



31st Annual Conference

We the people



November 2-5, 2019 | Washington Hilton

NAEHCY's 2019 Conference – Washington, D.C. Pre-Conference Session Options – November 2, 2019

Morning Pre-Conference Sessions 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

Presented by NCHE

New to working with the 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.

Strategies for Helping Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Access School and Services

Presented by:

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

Larissa Dickinson, LICSW-PIP, District Social Worker, Homeless Education Liaison, Social Services Department, Mobile County Public Schools

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.

Supporting the College Transition: Single-Point of Contact Programs

Presented By:

Stacey Havlik, Villanova University, Assistant Professor, NAEHCY SPOC Consultant

Shirley Fan-Chan, NAEHCY Higher Education Committee

Single-point-of-contact (SPOC) programs are an important way to support students experiencing homelessness in their transition to college. In these programs, individuals in college settings are identified and trained to support the issues faced by students experiencing homelessness. They can be a resource and source of support. Therefore, NAEHCY published a model for SPOC programs that provides a clear description of how such programs can be implemented at universities and how they can be supported by those working at the secondary level. This session will provide an overview of NAEHCY's SPOC program model, as well as describe an example of how the state of Massachusetts is implementing a statewide SPOC program.

A Tale of Two State Coordinators

Presented by:

Dr. Kristin Myers, Foster Care Education Coordinator, Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-Engagement, Colorado Department of Education, Denver CO

Kerry Wrenick, LMSW, State Coordinator for Homeless Education, Colorado Department of Education, Denver, CO

McKinney-Vento and Foster Care serve different populations, however, the interventions are often the same. This session will consider potential barriers and the impact of social determinants, specific to highly-mobile students. Attendees will take a deep dive into how to join forces at the state and local levels (e.g. funding sources, navigating partnerships, agency collaboration) to serve highly-mobile students. Participants will gain insight on maximizing resources and leveraging your professional role across systems.

An Immersive Approach to Awareness, Part II: Deeper Level Training for School Staff and Your School Community

Presented by:

Pam Kies-Lowe, Michigan State MV Coordinator

[The Michigan McKinney-Vento Crew](#)

Kaleigh Buris, Regional MV Grant Coordinator, Newaygo and Oceana Counties, MI;

Karen Roy, Regional MV Grant Coordinator, Big Rapids, MI;

Sara Orris, Regional MV Grant Coordinator, Oakland County, MI;

Julie Ratekin, Regional MV Grant Coordinator, Wayne County, MI; and MORE

[Kelly-Jo Shebeck, Clark County, NV;](#)

[Linda Mirabal Pace, South Carolina State MV Coordinator;](#)

This preconference workshop is a follow-up to the one provided at the 2017 NAEHCY Conference in Chicago and will delve more deeply into tools and techniques for providing homeless awareness trainings to school district staff and school communities. This can be an overwhelming task for local liaisons. An immersive and experiential approach to such trainings 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 go beyond immersing participants in activities that promote awareness and sensitivity to the issues of homelessness to improve their understanding of the choices their clients make. We will focus on hands-on use of immersive awareness tools, strategies and techniques for use in your schools. You will learn how to draw in the skeptics and doubters, win over those who never knew there were homeless students in their schools, and garner support for your homeless education program from unexpected places.

Afternoon Pre-Conference Sessions – 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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Supporting Our Youngest Learners: Programs and Services for Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers, and their Families

Presented by:

Carie Bires, Ounce of Prevention Fund, Chicago IL

This session will describe the various programs and services that provide early care and education and family support to young children and their families that experience homelessness. Presenters will discuss the various program eligibility requirements, relationship to the McKinney-Vento Act and homelessness, and how programs support parents and caregivers, healthy child development,

and positive educational and health outcomes. Participants will also learn about the impacts and prevalence of homelessness among young children, how to access early care and education programs in their communities, and strategies for creating partnerships with early childhood stakeholders.

Trafficking Update – Commerical Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

Presented by:

Fair Girls, a Washington D.C. organization that provides intervention and holistic care to survivors of human trafficking; and

Amara Legal Center, the only organization in the D.C. area dedicated solely to serving the legal needs of survivors of sex trafficking and to sex workers.

Topics covered will include who is at risk, signs of trafficking, and how to work with survivors.

Social Work / Ethics –

Presented by:

Angela Hardiman, LMSW

This session will address the ethical considerations when working with homeless students and their families, as defined by professional licensure and FERPA. It will highlight how working within the parameters set forth by the letter of the law and the standards of social work practice work together to protect children and families and provide them with the best possible educational service and outcomes.

Foster Care

Presented by:

Dr. Kristin Myers, Foster Care Education Coordinator, Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-Engagement. Colorado Department of Education, Denver CO

Shirley Fan-Chan, NAEHCY Higher Education Committee

Nicole Steward, Foster Youth Liaison, Milpitas United School District

Samantha Garrett

This session will address common considerations and barriers in working with students in the foster care system. Topics that will be considered are: dual roles of foster care and homeless points of contact, working with the child welfare system, navigating special education issues, supporting the social/emotional needs of students in foster care, trauma-related considerations, and challenges for youth after emancipation from foster care. Presenters include two state coordinators for foster care education and their child welfare counterparts, and a clinician and expert who works directly with children and youth in foster care. Whether you are brand new to working with students in foster care or a seasoned veteran, this session will have something for you!

Full Day Session – 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Youth Mental Health First Aid – An 8 Hour Credentialed Course

Presented by: Lori Cavender, Tranquility Training Instructor

As we all know, working with homeless youth can sometimes be a difficult task due to their past traumas and issues such as anxiety, depression and other mental health concerns. As Homeless Liaisons, school staff, and service providers, many of us do not have counseling backgrounds. This 8-hour course will provide you with the tools and resources to help children and families in need.

Mental disorders are more common than heart disease and cancers combined. However, mental illnesses have for too long been treated as separate and tangential to our overall health and wellbeing. Because of this, accessing mental health services is not as simple as making an appointment with your family doctor. The stigma surrounding mental illness often prevents people from seeking treatment, and those that do want help are not sure where to turn. Mental health services are also minimal especially for children and families have a hard time knowing what to do when their child is struggling mentally.

The National Council for Behavioral Health has spearheaded the adoption of Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA), an innovative public education model that is addressing this pervasive and persistent challenge in communities across the United States. YMHFA increases the understanding that mental illnesses are real, common, and treatable and that the second leading cause of death in children is suicide. YMHFA is an evidence-based, in-person training program with the proven ability to teach individuals, especially those who work closely with children, how to recognize and respond to the warning signs of mental disorders and suicidal tendencies and link young people with appropriate treatment. ***Please note: this is an 8 hour session. It will begin at 8 a.m., break for lunch at noon, and reconvene from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.*** All attendees will receive a certificate upon completion of this course as well as your textbook for the course.