

McKinney-Vento New Leader Orientation: Supporting Families Experiencing Homelessness

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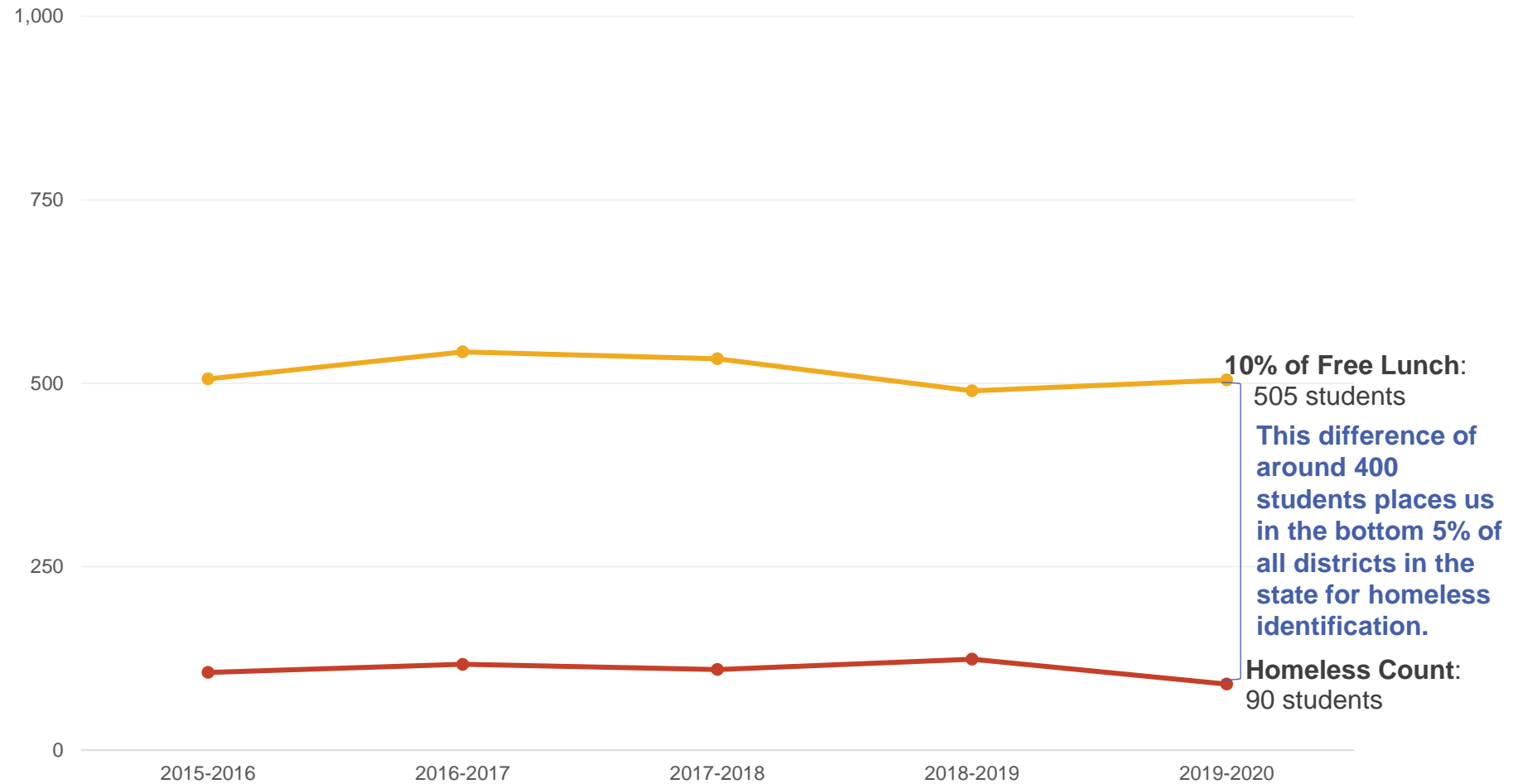


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Quick Facts:

- The number of students identified as homeless students should average 10% of the students who receive free meals.
- CSI currently has around 5,000 students eligible for free lunch.
- CSI identifies around 100 students each year under McKinney-Vento.





Who qualifies under McKinney-Vento?

Any student who **lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.**

Fixed: a residence that is stationary, permanent, and not subject to change.

Regular: a residence that is used on a nightly basis.

Adequate: a residence that is sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in home environments.





Possible Living Situations:

- ***Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason***
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Living in a public or private place not designed for humans to live
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, etc.
- ***Youth on their own who lack a fixed, adequate and regular primary nighttime residence (unaccompanied youth)***



Sharing the Housing of Others (Doubled-Up)

Not all doubled-up situations are considered homeless.

Note the key phrase in the example in the definition: “sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.”

To be eligible for McKinney – Vento services, a child or youth living doubled-up must have lost housing or experienced a crisis.





Identification Strategies

Consider	Consider expanding identification parameters outside of just enrollment documentation.
Provide	Provide awareness activities for school staff (registrars, office staff, counselors, nurses, teachers, tutors, bus drivers, security officers, drop out prevention specialists, attendance officers, administrators, etc.).
Outreach	Post outreach materials and posters in areas where there is high traffic within your school.





Sample Questions to Ask



Is this a permanent arrangement or just temporary?



Are you looking for another place to live?



Where would you go if you couldn't stay where you are?



<http://resources.csi.state.co.us/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Sample-Questions-to-Ask-the-Students-or-Parents-for-Information-Gathering.pdf>





Best Practices

1. Identification Efforts

- ✓ Schools who offered multiple points of contact with families
- ✓ Trainings offered to school-level personnel around bias and identification

2. Communication

- ✓ Streamlined communication between McKinney Vento Liaison, School Staff, and Finance Department

3. Social Capital

- ✓ Most resource connections between school – community partners came from staff/family connections



Safety and Needs Assessment Questions in a Remote Learning Environment



QUESTIONS TO ASK FAMILIES

Q: Is now a good time to talk? If not, is there a better time for me to call?

Potential follow-up questions:

- Is everyone OK? Is there someone I can call for you?
- Are there any safety concerns for you or your children? Do you need help right now?

- <http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Student-Safety-During-Coronavirus-Related-Ordered/Questions-to-Help-Assess-Needs-and-Safety-Within-the-Home.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US>





School Level McKinney-Vento Liaison

- Each school is required to identify a McKinney-Vento/Homeless liaison for their school.
- This person is responsible for carrying out the laws and requirements of McKinney-Vento.





Additional Resources

CDE Homeless Page:

https://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/homeless_index

CDE Homeless Education Resources: https://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/homeless_resources

National Center for Homeless Education: <http://center.serve.org/nche/index.php>

<http://www.naehcy.org/educational-resources/>

National Center for Homeless Education Free Posters:

<https://nchehelpline.org/pages/free-orders>

Common Signs of Homeless:

https://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/mv_commonsignsofhomelessness

Charter School Institute McKinney-Vento Resources:

<https://resources.csi.state.co.us/category/mckinney-vento/>

Homeless Resources by District of Residence:

<https://resources.csi.state.co.us/mckinney-vento-homeless-assistance/>

Remote Learning Plan Resources:

<https://resources.csi.state.co.us/remote-learning-plan/>

School House Connection:

<https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/covid19-and-homelessness/>

Scholarship funds for graduating seniors

<https://naehcy.org/naehcy-scholarship-fund/>

National Center for Homeless Education

http://center.serve.org/nche/web/online_tr.php



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