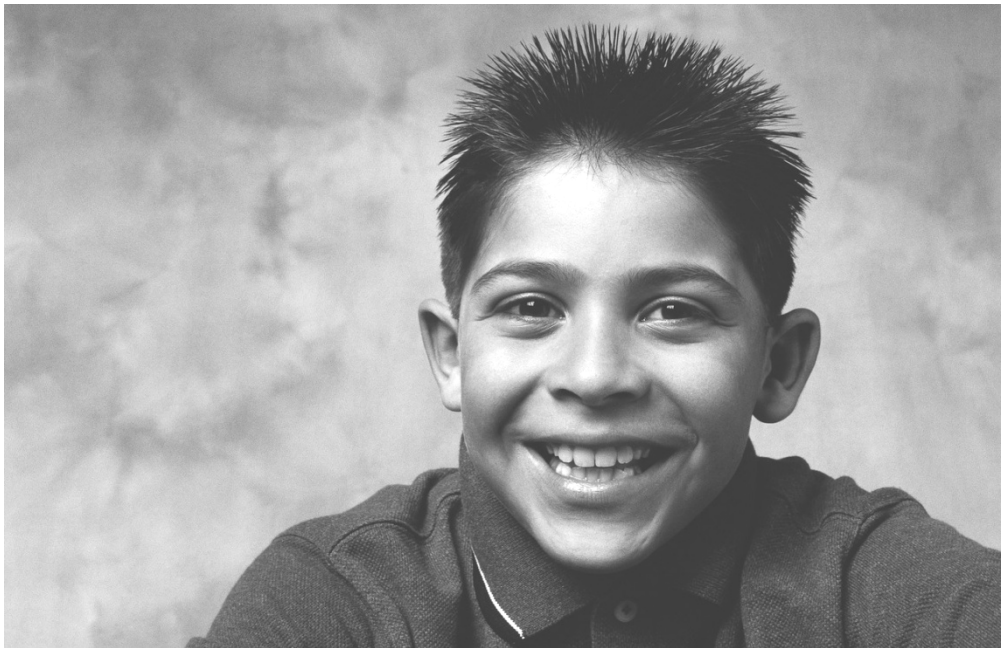

RESOURCES:

Key Links for Homeless Education

MINNESOTA EDUCATION for CHILDREN and Youth Who are in Transition and Homeless

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act

Minnesota Department of Education

Division of Student Support
Revised April 2012

Remove barriers to student enrollment, attendance and success.

ABOUT THIS RESOURCE

This brief bibliography lists essential resources that schools need for implementing education and services for children and youth who are homeless. Listed are emergency resources, Minnesota partners who assist individuals and families grappling with homelessness and national services and advocacy organizations.

Should you note errors or the need for updates or if you have suggestions for additional resources, please contact state staff.

This resource was prepared by Ruth Ellen Luehr, former MDE McKinney-Vento Homeless Coordinator.

April 2012

Minnesota Department of Education
Division of Student Support
1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, Minnesota 55113-4266

For more information contact:
Roberto Reyes
Specialist Homeless Education
Telephone: 651-582-8302
Email: roberto.reyes@state.mn.us

Website:
http://education.state.mn.us/mde/index.html
Please go to School Support, Federal Title Programs, Homeless

RESOURCES:
Key Web Links for Homeless Education

CONTENTS

	page
CREATE YOUR LOCAL RESOURCE LIST	1
IMMEDIATE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES	4
MINNESOTA HOMELESS PROVIDERS, ADVOCATES AND PARTNERS	8
WEBSITES OF KEY STATE and NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS and FEDERAL AGENCIES	10

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LOCAL RESOURCE LIST for (District/School) _____ Date _____

McKinney-Vento EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO ARE HOMELESS

Use the hyperlinks in the chart below to find local resources. Fill in the table with local contact information. Date and print the page for school administrators and student support services colleagues in your school district/charter school. Find out more about the resource agencies and organizations on the pages that follow. These national, state and local contacts are important whether serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness or communities that have lost housing and other basic services in a disaster.

Topic	Resource	Local/County/Regional Contact: Name, Role, Telephone	Email Address
All Hazards/ Emergency Planning: **County Resources** (Natural or other disasters)	Minnesota Department of Public Safety **Homeland Security and Emergency Management** (HSEM) **County Emergency Managers** **Code Ready: Get Connected** Find tribal and county emergency managers and public health contacts. Find resources for personal/family planning. Also see **Minnesota North Star - Minnesota Counties on the Web** for all offices in counties.	**http://bereadymn.com/** State site for emergency information on tornados, floods, winter storms, infectious diseases http://www.codeready.org/ Get Connected: County Emergency Manager : County Law Enforcement: County Public Health:	
Individual/ Family Emergency **Crisis Hotline**	**Call 211** (http://www.211.org) Insert your zip code to find state, regional and local resources.	**Dial 211** (National/Universal First Call for Help) Information and referral hotline Local:	
Minnesota Department of Health	**Office of Emergency Preparedness** **Regional Contacts: Public Health and Behavioral (Mental) Health** **Infectious Disease** **Environmental Health**	Regional Contacts:	
Emergency and General Resources	**MinnesotaHelp.com** A searchable database of Minnesota social service, health and other providers and resources	Local:	
Child Abuse/Neglect	Minnesota Department of Human Services **Child Support - Minnesota County Offices** **Mandated reporters:** **Contact your county social services or local law enforcement**	Childhelp® National Child Abuse Hotline: **1-800-4-A-CHILD or 1-800-422-4453.** If it is an emergency, call the police at **911.** County social services: County/city law enforcement:	

Topic	General Information	Local/County/Regional Contact: Name, Role, Telephone	Email Address
Victim Services	Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Justice **Help for Crime Victims** **Victim Service Provider Directory** Providers listed by county.	24-Hour Crisis Referral Line: **Dial 2-1-1 or 1-800-543-7709** (Evening calls handled by United Way 2-1-1.) County:	
Youth Crisis Hotline –	**National Runaway Switchboard** (http://www.1800runaway.org) Also see **MinnesotaHelp.com.**	**1-800-RUNAWAY [1-800-786-2929] or 1-800-621-4000** Local:	
Other Youth Services			
Shelters and Emergency Housing	US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) **Homeless Information: Minnesota** Also see **MinnesotaHelp.com.**	**Shelters and Emergency Housing: Minnesota** Services listed by county. County:	
Heat / Electricity:	**Stay Warm Minnesota: Finding Financial Assistance** Scroll down to see local energy providers.	Local:	
Other Emergency Service Providers	**American Red Cross** –Minnesota	On the website, see CHAPTERS for your local contacts:	
Other Emergency Service Providers	Salvation Army Religious Groups Business/civic groups		
Continuum of Care (CoC) Federal HEARTH Act requires collaboration with schools.	Minnesota Housing Finance Agency **Continuum of Care** Regional contacts. Also check for your county's *Homeless Response Team* (still in development in some areas.)	Regional Contact: County Homeless Response Team:	

Topic	Resource	Local/County/Regional Contact: Name, Role, Telephone	Email Address
School Homeless Liaisons	On this webpage, School Support, Federal Title Programs, Homeless Find the current Homeless Liaison excel file. Identify neighboring district's	Minnesota State Coordinator, McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act	**roberto.reyes@state.mn.us**
Migrant Education	Minnesota Department of Education On this webpage, School Support, Federal Title Programs, Migrant Education, Find the list of regional recruiters.	Minnesota Migrant Coordinator:	**noemi.trevino@state.mn.us**

IMMEDIATE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

For Emergency Food, Shelter and Safety

Visit ***Call 211*** (http://www.211.org) Insert your zip code to find local resources.
Visit ***Live United*** (http://liveunited.org) On the gray bar, upper right box, insert your zip code.

'211' is the national universal 'First Call for Help' telephone number used to locate crisis, prevention and other services coordinated by the network of United Way chapters. These two websites search nationwide to link the user to local help triage centers which are located via zip code, town/city or state.

Visit ***MinnesotaHelp.com*** (www.MinnesotaInfo.org or www.MinnesotaHelp.info)

The website is a one-stop clearinghouse with access to statewide community resources designed to help people in Minnesota find human services, information and referral, financial assistance and other forms of help. It is especially rich in resource information for seniors and their caregivers; people with disabilities and their caregivers; parents and families; and low income people.

General Questions and Concerns: 1-800-333-2433; email mba@state.mn.us
Minnesota Seniors and Their Caregivers: Senior LinkAge Line: 1-800-333-2433, email senior.linkage@state.mn.us

People with Disabilities: Disability Linkage Line: 1-866-333-2466; DHS.Disability-Linkage@state.mn.us
Minnesota Teens or Young Adults: 651- 431-4714 Mon- Fri, 8:00 - 4:30; email youth.corner@state.mn.us

Childhelp® USA National Child Abuse Hotline: **1-800-4-A-CHILD [1-800-422-4453].**

If it is an emergency, call the police at **911.**

Visit ***Child Protection Unit Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS),***
(http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=id_000152)

At this state agency website, find the link to the local county social service agency where a suspected child abuse or neglect should be reported. Or contact your local police or county sheriff.

Visit ***Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Justice, Help for Crime Victims***
(https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/help-for-crime-victims/Pages/default.aspx)

24-HOUR CRISIS REFERRAL LINE (answered by United Way): **211** or **1-800-543-7709**
INFORMATION and REFERRAL: **1-800-247-0390, ext. 3**

The Office of Justice Programs Crime Victim Services (CVS) supports a network of services to assist crime victims in Minnesota. Services include Community Notification, Crime Victims Justice Unit, Reparations Claims, Emergency Fund and Grants.

Visit ***National Runaway Switchboard*** **1-800-RUNAWAY (1 800- 786-2929)**
(http://www.1800runaway.org)

A 24-hour crisis line offers anonymous, confidential and free support. The hotline is for a teen who is thinking of running from home, friends of a youth who has run, a teacher looking for inservice information and student prevention materials, or a parent who wants to get a message out to a child who has run away from home. The switchboard website aims to be a centralized organization with free 24-hour services, expertise in all youth-related issues and an information clearinghouse of youth services.

Visit ***Hunger Solutions--MN*** ***Minnesota Food Help Line*** **1-888-711-1151**
(http://www.hungersolutions.org)

Via both hotline and website, the following information can be obtained: location of local food shelves and hot meal sites statewide, eligibility screening for the *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program* (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps) and other supplemental food programs such as WIC (Women, Infants and Children), MAC (Mothers and Children) and NAPS (Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors). In Minnesota it is estimated only 68% of those that are eligible for Food Support are participating in the program.

Visit **Feeding America Food Bank Locator** (http://feedingamerica.org/foodbank-results.aspx)

A national coordinating and advocacy organization, Feeding America has information about poverty and hunger and provides examples about programs for children (Kids Cafe [after school snacks], School Pantry Program and Backpack Program) where local food banks and schools collaborate to distribute food to students and their families. Also find Minnesota food banks.

Visit ***Minnesota Health Care Programs – Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS)***
(http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=id_006297)

Minnesota Health Care Programs help people who live in Minnesota pay for all or some medical bills. The programs are generally for people who cannot get or afford health insurance elsewhere.

Visit ***Bridge to Benefits (B2)*** (http://www.bridgetobenefits.org)

Bridge to Benefits (B2B) is the one-stop access point that links to public work support programs and tax credits. At this free and confidential site, plug in information to see if an individual may be eligible for public programs from Medical Assistance to school meal programs to work support programs.

~~ For Homelessness and Housing

Visit ***MinnesotaHelp.com*** (www.MinnesotaInfo.org or www.MinnesotaHelp.info)

Visit ***Homeless Information: Minnesota***
(http://www.hud.gov/local/index.cfm?state=mn&topic=homeless)

This is the Minnesota page on HUD's website. It has links to the key Minnesota state agencies, contacts for the Continuum of Care and advocacy groups.

Shelters and Emergency Housing: Minnesota
(http://www.hud.gov/local/mn/homeless/shelterslisting.cfm**)** Services are listed by county.****

Visit ***Housing Link*** (http://www.housinglink.org/Home.aspx) 612-522-2500
International Market Square, Suite 509, 275 Market Street, Minneapolis, MN 55405

This website has an easy-to-use search tool to locate affordable apartments, houses, townhomes, and duplexes available to rent. The site also features information about subsidized housing and updates the status of waiting lists at local Housing & Redevelopment Authorities.

Visit ***HOME Line*** (http://www.homelinemn.org) Metro Area: 612-728-5767
3455 Bloomington Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55407 Greater MN: 1-866-866-3546

Beth Kodluboy, Executive Director, Email: bethk@homelinemn.org

This is a nonprofit Minnesota statewide *tenant advocacy* organization. Find what is available in low cost rental properties. Any tenants in Minnesota who have rental housing issues can reach Tenant Advocates for legal advice.

Visit ***Family Housing Fund*** (www.fhfund.org) 612-375-9644
Midwest Plaza West, Suite 1650 - 801 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55402

The Family Housing Fund is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide safe, affordable, sustainable homes to families and children in the Twin Cities metropolitan area through ongoing partnerships with the public and private sector.

Visit ***Stay Warm Minnesota*** (http://mn.gov/commerce/energy/topics/resources/Stay-Warm-Minnesota/)

This website helps you keep your home warm and safe in winter**.**
It provides a "**one stop shop for energy assistance** programs from many different government and non-government sources." The *Stay Warm Minnesota* website is the result of a voluntary collaboration of state government, led by the Minnesota Office of Energy Security at the Department of Commerce, and Minnesota's energy providers. It is a public service to Minnesota consumers using all types of heating fuel sources.

Visit ***Homelessness Resource Center*** (http://homelessness.samhsa.gov/

This national clearinghouse's aim is summarized as "Learn, Connect, Share." Access state-of-the art knowledge and promising practices to prevent and end homelessness through training and technical assistance, publications and materials, on-line learning opportunities and networking and collaboration.

Visit ***Homelessness Resource Exchange*** (http://www.hudhre.info/)

HUD website's one-stop shop for information and resources for providers who are assisting persons who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Find facts and figures and program descriptions.

State programming regarding homelessness is coordinated by a working partnership between the state agencies of *Minnesota Housing Finance Agency* (http://www.mnhousing.gov/) and the *Minnesota Department of Human Services* (http://mn.gov/dhs/). The agencies, along with public and private social services, advocates and business partners, orchestrate a multi-pronged system to prevent homelessness, support homeless individuals and families and rapidly rehouse families. The programs are funded by federal and state resources along with philanthropic groups, donations and volunteers.

Thirteen state agencies and programs form the *Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness* (MICH), including the Minnesota Department of Education. This mirrors the federal United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (http://www.usich.gov/). The Minnesota cross-agency team engages leaders from the agencies to focus on policies to support ending homelessness. In addition, program staff meet monthly to coordinate services and to jointly provide oversight and consultation to the Continuum of Care (CoC) regional teams. The Council developed Heading Home: Minnesota's Roadmap for Ending Homelessness (http://www.mnhousing.gov/initiatives/housing-assistance/community/index.htm) in 2010, which lists Minnesota county and regional plans.

The *Continuum of Care* (http://www.mnhousing.gov/initiatives/housing-assistance/) calls for local coordination of housing and services for youth, adults and families and includes prevention, emergency shelter, outreach, assessment and transitional housing. The end goals are self sufficiency and permanent housing. The coordination plans are in place across Minnesota and are funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Minnesota Business Partnership and state and regional public sector groups established *Plans to End Homelessness in Minnesota 2010.* Hennepin County led the way with a county-wide plan, followed by other counties and then regional plans covering most of Minnesota. Plans were reassessed and extended after checking the pulse of homelessness, current resources and unmet housing needs. Find information and local plans at *Heading Home Minnesota* (http://headinghomeminnesota.org/home/about) which is the umbrella organization for four metro counties and seven regional initiatives.

The *Wilder Foundation* (http://www.wilder.org/homelessness.0.html) has, for a number of years, monitored the population of homeless families and individuals through coordinating data collection of state agencies and locally funded partners. Every three years, a point-in-time survey is conducted statewide with in-depth personal interviews of homeless individuals and heads of households in shelters, providing a comprehensive view of the needs and trends in homelessness. Find a number of reports the Wilder website.

Visit ***Minnesota Housing Finance Agency***
(http://www.mnhousing.gov/initiatives/housing-assistance/index.aspx)
Telephone: (800) 652-9747; (612) 296-9951

Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) assists families with children, youth/unaccompanied youth and single adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Continuum of Care is a community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to reduce the incidence of homelessness by assisting homeless individuals, youth and families with children to move to self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

Visit ***Minnesota Department of Human Services*** (http://mn.gov/dhs/)

Under *People We Serve,* click on *Children and Families.* Find:

ECONOMIC SUPPORTS
- Food and nutrition assistance

HEALTH CARE
- Children's mental health
- Health care programs – Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare and others

SERVICES
- Adolescent services
- Child protection
- Foster care
- Housing: See the *Housing Resources Tool Box*
- Refugee resources

Wilder Foundation: Research on Homelessness and Housing
(http://www.wilder.org/reportlist.0.html?no_cache=1&tx_ttnews[cat]=30)

Visit **Homeless Youth: Finding Home** **(**http://www.wilder.org/homelessyouth.0.html**)**
A fall 2008 30 minute documentary by Twin Cities Public Television and Wilder Research tells the stories of youth who have been in unstable families, foster care and on their own.

Visit **Homeless Management Information Systems** (HMIS) (www.hmis.info)
HMIS is the state's data system to identify needs and services regarding homelessness that are funded by federal HUD and DHHS resources and state resources.

WEBSITES OF KEY
STATE AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS and FEDERAL AGENCIES

Visit ***Minnesota Homeless Coalition*** (http://www.mnhomelesscoalition.org) – Bring Minnesota Home! Telephone: (651) 645-7332

About the Coalition: See 'Members' for a statewide map of resources and roster of member services. This organization coordinates state and local advocacy efforts aimed at building awareness, removing policy barriers and seeking resources to address homelessness.

National Coalition for the Homeless (http://www.nationalhomeless.org)

See the Faces of Homeless videos, fact sheets and up to date news on homeless. See the DIRECTORIES page for a listing of some state and local providers or use the *search* feature.

Visit ***Minnesota Housing Partnership*** (www.mhponline.org)
2446 University Ave Suite 140, St. Paul, MN 55114 Telephone: (651) 649-1710

The Partnership an array of resources that help local organizations, businesses, communities, and elected officials in Minnesota create homes for all. The Partnership produces reports on the current housing market including foreclosure trends.
See the tab *Looking for Housing*

Visit ***Metro-wide Engagement on Shelter and Housing (MESH)*** (http://www.mesh-mn.org)
740 East 17th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404 Telephone: (612) 278-1163

MESH is collaboration sixty nonprofits, government agencies, elected officials and providers of shelter and affordable housing services in the 7 county metro area. The mission of MESH is to foster metro-wide partnerships and strengthen capacity to end homelessness. MESH provides Homeless 101 (two day training) and 201 (2 hour workshops) on breaking issues.

Visit ***Minnesota Department of Health*** (www.health.state.mn.us)
Minnesota Department of Health, 625 Robert St N, PO Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975

Find Pregnant and Parenting Teens and Child and Teen Checkups plus other programming, resources regarding Immunizations, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, environmental conditions such as clean air and water.

Visit *Minnesota's Refugee Health Program* **(**http://www.health.state.mn.us/refugee/**)**
Telephone: (651) 201-5414 or 1 (877) 676-5414

Minnesota's Refugee Health Program partners with local health departments, private health care providers, and community organizations. Find important resources such as demographic and health screening data for annual refugee arrivals to Minnesota, multi-lingual health education materials and resources for refugees, several directories of organizations serving refugees and a searchable library that has research, education materials and video media.

Visit ***Children's Law Center of Minnesota*** (http://www.clcmn.org/)

CLC is appointed by the court to provide legal representation to children who are either wards of the state – "legal orphans" – or have been removed from their homes because they are in need of protection. CLC also represents foster children who request help. CLC provides a multidisciplinary team of volunteer and staff attorneys and a social worker to listen to the children and help them navigate the complicated legal and social services systems.

Visit ***Minnesota Legal Aid & Pro Bono Lawyers***
(http://www.lawmoose.com/index.cfm?action=library.&topic=mn38)

The list of providers for legal advice is on LawMoose, a website with a free public law portal for content and contacts regarding Minnesota and Wisconsin legal issues. Included are the regional Legal Aid Services/Assistance that provide free legal advice and representation to low income people who live in Northeastern Minnesota. Several centers also include Youth Law Projects (YLP) which provide advice, referrals and representation to children between the ages of 12 and 18 in the areas of child abuse, independent living and school discipline.

Visit ***National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty*** (http://www.nlchp.org/)

This organization serves as the legal arm of a movement to end homelessness and strives to place homelessness in the larger context of poverty. It aims to address homelessness as a visible manifestation of deeper causes, including the shortage of affordable housing, insufficient income and inadequate social services. Find act sheets and resources on these topics: Housing, Domestic Violence, Children and Youth, Human Rights and Civil Rights.

Visit ***National Center on Family Homelessness*** (NCFH)
(http://www.familyhomelessness.org/)
181 Wells Avenue, Newton Centre, MA 02459 Telephone: (617) 964-3834

Dedicated solely to helping homeless families, the NCFH has state-of-the-art research, innovative solutions and public awareness campaigns about the special needs of homeless families. Find information on the 2011, the Campaign to End Child Homelessness (http://www.homelesschildrenamerica.org/)

"Homeless families have lost more than their homes, regardless of whether they became homeless because of economic hardship, domestic violence, trauma of war, or physical or emotional challenges. They have lost their health, safety, community, and capacity to support themselves. The children are young. They have witnessed violence in their families and on the streets; they are anxious, depressed, and withdrawn. Today, they need shelter. To build a life, they need a home and vital supports to keep them housed."

Visit ***National Network for Youth*** (http://www.nn4youth.org/)

The NN4Y champions the needs of runaway, homeless and other disconnected youth through advocacy, innovation and services. Members are community-based organizations provide street-based services, emergency shelter, transitional living programs, counseling, and social, health, educational and job-related services. Many of the youth face great odds due to abuse and neglect, homelessness, lack of resources, community prejudice, differing abilities and other life challenges.

Five Free Webinars on Runway and Homeless Youth
(http://www.nn4youth.org/news/network-news/2011/05/22/five-free-webinars-rhy)

Visit ***National Alliance to End Homelessness***
(http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/3668)

The National Alliance to End Homelessness is a nonprofit, non-partisan, organization committed to preventing and ending homelessness in the United States. By improving policy, building capacity, and educating opinion leaders, the Alliance has become a leading voice on this issue. The Alliance researches key topics, summarizes data on a range of causative/related factors, links to articles regarding issues and policy, and hosts an interactive data tool on homelessness and related factors.

Visit ***United States Interagency Council on Homelessness*** (USICH)
(http://www.usich.gov)

Established in 2010, USICH developed and released the nation's first comprehensive plan to prevent and end homelessness. *Opening Doors* serves as a roadmap for joint action by 19 federal r agencies, along with local and state partners in the public and private sectors.

Sign up for the newsletter that regularly reports research, federal agency activities, and Congressional activities. Also see the LINKS page for a list of national organizations.