACT?

✓ Foster care to include collaboration with State & local child welfare agencies for transportation

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was created to make sure that homeless children or children in transition have access to school immediately. It also ensures that these students have the same opportunities as non-homeless students so they can be successful in school.

## WHO MAY QUALIFY FOR MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT?

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act defines homelessness as lacking a "fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence."

According to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, children, youth, and/or families are considered homeless if they are:

- Children and youth sharing the housing of friends/other family members (i.e. doubled up) due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason and have no other place to live
- ✓ Staying in a shelter, including domestic abuse shelters
- Living in locations such as motels, hotels, cars, parks, abandoned buildings, or campgrounds
- Children and youth who are temporarily staying with friends/family other than with their parents/guardians (unaccompanied youth)
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in similar circumstances listed above

## HOW DO I GET HELP IN WATERFORD?

## THE WUHS HOMELESS EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

It is known that homeless children and youth face special problems in getting to school and staying in school. When families move one or more times during a school year, school records can get lost and families may face obstacles in enrolling their child in school. WUHS Coordinator can assist you to overcome these obstacles.

- Contact Waterford Union High School Coordinator, Karlie Francour, MSSW, to learn about opportunities and get assistance in enrolling your student(s) in a new school or to keep your student(s) in the school they were in before you moved. She will be able to assist with enrollment obstacles.
- As you work with the coordinator, share what will help your child be successful in school.

## HOW CAN THE WUHS COORDINATOR HELP?

The Coordinator will explain your educational rights under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and assist you in receiving the following services:

- Enrollment assistance, including help in obtaining needed school records, health records, special education records, and immunization records
- ✓ Transportation (when eligible)
- ✓ FREE lunch
- ✓ Waiver of school fees
- ✓ School supplies
- Possible waiver of fees for extracurricular activities
- ✓ Translation and ELL services
- Referral to community resources, social services agencies, and other services that can assist homeless families with basic needs such as food and clothing.
- Assistance with the appeal process if you feel your rights have been denied