Homeless

- Homeless = Lacking a primary nighttime residence that is:
  - Fixed: Stationary, permanent, no subject to change
  - Regular: Used on a predictable, routine or consistent basis

AND

- Adequate: Sufficient for meeting both physical and psychological needs
In the 2012-2013 school year, 1,258,182 homeless children and youth were reported as enrolled in U.S. Public Schools.

2/3 of homeless adults do not have a high school diploma or GED.

10% of all children living in poverty are homeless.

In Colorado during the 2013-14 school year:

24,062 McKinney students were identified and served in Colorado public school districts. This number has TRIPLED since 2003-04

- Just over 8% represents Unaccompanied Homeless Youth
Unaccompanied

- Not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian
  - Whether asked or chose to leave
  - Can be in legal custody of a parent/guardian, but must be living apart
  - May have periodic contact with parents/guardians but not supported
  - No lower age limit
  - Upper age limit = 21 years old
McKinney Vento Overview
Main Themes

Educational Access → School Stability → Support for Academic Success
McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act
Title X, Part C ESEA

Ensures the Educational Rights to Children and Youth Living in Transition:

- A Homeless Education Liaison in every school district
- Right to immediate enrollment
- Choose between the neighborhood school, the school last enrolled or attended (school of origin)
- Transportation to the school of origin
- Immediately receive free school meals and access to other school resources
- Automatic eligibility for Title IA of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
Lack of continuity in education
Difficulties in school
Paperwork and documentation challenges
Social and behavioral concerns
Poor health/nutrition
Lack of support system
Statements by the student

School and Library Partnerships

- Libraries are critical access points for families and students experiencing homelessness
- Welcoming and SAFE environments with supportive adults who can serve as navigators
- Access to educational tools and other basic need resources
- Access points for learning and homework
- Free information and entertainment
- Setting for healthy social interactions
- Partnerships! Facilitators and connectors of multi-agency collaborations
State and Community Resources

- Colorado Department of Education- McKinney-Vento Webpage
  - www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/homeless_index

- National Center on Homeless Education
  - www.serve.org/nche

- National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth
  - www.naehcy.org

- United Way 2-1-1 Information & Referral Line
  - https://211colorado.communityos.org/cms/node142