

Homeless Referral Brochure

If you know of a homeless student, what can you do? Make a referral to a School Social Worker, complete and mail the completed form below, or call the Murray County School System Office of Instructional Support Services at 706-695-2252.

Murray County School System
Instructional Support Services
P.O. Box 40
Chatsworth, GA 30705

Student Name:

Age: _____ Grade: _____

School Attending/Last Known School:

Mother's Name:

Father's Name:

Address:

Contact Phone Number:

Contact Name:

Murray County School System

Homeless Liaison

Paula Martin
paula.martin@murray.k12.ga.us
706-695-2252

School Social Workers

Emily Hudson
emily.hudson@murray.k12.ga.us
706-695-7760

Tara Jones
tara.jones@murray.k12.ga.us
706-695-1414

Danielle Jones
danielle.jones@murray.k12.ga.us
706-695-7448

Christina Howell
christina.howell@murray.k12.ga.us
706-695-1115

Murray County School System
Interim Superintendent
Steve Loughridge



MURRAY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM HOMELESS EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Murray County School System is committed to every child enrolled in our system. This brochure will provide a brief overview of Homeless Education in the Murray County School System. Our Homeless Education Program goals are to identify and assist students who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence so that they may enroll, attend and succeed in school. The employees of the Murray County School System work with students, families, the Enrollment Center, and community agencies to meet the requirements of the Homeless Education Program under the McKinney-Vento Act, which is a part of No Child Left Behind.

Definition of Homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Homeless students are defined as lacking a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, including children who are:

1. Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship;
2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of adequate accommodations;
3. Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
4. Are abandoned in hospitals;
5. Living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
6. Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, transportation stations or similar settings;
7. Migratory children living in conditions described in the previous examples;
8. Unaccompanied youth who are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

Statement of Commitment

To the extent practical and as required by federal law through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the Murray County Schools' Board of Education will work with homeless children and youth and their families to provide stability in school attendance and other services. Special attention will be given to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths not currently attending school in a manner that will not stigmatize or segregate them on the basis of their status as homeless. Homeless students will be provided district services for which they are eligible, Title I, similar state programs, Exceptional Student Services (ESS), English Language Learners (ELL), vocational and technical education programs, gifted and talented programs and school nutrition programs.

Focal Points of Homeless Education

1. School access
2. School stability
3. Support for academic success
4. Child-centered, best interest decision making

WEBSITE

Please visit the Murray County School System, Office of Pupil Services, Homeless Education website at:

<http://www.murray.k12.ga.us/instructionalsupportservices/homeless.htm>

On the website, you will find the following:

- Local Board Policy, JBC(1)
- Homeless Referral Brochure
- Homeless Education Protocol
- The 100 Most Frequently Asked Questions on the Education Rights of Children and Youth in Homeless Situations
- School Social Worker Contact Information
- Enrollment and Withdrawal Laws
- Local Agency Names and Contact Information

*We thank you, and our students thank you, for taking time to learn about our homeless education program.