



Identify.
Engage.
Support.

**If you suspect a student is
experiencing homelessness,
please take action.**

Contact Your School Liaison

Bob Verhelst

Student Service Director

Sylvania City Schools

4747 N. Holland-Sylvania Rd., Sylvania, OH 43560

419-824-8583

bverhelst@sylvaniaschools.org



Call the ESC of Lake Erie West

Terri Mabrey

McKinney-Vento Social Work Coordinator

Office of the Director of Student Services and Special Programs

Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West

2275 Collingwood Blvd., Toledo, OH 43620

419-725-2064

TMabrey@esclakeeriewest.org



For information about the McKinney-Vento Assistance Act:

Susannah Wayland

State Homeless Education Coordinator

Office of Whole Child Supports

25 South Front Street Columbus, OH 43215-4183

614-387-7725 Toll Free: 877-644-6338

Susannah.Wayland@education.ohio.gov



The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act identifies students as 'homeless' if they:

- lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence
- have lost their home due to financial hardship or similar reason
- are sharing the housing of another person (doubled-up)
- are staying with various people, moving frequently (couch-surfing)
- are living in hotels or motels
- are living in campgrounds or RV parks lacking access to adequate accommodations such as running water, heat, or electricity
- are living in emergency shelters or transitional housing
- have been abandoned at hospitals
- are living in cars, parks, and public places not meant for housing such as laundromats and bus stations, or any other place insufficient in meeting the physical and psychological needs of students.

Know the warning signs.

Lack of Educational Continuity

- Attendance at many different schools
- Missing records needed to enroll
- Inability to pay fees
- Gaps in skill development
- Mistaken assessment of abilities
- Poor organizational skills
- Poor ability to conceptualize

Behavioral Concerns

- Consistent lack of preparation for school
- Incomplete or missing homework
- A marked change in behavior
- Poor/short attention span
- Poor self-esteem
- Extreme shyness
- Unwilling to form relationships with peers & teachers
- Difficulty socializing at recess or lunch periods
- Difficulty trusting people
- Aggression
- "Old" beyond years
- Overly protective of parents
- Clinging behavior
- Developmental delays
- Fear of abandonment
- School phobia (afraid to leave parent)
- Anxiety, especially late in the school day

Poor Health, Nutrition or Hygiene

- Missing immunization & medical records
- Unmet medical & dental needs
- Respiratory problems
- Skin rashes, chronic hunger, or food hoarding
- Fatigue / falling asleep in class
- Lacking shower facilities, clothes washers, etc.
- Wearing the same clothes for several days
- Inconsistent grooming

Transportation & Attendance Concerns

- Erratic attendance & tardiness
- Frequent absences
- Lack of participation in school activities or field trips
- Inability to contact parents

Statements such as:

- "I can't remember the name of their last school."
- "We've been moving around a lot."
- "I can't remember our new address."

If a student is exhibiting signs of homelessness, you can help.

Provided by:

Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West

Sandra Frisch, Superintendent

2275 Collingwood Blvd., Toledo, OH 43620

419-245-4150 www.esclakeeriewest.org

