**Children in Transition Quick Facts**

**McKinney Vento Basics**

The McKinney-Vento Act provides rights and services to children and youth experiencing homelessness, which includes those who are: sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; staying in motels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to the lack of an adequate alternative; staying in shelters or transitional housing; or sleeping in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, or similar settings.

**Children in Transition**

Children in Transition (CIT) is a WCSD program mandated by federal law under the McKinney-Vento Assistance Act. The mission of the WCSD CIT Program is to provide children who are experiencing homelessness with the opportunities to achieve the same high-quality academic standards expected of all children by eliminating barriers to their education. WCSD policy requires schools to assign one or more designated advocates to work in collaboration with CIT Liaisons to identify and assess the needs of students who are experiencing homelessness.

**Key duties of the WCSD Homeless Liaisons**

* Ensuring that homeless children and youth are identified and enrolled in school and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in school.
* Identifying Students Experiencing Homelessness.
* Participating in professional development and other technical assistance.
* Ensuring school personnel receive professional development and other support.
* Support unaccompanied homeless youth and ensure that they are informed of their status as independent students.

**Eligible Student Rights**

* Receive a free public education.
* Enrollment in the student’s zoned area school immediately, even if lacking documentation such as birth certificate, immunizations and/or immunization records, and/or proof of address.
* Continued enrollment at the student’s school of origin, the school the student attended when last permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.
* Receive transportation resources to and from the school of origin if requested.
* Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students according to individual needs.
* Receive free school meals provided by the student’s school.
* Transportation to the school of origin, including until the end of the academic year if/when a student obtains permanent housing.

**School Stability**

Children and youth experiencing homelessness can remain in their school of origin for the duration of homelessness and until the end of an academic year in which they obtain permanent housing, if it is in their best interest.

For more information visit <https://www.washoeschools.net/Page/16933> or contact Colin Usher, Program Coordinator at 775-353-6938.