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DREXEL R-IV SCHOOL
Home of the Bobcats

August, 2024

To: Parents and Guardians

From: Lindsay Douglas
Social Worker, District Homeless/Foster Care Liaison

The following is a guide for identification of Homeless Children and Youth:

IDENTIFICATION

MCKINNEY-VENTO DEFINITION OF HOMELESS 42 U.S.C. § 11434a(2)

The definitions of a homeless student include:

- A. Individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence...; and
- B. Includes —
 - a. children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
 - b. children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings...;
 - c. children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
 - d. migratory children...who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii)

The first category may include some individuals who have moved in with others, and consideration of each individual case, along with the permanency of the situation, will be needed in order to identify those who are homeless.

The following questions are designed to elicit information that is relevant for the McKinney-Vento definition of homeless; that is, to determine the extent to which the children and their families or the youth are living in a fixed, regular, and adequate living situation.

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Fixed – A fixed residence is one that is stationary, permanent and not subject to change.

- Is this a permanent arrangement or just temporary?
- Are you looking for another place to live?
- Do you plan to move out soon?
- Why are you staying in your current place?
- Where were you living right before this place? Why did you leave?
- Where would you go if you couldn't stay where you are?
- Are you staying with friends/relatives just for a little while?
- Did you and your friends/relatives decide to move in together and share a home and expenses for the long term? Or is this a temporary situation for you?
- Could your friends/relatives ask you to leave if they wanted to?
- Are you sharing the home equally, or are you more like guests in the home?

Regular – A regular residence is one that is used on a regular (i.e.nightly) basis.

- Do you stay in the same place every night?
- Do you have a key to the place where you are living?
- Do you move around a lot?
- How long have you been at that place? How long do you plan to stay?
- How long did you live in your last place?

Adequate – An adequate residence is one that is sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in home environments.

- How many people are living in the home? How many bedrooms/bathrooms does it have?
- Are you and your children sharing a room? How many people are staying in one room?
- Are you and your children sleeping in a bedroom, or a public area, like a dining room?
- Does the home have heat/electricity/running water?
- What condition is the home in? Does it keep out rain and wind? Is it safe? Is it warm and dry? Do the windows have glass panes?
- Can you come and go as you please?

If you have identified a child or children as homeless, please contact the Drexel R-IV School.

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