

Supporting Youth and Families through Disasters



Welcome and Agenda



Julie Ratekin

NAEHCY Board of
Directors VP

jratekin@waynemetrol.org

or

jratekin@naehcy.org

313.463.7056

Sara Orris

School Health and
Homeless Education
Consultant

sorris@misd.net

586.228.3460

Agenda

1. Lessons Learned
2. Disaster Preparedness Best Practices
3. Pandemic
4. Questions



Lessons Learned

Through the Pandemic we learned:

- Needed technology
- Didn't have food
- this # didn't have internet
- Lost 10,000 students in Detroit Public Schools alone.



4 Corners

Virtual Group fill out this:
<https://tinyurl.com/NAEHCYPreCon>





Activity Debrief



What all did you share with one and another?

In your groups decided on the top 3 takeaways from your conversation to share with the group.

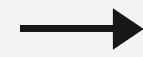
Disaster or no disaster our role is to identify and serve homeless students.

Identifying Students



Communicate

Establishing Robust Communication Systems



No Wrong Door

Training all school staff will aid in the identification of students especially during times of Disaster



Make it easy

Online and easily accessible information

Enrollment

Building Closure



Even during periods where in-person instruction is suspended, school is often the safest and most stable part of life for a child experiencing homelessness. During this unprecedented crisis, every effort must be made to identify and enroll homeless students without delay.

Documentation



Schools must ensure that students experiencing homelessness are enrolled immediately, even without documentation that would normally be required.

Automatic Referrals



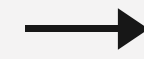
Registrars and other enrollment personnel should make an automatic referral to the McKinney-Vento liaison if it is indicated that a family or child may be experiencing housing instability.

Academic Considerations



Accessible Learning

Learning from the Pandemic Virtual or Hybrid learning may be the best fit to ensure continuity of learning.



Create Learning Stations

Create dedicated spaces for youth to have the resources need to complete learning. This could be a quiet space, wifi cafe or mini classroom set ups.



Prioritize Transportation

Prioritize homeless youth and families for transportation to get devices and or needed resources

Food

Partner with Food Distributors



Over the pandemic we partnered with a local organization to provide food delivery or pick up through the a marketplace.

Create a robust resource list



Publicly post a food pantry and food market list

State Benefits



Stay attuned with state availability of extra benefits and ensure homeless students have access.

Trauma

→ Every person's story is their own & nobody is the same
A traumatic event is anything that causes stress or impacts a person's sense of security

→ No one person is the same
Every person's response to a traumatic event may vary

→ Trauma can be ever present
Assume trauma is present pre-disaster through post-disaster

Community Collaborations



Think strategically

Think about all your daily needs and needs of your students what connections and resources do you need.



Build your plan

Gather contact information, hours of operations, and build out your emergency plan.



Participate

Attend your CoC Meetings, community organization collaborations, Emergency Response planning meetings.

Pandemic

What did we learn

→ Hybrid world





If you
have any
questions
at all

DON'T HESITATE TO ASK.

jratekin@waynemetrol.org

sorris@misd.net