



Kids Without Homes: **SISD Responds**

SISD HANDS

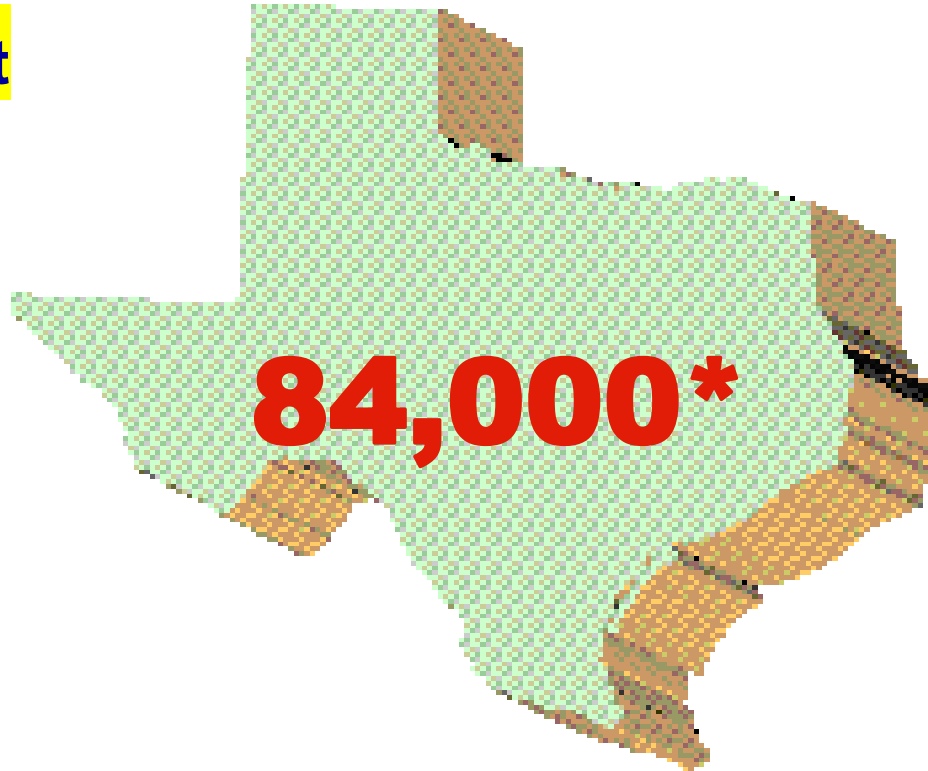
Socorro Independent School District
Helping the Academic Needs of Displaced Students



For more information about the
McKinney-Vento Act and the
SISD Homeless Program visit the
Department of State and Federal Programs
webpage at
www.sisd.net

Homeless Children in Texas

Current Est



*Estimate of children identified by Texas schools in 2010-11

A decorative border of colorful handprints in various colors (purple, yellow, red, green, blue) surrounds the text. The handprints are arranged in a roughly rectangular frame around the central text.

United States

It is estimated that
900,000 to 1.6 million
children are homeless,
according to the
U.S. Department of Education
(1 out of every 45 children is homeless)

A decorative border of colorful handprints in shades of blue, yellow, red, green, and purple surrounds the text. The handprints are arranged in a roughly rectangular frame around the central text boxes.

Who is Homeless?

An individual who lacks a **fixed**, **regular** and **adequate** nighttime residence, including children and youth who are living in the following environments...



Types of Homeless Environments

- Sharing housing due to loss of housing or economic hardship*
- Living in motels, etc.
- Living in emergency or transitional housing (shelters)
- Awaiting foster care
- Migratory children
- Unaccompanied youth (couch surfers...)*

*U.S. Department of Education (USDE)
accepts these as part of the criteria



Federal Law

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

**defines and protects the rights of
homeless students to
enroll in, attend, and succeed in
our public schools**



Texas Education Code

Chapter 25

specifies that a student who is homeless is entitled to admission in any Texas school district



The McKinney-Vento Act

Key Provisions

- Immediate Enrollment
- School Selection/Stability
- Academic Achievement
- Transportation
- Dispute Resolution



What is School Stability?

- Students can remain in their school of origin while homeless, despite moves
- After permanent housing is found, students can complete the school year in their school of origin
- Remaining in the school of origin is based on the **student's best interest**



Transportation

(Supports school stability)

- Districts must provide transportation to and from school of origin, at a parent's or guardians request.
- Transportation is provided even if the student resides outside district boundaries.
- Comparable transportation services must be provided as those provided other students. (Tutoring, intercession, extra-curricular, etc.)



Keep in mind...

Compulsory Attendance Rules Apply*

Before punitive steps are taken be aware:

- Try to learn about the student's situation
- Are they coded 'T' (Homeless Indicator)? Do they qualify for the H.A.N.D.S. Program?
- Visit with your At-Risk coordinator
- Contact Homeless Liaison to avoid creating barriers to academic access or success

* Maintain sensitivity and understanding



The McKinney-Vento Act

What you must know about the law:

- Every school district is required to have a homeless education liaison
- The liaison is required by law to perform specific tasks
- The liaison serves as a resource for students and families in the district

Eligibility determination ~ Case-by-case, by the liaison



Title I Funds

The district's State and Federal Programs Department sets aside funds to support homeless students:

- School supplies
- School uniforms and/or clothing
- Health screenings (vision and dental)



TEXSHEP Grant

Texas Support for Homeless Education Program (TEXSHEP)
Grant

3 year cycle ~ 2012-2015

Key components:

- Provides supplement funds for instructional aides who help with additional instructional support and monitor attendance and discipline issues at various campuses
- Provides supplemental funds for parent training at various campuses
- Provides supplemental funds for materials and resources for use by instructional aides and students



Assisting Our Students Experiencing Homelessness

You can make a difference!

- Expand outreach to other district personnel
- Engage in effective communication to support these students with campus and district personnel
- Monitor and document academic, emotional, behavioral and social interventions



Our Partners

ED.gov

U. S. Department of Education
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TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

 **REGION 10**
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER



WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



The Charles A. Dana Center

The University of Texas at Austin



Contact Information

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