WEBINAR

SUPPORTING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS: LESSONS FROM READING, PA

TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021

11:00AM-12:15PM EASTERN
HAVE A QUESTION?

This webinar is for you. Enter your questions in the questions pane and click ‘Send’.

RECORDING & HANDOUTS

An archive of this webinar and all materials will be posted here.

This PowerPoint is available in your “Handouts” panel.

If you’ve signed up for this webinar, you will receive a link to the recording in an email after the webinar is over.
About SchoolHouse Connection

SchoolHouse Connection works to overcome homelessness through education. We provide strategic advocacy and practical assistance in partnership with schools, early childhood programs, institutions of higher education, service providers, families, and youth.

Website

Federal and state policy advocacy
Q&A from our inbox
Webinars and implementation tools
Youth leadership and scholarship
Unaccompanied Youth Homelessness During COVID-19

- K-12 liaisons and shelter providers are working remotely (K-12) and/or overwhelmed with need
- Difficulty with identification
- Youth lack devices, minutes, places to charge, and quiet, stable, safe places to learn
- Youth have either lost jobs, or are working in groceries, convenience stores
- Youth are being kicked out of “doubled up” situations, and cannot self-isolate
- Students aren’t considering postsecondary options and focusing on jobs/basic needs insecurity
COVID Has Created New Barriers.

- Postsecondary enrollment **declined about 21%** compared to last year.
- FAFSA numbers **are down about 9%** compared to last year; the decline is even steeper for lower-income students.
- We’ve seen **more documentation and communication challenges** during distance learning.

Source: https://formyourfuture.org/fafsa-tracker/
New Report from the Hope Center

Taken from nearly 200K students from 202 colleges and universities

| NEARLY 3 IN 5 experienced basic needs insecurity | FOOD INSECURITY AFFECTED 39% at two-year institutions | HOUSING INSECURITY AFFECTED 48% | HOMELESSNESS AFFECTED 14% | THE BLACK/WHITE GAP IN BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY WAS 16 percentage points |

Reading School District

Eric Turman, Principal
Reading Senior High School

Leanne Eckenrode, LCSW
Families in Transition Coordinator
Reading, PA by the Numbers....

32%
Overall Poverty

#1
Concentrated Poverty in PA

10.8%
Hold a Bachelor's Degree

$32,176
Average Income
Concentrated poverty in the Tri-State Area

Atlantic City 23.9%
Reading 28.1%
Wilmington, DE 26%
by the Numbers...

13 Elementary
9,262

5 Middle
3,364

1 High
5,174

17,800 Total Students
Identification Efforts

- Ongoing education/training of staff
- Communication of success stories to staff-keep them involved
- Development of FIT program
- Welcoming efforts
- In-house resources
- Street outreach
- Enrollment
- Partnerships with providers/community
Social Emotional Learning

“People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.”

THEODORE ROOSEVELT
How do we bridge the gap between high school and college?
March
2020......
RHS Takeaways

- The importance of SEL
- Establish a Team approach
- Involve your community
- Involve your local ECYEH representatives
Our Village......
Thanks!

Do you have any questions?
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Resources

SchoolHouse Connection Higher Education Page
- Gearing up for Summer and Fall- Tips for Homeless and Foster Youth
- Tip Sheets for Helping Homeless Youth Succeed
- Do’s and Don’ts in COVID

SchoolHouse Connection Financial Aid Page

SchoolHouse Connection Archived Webinars

Hope Center Report
LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PAST YEAR:
A PANEL ON SUPPORTING COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH
EXPERIENCE IN FOSTER CARE & HOMELESSNESS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 12:00-1:15PM EASTERN

Link to Register: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3240659205329944590
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QUESTIONS