

# McKinney-Vento Deeper Dive into Practice

January 18th, 2023

10:00am – 12:00pm

Training Session 4 of 4



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Education Strategy  
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# ***Tribal Land Acknowledgement***

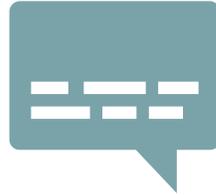
*We would like to acknowledge the Indigenous people who have stewarded this land since time immemorial and who still inhabit the area today.*

*Building Changes is on the land of the Duwamish and Coast Salish People.*





Please update your name as it appears in pdEnroller for clock hour attendance.



Mute when not speaking, bio breaks as needed, and take care of yourself! Live transcript available.



Use the "reactions" buttons, raise your hand during Q&As, and add questions to the chat as they arise.

## In Chat:

*Name, Pronouns,  
District/Organization,  
Role, and Native Land*

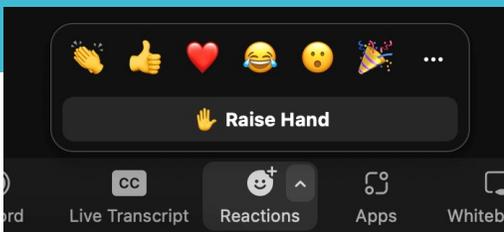
## Using the Reactions:

*How familiar with  
McKinney-Vento are  
you?*

 "I'm an expert"

 "A bit, here to learn  
more"

 "Brand new to the  
MKV world!"



# Roll Call!



**Vision**

**Mission**

**Values**



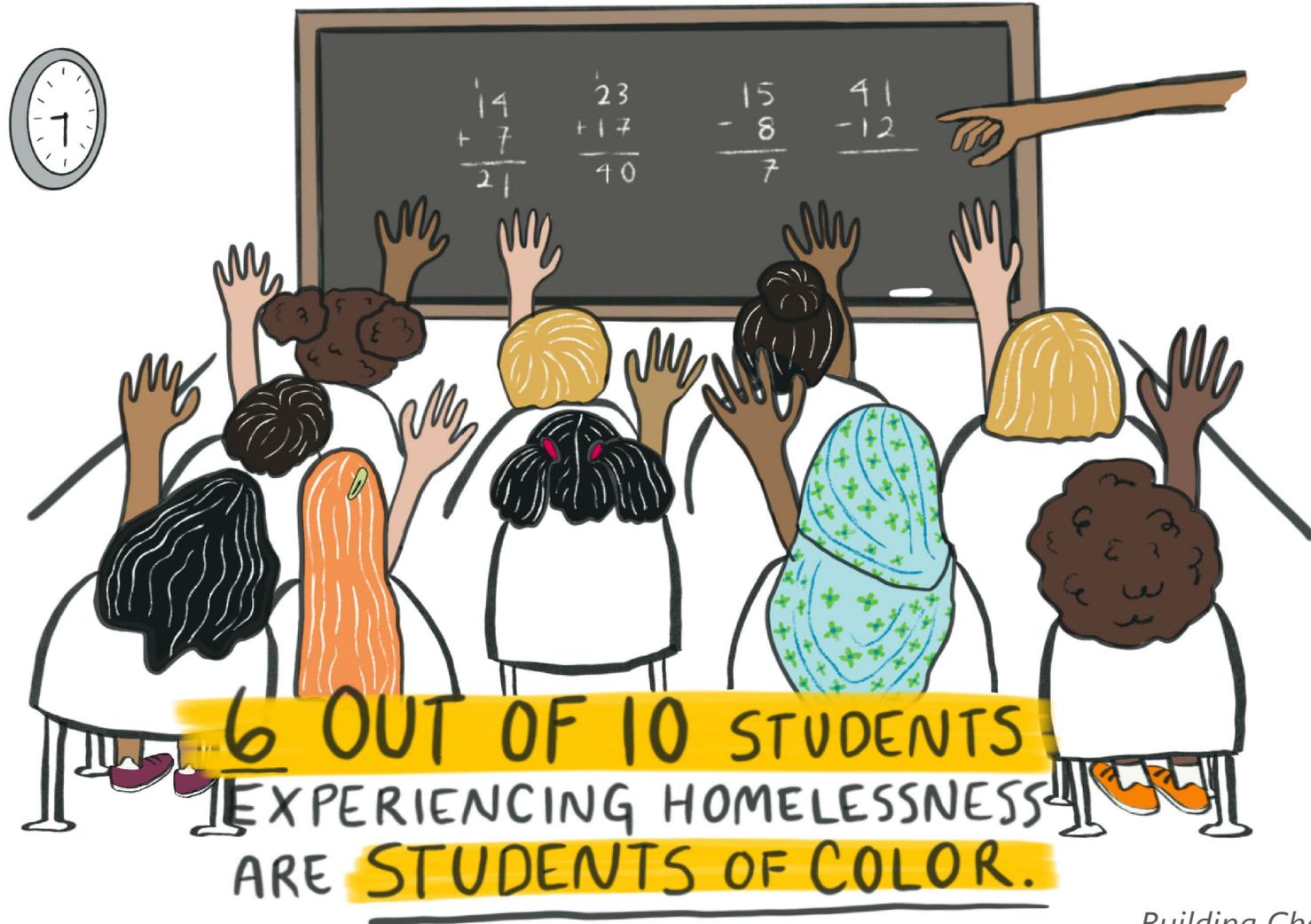
**BUILDING  
CHANGES**

*Communities thrive when people have safe and stable housing and can equitably access and use services.*

Building Changes advances equitable responses to homelessness in Washington State, with a focus on children, youth, and families and the systems that serve them.

- Equity
- Partnerships
- People
- Integrity





*Building Changes, 2019*



## BC's Education Team

## Our Work with OSPI

Building Changes explores how school and housing systems interact with one another to serve students experiencing homelessness through our Education Team's work. We show up for students, encourage cross systems partnerships, and influence policies that shape on the ground practice.

OSPI and Building Changes have partnered, with the help of ARP funds, to provide training for McKinney-Vento school staff and community-based organizations serving students experiencing homelessness. We intend to offer 7 trainings (each one will occur 4 times) through September 2023. This partnership will offer content, tools, and peer networking opportunities to help those supporting students experiencing homelessness across our state.



# Agenda

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McKinney-Vento Refresher

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Importance of the Case-by-Case Approach

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Eligibility: RVs and Mobile Homes

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Power of Community Connections and Resources

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Working with Unaccompanied Youth

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*Break*

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McKinney-Vento Building Point of Contact

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Applying to Practice

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Check Out

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# Objectives

- Attendees will have the opportunity to revisit areas of the OSPI Annual McKinney-Vento training.
- Attendees will leave with up-to-date information on policies, funding opportunities, and how the work with McKinney-Vento students.
- Attendees will have additional tools to serve unaccompanied youth.
- Attendees will hear what a day in the life of a building point of contact is like from their peers.
- Attendees will have the opportunity to network and strategize with colleagues across the state.

*Questions before we proceed?*

# McKinney-Vento Refresher: Purpose

## What we know...

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is a federal law that ensures immediate enrollment and educational stability for homeless children and youth – as defined by OSPI.

The MKV program is designed to address the barriers that homeless children and youth have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

## What we also know...

- *This is an under-funded mandate.*
- *MKV programs are built to meet the needs of their districts and look different in every community.*
- *This work is dynamic, unpredictable, and requires a wide range of skills.*
- *It takes a village to serve this student population.*
- *Staffing does not always match up with the need.*

# McKinney-Vento Refresher: Main Tenants

## What we know...

- School access
- School stability
- Support for academic success
- Child-centered, best interest decision making
- Critical role of the local homeless education liaison
- Community partnership and collaboration across systems

## What we also know...

- *Every school building has its own culture, staff, and way to serve McKinney-Vento students.*
- *The needs of MKV students are unique and often requires additional creativity and advocacy.*
- *Resources are limited.*
- *Capacity and role limitations are real.*

# Who is Eligible?

*The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is a federal law that ensures immediate enrollment and educational stability for homeless children and youth – as defined by OSPI.*

- **Children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence**
- Sharing the housing of others due to a loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason (Doubled-up)
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or campgrounds due to a lack of alternative accommodations
- Living in emergency or shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Living in a public or private place not designed for sleeping
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, or other inadequate accommodations
- Migratory children and youth living in any of the above situations

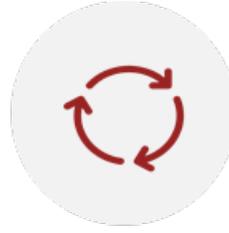
*Resource for more information - [NAEHCY FAQs](#)*

# 3 Key Pieces of Eligibility



## **FIXED:**

Stationary,  
permanent,  
and not subject  
to change



## **REGULAR:**

Used on a  
predictable, or  
consistent basis  
(e.g. nightly)



## **ADEQUATE:**

Sufficient for  
meeting both  
physical and  
psychological  
needs typically  
met in home  
environments



## **ASK:**

Can the student  
go to the same  
place (*FIXED*)  
every night  
(*REGULAR*) to  
sleep in a safe  
and sufficient  
space  
(*ADEQUATE*)



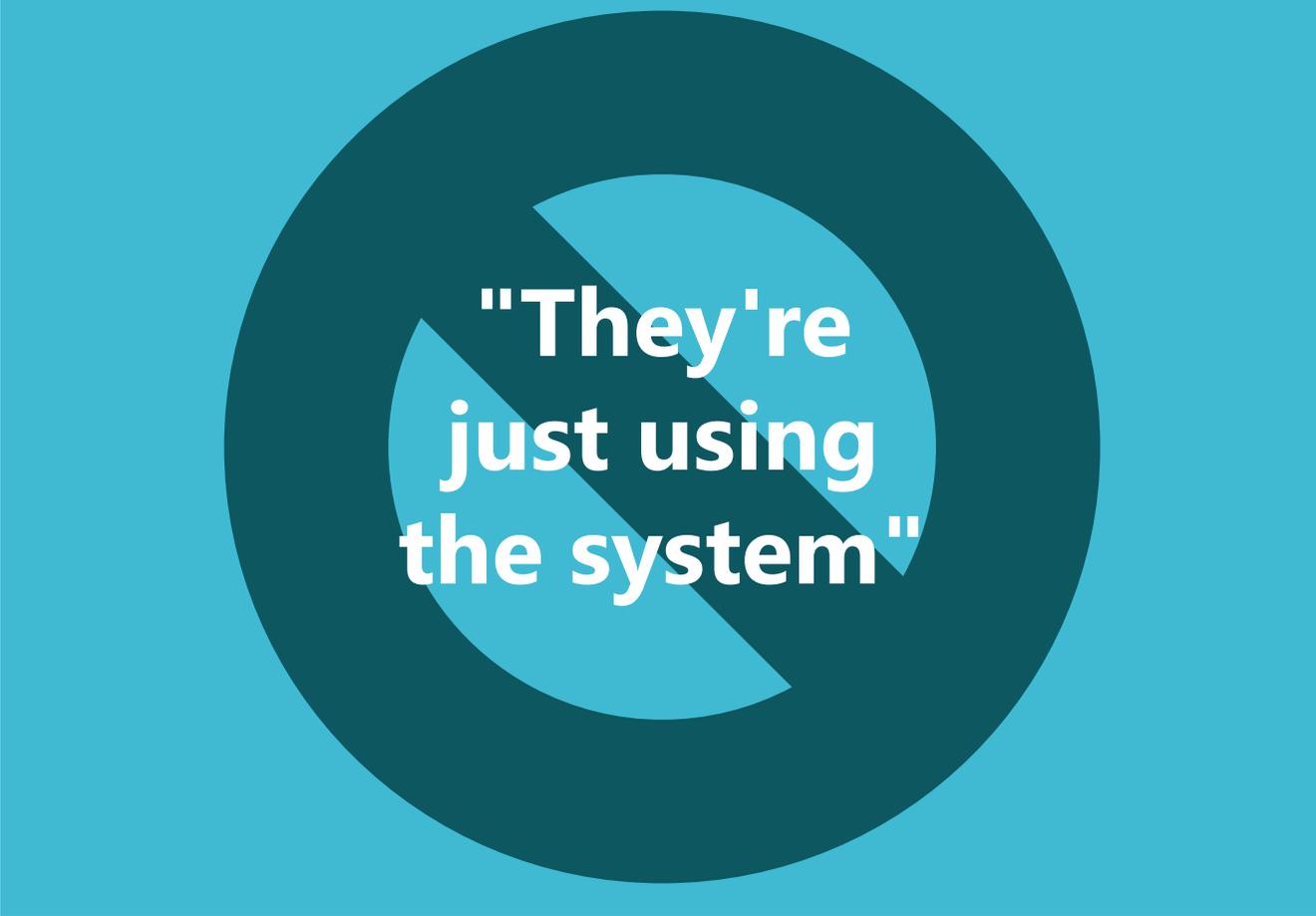
# McKinney-Vento: Importance of the Case- by-Case Approach

What does  
taking a case-  
by-case student  
approach  
mean?

- *Every student's situation is unique.*
- *Listening with genuine curiosity.*
- *Non-judgmental, check biases*

# Check Yourself

- Deserving vs. Undeserving
- Gatekeeping - the activity of controlling, and usually limiting, general access to something
- Paternalism - interfering with an individual's freedom of choice over their own lives, assumption they know what's best
- White Saviorism - describes white people who consider themselves helpers to people of color, and who work from the assumption that they know best what BIPOC folks need.
- Learned Helplessness - a learned response to the idea that you can't make a difference no matter what you do (often due to systemic barriers & racism)



"They're  
just using  
the system"

# Best Practices for Trauma-Informed Intakes

## Do:

- Build trust first
- Only ask what you need to know to avoid re-traumatization
- Believe survivors of trauma without judgment
- Ask open-ended questions
- Give overview of MKV

## Don't:

- Ask to see proof of residence/lease (against federal & state law)
- Google addresses to assess validity of homeless status
- Make eligibility decisions based on assumptions/personal biases
- Over-investigate, ask others about a family's housing situation (confidentiality)

In Chat: What percent of McKinney-Vento households qualify in your community due to living in an RV or mobile home park? (Estimate!)

# Eligibility: RVs and Mobile Homes



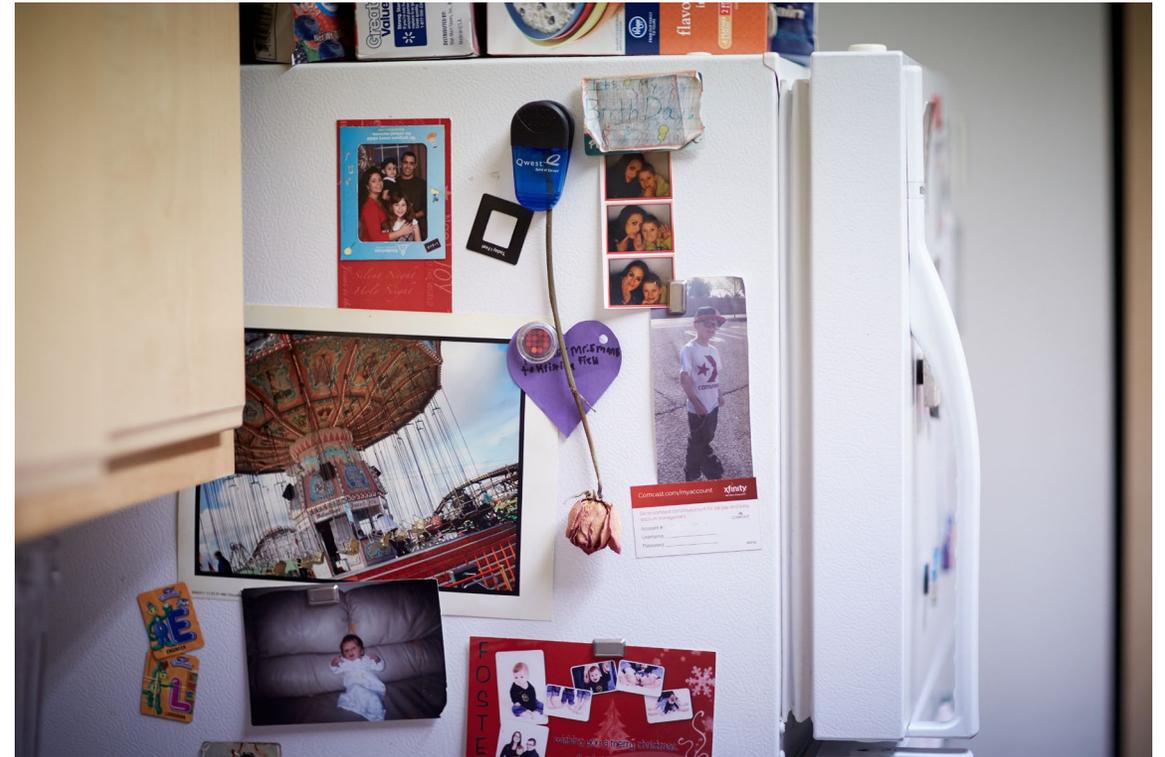
# Is their housing FIXED, REGULAR, and ADEQUATE?

Department of Education defines "substandard" as...

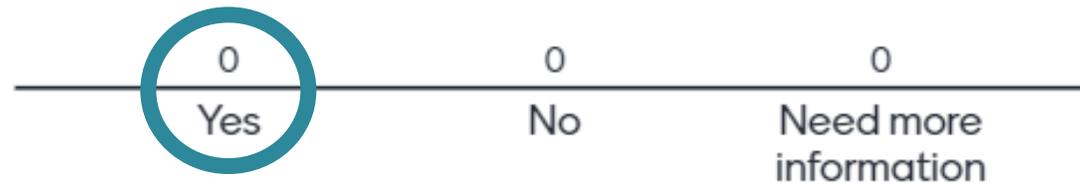
Housing that "lacks one of the fundamental utilities such as

- water, electricity, or heat;
- is infested with vermin or mold;
- lacks a basic functional part such as a working kitchen or a working toilet;
- or may present unreasonable dangers to adults, children, or persons with disabilities."

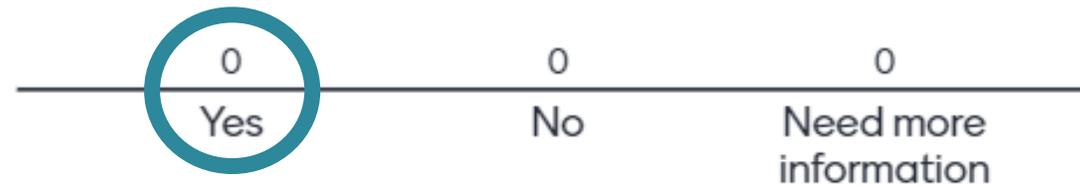
*(U.S. Department of Education, 2017)*



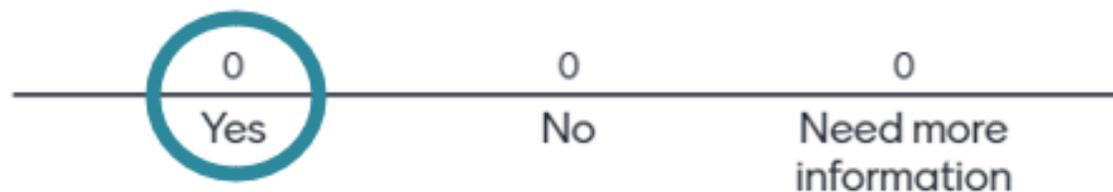
A student is living in their aunt's 2 bedroom mobile home with their mom, aunt, 3 siblings and 2 cousins. Is this student McKinney-Vento eligible?



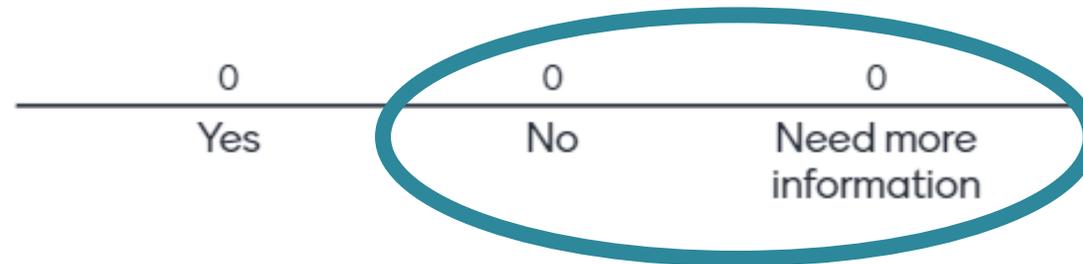
A family is living in an RV, parking in a diff place most nights. They can often be found at the Walmart parking lot. Is this family MKV eligible?



A family is living in an RV, renting a mobile home spot. Their RV does not have heat or electricity. Is this family MKV eligible?



A family moved into a mobile home in a nearby mobile home neighborhood. They are excited to have a space to call home. Is this family MKV eligible?



In Chat: Please name one organization that has been instrumental in helping meet the needs of students and families.



# The Power of Community Connections & Resources

# "Many hands make light work"

- Semi-regular Providers Meetings
- Collaboration is key
- Strengthens student's ties to community and support
- Provide training opportunities about realities of homelessness for school staff

If your housing is unstable  
and you must move,  
your school can stay the same



Original design produced for the Longview School District with support from Building Changes and the Washington State Governor's Office of the Education Ombuds (OEO).

In Chat: What is a barrier you see in your community for unaccompanied youth?

# Working with Unaccompanied Youth



# Who is considered an *Unaccompanied Youth?*

## *Eligibility:*

- *Not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.*
- May be residing with a caregiver who does not have legal guardianship
- May be living on their own
- Eligible for services regardless of the reasons that led to separation from family
- They have the right to immediate enrollment without proof of guardianship
- They face many barriers to enrolling, attending and succeeding in school

# Working with Unaccompanied Youth

## *Role of Liaisons & School Personnel*

- Liaisons must help unaccompanied youth choose and enroll in a school, after considering the youth's wishes, and inform the youth of his or her appeal rights
- School personnel must be made aware of the specific needs of runaway and homeless youth.



# New Laws Supporting Unaccompanied Youth

- State law (RCW 7.70.065) allows McKinney-Vento liaisons, school nurses, and school guidance counselors to provide informed consent for certain types of health care for this population – including immunizations.
- Unaccompanied youth can consent to their own primary health care if they are unable to obtain consent from an MKV liaison
- Includes immunizations and medical, dental, and vision services
- Unaccompanied youth can obtain state ID cards without identifying documents with the support of an MKV liaison



# How can MKV liaisons help young people experiencing homelessness get access to healthcare?

- Many young people are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
- While consent from a parent or guardian is often required, some young people, such as unaccompanied homeless youth under 18, may not have a parent or guardian available to provide consent.
- State law (RCW 7.70.065) allows McKinney-Vento liaisons, school nurses, and school guidance counselors to provide informed consent for certain types of health care for this population – including immunizations.
- For more information:
  - [Building Changes' flyers on COVID-19 Access for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth \(English & Spanish\)](#)
  - [OSPI Bulletin NO. 035-21: Informed Consent for Health Care and COVID-19 Vaccinations for Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)
  - [Apple Health for UHY](#)

# How can you provide consent?

- Help the student connect to a youth-friendly vaccine provider.
- Find out how the vaccine provider accepts consent. Verbal? Over the phone? Written? In-person?
- Tell the student you can provide consent to get the COVID-19 vaccine.
- While not required, it may be helpful to print out and provide the informed consent law ([RCW 7.70.065](#)) and highlight the portion naming school nurses, school counselors, and homeless student liaisons.
- While not required, OSPI has provided a helpful [Sample Informed Consent for Health Care Authorization form](#). You can print this, fill it out, and provide this to the young person or vaccine provider.

# Resources for Serving Unaccompanied Youth



## NCHE's Guidance

- [NCHE Homeless Youth Guidance](#)

## Post-Secondary

- [Federal Student Aid and Homeless Youth FAQ](#)
- [SchoolHouse Connection FAFSA Report](#)
- [SchoolHouse Connection Higher Education Resource Page](#)
- Pell Grant

## Activity

- Let's brainstorm resources that have been helpful, and available to UY in WA state?

Break



*Think about a Building Point of Contact that you deeply appreciate.*

In Chat: Now share a trait or what it is they do that you would love to see in all Building Points of Contact.



# Building Point of Contact in Legislation

## **RCW [28A.320.142](#)**

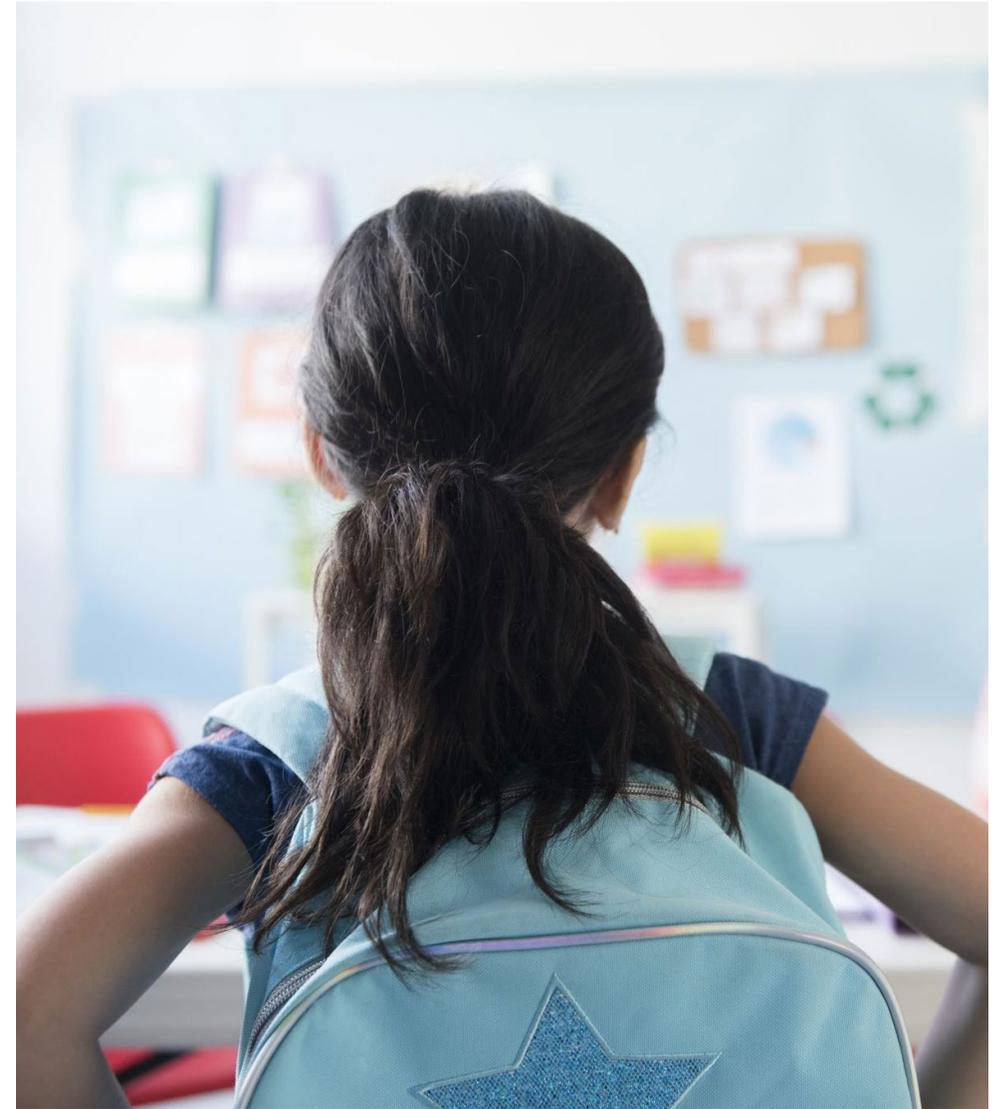
### **Unaccompanied and homeless youth—Building point of contact—Duty of district liaison for students experiencing homelessness.**



- (1) Each K-12 public school in the state must establish a building point of contact in each elementary school, middle school, and high school. These points of contact must be appointed by the principal of the designated school and are responsible for identifying homeless and unaccompanied homeless youth and connecting them with the school district's liaison for students experiencing homelessness. The school district homeless student liaison is responsible for training building points of contact.
- (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall make available best practices for choosing and training building points of contact to each school district.
- <https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=28A.320.142>

# Role of McKinney-Vento Building Point of Contact

- Washington is currently the only state where this is required by law.
- Identify & support students experiencing homelessness and in care.
- Provide building-level supports to students and families experiencing homelessness.
- Help school-level staff understand student needs and rights and inform them about homelessness and McKinney-Vento services.
- Coordinate with the school district McKinney-Vento liaison to identify and serve students experiencing homelessness.
- OSPI Training Slides
  - Check [OSPI website](#) soon for slides from most recent trainings\*



# Introducing Kyle Moor, MSW

Tacoma Public Schools  
Baker Middle School Social Worker **AND**  
McKinney-Vento Building Point of Contact

[kmoor@Tacoma.K12.Wa.US](mailto:kmoor@Tacoma.K12.Wa.US)

# McKinney Vento Building Point of Contact Perspective

- How does having a McKinney-Vento Building Point of Contact benefit students? Your school building? Your district?
- How do you balance the responsibilities of your role as a Social Worker and a McKinney-Vento Building Point of Contact?
- What is one thing you wish was in place for McKinney-Vento students?
- What is one thing you wish was in place for McKinney-Vento Building Points of Contact?

# Time to Strategize Together!

Introduce yourselves in the chat & when you start to share

Do you have any best practices to share?

Dive deeper into any of the topics covered today

- Unpacking eligibility
- Working with unaccompanied homeless youth
- Building Points of Contact



Time to case conference

## In Closing...

*Thank you for  
sharing your time  
with us!*

- Please complete the post training survey!
  - [Survey Monkey](#)
  - PD Enroller if seeking Clock Hours
- [School/Housing Network](#)
- Join us for [future trainings!](#)
  - Diversion in Schools **2/8**
  - MKV Data Storytelling **2/15**
  - Navigating the Housing System **3/8**





Washington Office of Superintendent of

**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

[homelessed@k12.wa.us](mailto:homelessed@k12.wa.us)



**BUILDING  
CHANGES**

*Connect with us!*

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