



Join us!



**29TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
October 28-31, 2017**

HYATT REGENCY, 151 E. UPPER WACKER
CHICAGO, IL

NAEHCY's 2017 Conference – Chicago, Illinois Pre-Conference Sessions – October 28, 2017

Morning Pre-Conferences – 9:00am-12:00pm

McKinney-Vento 101: Implementing the McKinney-Vento Act, what you need to know.

Presented by NCHE

New to working with McKinney-Vento Act? Been at it for a couple of years, but need a refresher course to make sure you stay true to the law? This is the session for you! We'll cover the scope of the issue, paths to homelessness and their impact on students, and federal law governing school responses to homelessness. Student scenarios and common barriers to implementing the law will be discussed, giving participants the ability to apply what they learn to their daily work on behalf of students in homeless situations.

State Scorecards on Youth Homelessness

Presented by Gregory Lewis and Justin Rush, True Colors Fund

Most states lack a single agency or entity responsible for creating, maintaining, and evaluating a coordinated spectrum of services and targeted interventions to improve the safety, health, and welfare of runaway and homeless youth. Additionally, the investment in policies, programs, and allocated funding towards ending youth homelessness varies from state to state.

To address this gap, the True Colors Fund is working to provide state scorecards on your homelessness, offering an assessment of youth homelessness infrastructure within states and concrete action items and recommendations towards creating comprehensive systems to prevent and end youth homelessness when possible. This session will discuss pre-planning, planning, and implementation processes in issuing state scorecards, including the methodology used to assess each state as well as expected outcomes.

An Immersive Approach to Awareness: From Schools to Community

Presented by:

Pam Kies-Lowe, Michigan State MV Coordinator

Linda Mirabal Pace, South Carolina State MV Coordinator

Kaleigh Buris, MV Grant Coordinator Newaygo MI

Kelly-Jo Shebeck, Clark County NV

Pamela Story, Fayetteville NC

Providing homeless awareness trainings to school district staff and communities can be an overwhelming task for local liaisons. An immersive and experiential approach to such training can positively influence the attitudes of school staff and community members, lead to improved identification and support of students living in transition, and even re-energize liaisons who provide frequent trainings.

Presenters from several states will share “best-practices” that have proven to be effective at the school, district, and community levels and that can be adapted and replicated anywhere in the country. This session will provide counselors, social workers, school personnel and homeless advocates with a better understanding of what homeless families and youth may be facing on a daily basis. Immersing participants in activities that promote awareness and sensitivity to the issues of homelessness will improve their understanding of the choices their clients make, so that they may better assist children and youth living in transition.

Bridging the Gap – Models to Replicate for Forming Housing and School Partnerships

Presented by:

Kerry Wrenick, LMSW, State Coordinator for Homeless Education, Colorado

Jimiyu Evans, Co-Executive Director Project Communication Connections Inc. Atlanta GA

Kimberly Roberts, LCSW, Director of Housing Stability, LA Family Housing Los Angeles CA

The Every Student Succeeds Act requires McKinney-Vento liaisons to make referrals to housing. Bridging the gap between educational entities and housing can be time consuming and difficult to navigate. This session will bring together school district and housing experts to provide best practice models that equip schools and liaisons in building community housing partnerships for families experiencing homelessness. We will review various kinds of housing assistance, including emergency housing, supportive housing, rental assistance, and public housing, as well as the services that are necessary to keep families housed. Specific examples of successful, replicable partnerships will be provided and participants will leave with an action plan to return to their communities.

ESSA / Foster Care Provisions

Presented by: Shirley Fan-Chan, Education Manager MA Department of Children and Families, Boston MA

The Every Student Succeeds Act 2015 Foster Care Provision provides a collaborative opportunity for education agencies and child welfare agencies working together to assure children and youth in foster care education stability and success.

This federal policy has many different elements for education agencies and child welfare agencies to implement once the law was signed in 2015. Many states are still in the process of crafting and planning the implementation. The presenter panel, representing four different states, will provide an overview of what implementation looked like in their state. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss and share their experiences with the panelists. The discussion will allow participants to have a better sense of what works and what does not work during the planning process.

A Campus Culture of Caring – Fostering Awareness and Eradicating Homelessness and Food Insecurity on College Campuses

Presented by Marcy Stidum, LCSW, MPA Kennesaw State University, CARE Center Founding Director

During this session, participants will learn and discuss how to assess/identify the service needs of the homeless and food insecure community on their campus. They will learn campus and community engagement strategies, program development and implementation techniques, and how to foster a campus community of caring.

Afternoon Pre-Conferences – 1:30pm-4:30pm

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Immigration Update – How to Support Our Students During Challenging Times

Presented by:

Carie Bires, Ounce of Prevention Fund, Chicago IL

David Schrandt, Cypress – Fairbanks School District, Houston TX

Recent action related to immigration has led to great confusion, fear, and new challenges among many families and youth who are immigrants, refugees, or undocumented and the professionals who work with this population, including McKinney-Vento liaisons. This session will provide an overview of the educational and legal rights of children, youth and their families who are immigrants or refugees, with a particular focus on those who are undocumented or living in mixed-status households. Presenters will also share recommended policies and procedures to ensure programs and staff are prepared to address challenges related to immigration, including establishing or communicating policies around potential staff interactions with Immigration and Custom Enforcement officials and developing safety plans for children whose parents may be detained and unable to pick them up from school. In addition, presenters will discuss strategies for ensuring impacted children and youth can attend and participate in school, and how professionals can respond to emotional distress, encourage healthy coping, and connect children, youth, and families to practical and legal resources.

Unreasonable Goals: 100-Day Challenges to #endyouthhomelessness

Presented by:

Megan Gibbard, A Way Home America

Patrick Wigmore, HomeBase

Meaghan Messner, Rapid Results Institute

You may have heard of the 2016 100-Day Challenge to #endyouthhomelessness in Austin, Cleveland, and LA – an effort which connected over 400 young people with safe and stable housing. Come hear about how this 100-Day Challenge approach has been implemented across 3 communities in Washington State AND across 5 other communities. What is the 100-Day Challenge? What innovative solutions have communities been piloting with success? What have we tried that failed, and what did we learn?

Strategies for Helping Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Access School and Services

Presented by:

Bettye Poole, Family Engagement Coordinator, Academy for Innovative Studies Evansville IN

Deborah Boone, McKinney Vento Homeless Education Parents & Students Succeed Program Coordinator, Richland County School District One, Richland

Unaccompanied homeless youth have unique needs and present challenging questions for schools and service providers. We will review the legal requirements for educating unaccompanied homeless youth, and for providing support services outside of school so that youth can succeed in school. Topics include identification, school enrollment, credit accrual and recovery, applying for federal financial aid, food stamps, TANF, SSI, and child support. The session will provide practical

strategies to implement the unaccompanied homeless youth amendments to the McKinney-Vento Act made by the Every Student Succeeds Act, and to welcome, engage, and support unaccompanied homeless youth in school.

Trauma Informed / Ethics

Presented by:

Michelle Patton Swisher, LCSW, School Social Worker, Spotsylvania County Public Schools, Fredericksburg VA

Lisa Dolan, LCSW, Lead School Social Worker, Spotsylvania County Public Schools, Fredericksburg, VA

Ethics

Ethics is basically the study of doing what is right or what is good. Can there be anything much more complicated than that? This presentation will provide information and the opportunity to discuss: common ethical dilemmas, ethics and minors, theories/principles of ethics, and boundaries. We will conclude with an ethical decision-making model and an awareness of just how personal the work we do really is to each of us.

Trauma

The mental health community is currently flooded with information on trauma and becoming trauma informed. This presentation will help you to shift your thinking from a “what is wrong with this person” to “what happened to this person.” And identify some interventions that you may find helpful in your daily practice with children and families who have significant trauma backgrounds.

Young Homeless Children: Key Strategies to Promote Early Learning and School Success

Presented by:

Khari Garvin, Illinois Policy Team

Emily Levine, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Horizons for Homeless Children, Roxbury MA

Vicki Hodges, Principal Consultant, McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Legal Division, IL State Board of Education

Betsy Cronin, Director of Housing Development, The Connection, Middletown CT

This session will describe the various programs and services that provide early education and family support to homeless infants, toddlers, and preschoolers and their families. Participants will learn about the laws and regulations that govern these various programs and services and how they are aligned with the McKinney-Vento Act to help meet the developmental and educational needs of young children experiencing homelessness. Participants will develop a local directory of programs in their community, learn about strategies for creating partnerships to increase service access and support for children and families, and create an action plan they can use to guide their work.