

Resources

Ohio Department of Education and Workforce

www.Education.ohio.gov/McKinneyVento
614-324-7646
HomelessEducation@education.ohio.gov

LAU Resource Center for English Learners

www.education.ohio.gov/LAU
614-466-4109
lau@education.ohio.gov

Runaway and Homeless Youth

acf.hhs.gov/fysb/programs/runaway-homelessyouth

National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty

nlcp.org
202-638-2535

State Homeless Liaison

Trish Barnett
Homeless Education Programs
Coordinator
614-324-7646
HomelessEducation@education.ohio.gov

District Homeless Liaison

Mindy Gearhardt
Director of Student Services
937-773-4321
gearhardtm@piqua.org

Local Resources

United Way Hotline

211

Tri-County 24-hour Crisis Line

800-351-7347

Family Abuse Shelter

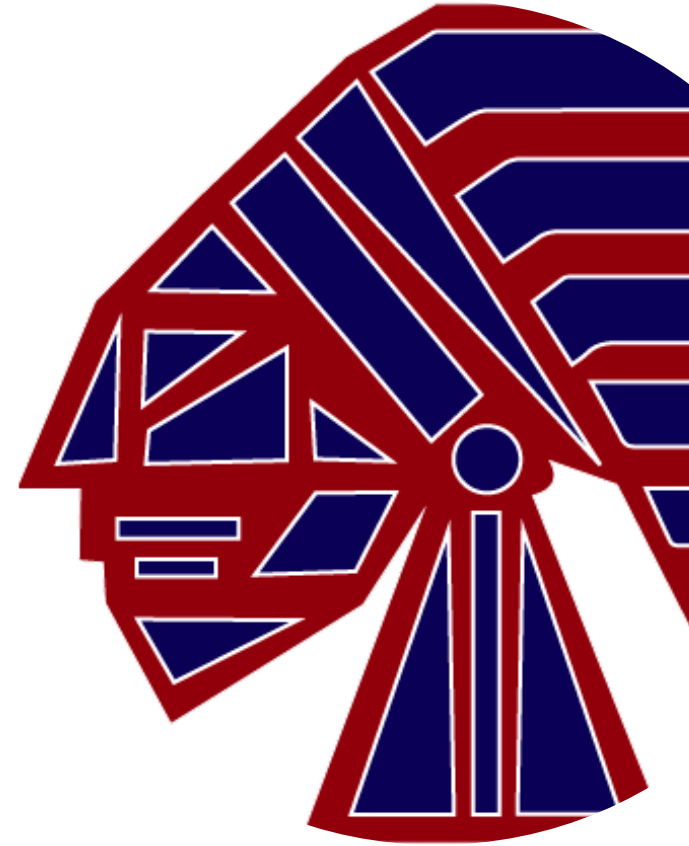
937-339-6761

Piqua Compassion Network

937-773-7563



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**



A PARENT'S GUIDE TO THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNES

*Is your child struggling to
succeed in school because
of your living situation?*

Am I Experiencing Homelessness?

- Is your living situation uncertain?
- Are you staying with friends or relatives due to financial hardship or loss of housing?
- Are you staying in a motel, hotel, car, or camping ground?
- Are you staying in a shelter?
- Is your housing lacking water, heat or electricity?
- Is your housing infested with mold, pests, or other environmental hazards?

If you answered **YES** to any of the above questions, you and your child may be eligible for certain rights and protections under the McKinney-Vento Act.

What are my rights?

If you are experiencing homelessness, you and your child(ren) have certain rights and protections under federal law:

- Your child may remain enrolled in the school they were attending before experiencing homelessness or immediately enroll in a new school in the district in which you are currently staying:
 - You may make this choice of schools with the best interest of your child in mind;
 - Your child must receive transportation to and from their school of choice;
- Your child is granted immediate access to free meals;

What are my rights? (cont.)

- Your child must receive the same public education that other children receive, including preschool and after-school activities; and
- After finding permanent housing, your child may remain in their original school for the remainder of the school year.

Contact the district's homeless education liaison to learn more about your rights and determine your eligibility for services.

What is the homeless education liaison?

Every public and community school district is required by law to have a homeless education liaison, whose role is to support you and your child by:

- Providing you with information about your rights;
- Helping you make a choice between schools;
- Ensuring your child has transportation to and from school;
- Connecting you to community resources;
- Making sure your child has the needed academic support; and
- Managing disputes about whether you or your child qualify for these services.

How can I support my child?

You can play a key role in supporting your child's educational stability by:

- Keeping in touch with your homeless education liaison;
- Letting the district know if your child's transportation needs change;
- Communicating about potential barriers to your child's attendance and participation;
- Asking about referrals to community resources; and
- Helping your child attend school regularly.

