



Short, Sweet, and Strategic ARP-HCY Tools

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28,
1PM EASTERN



Introduction

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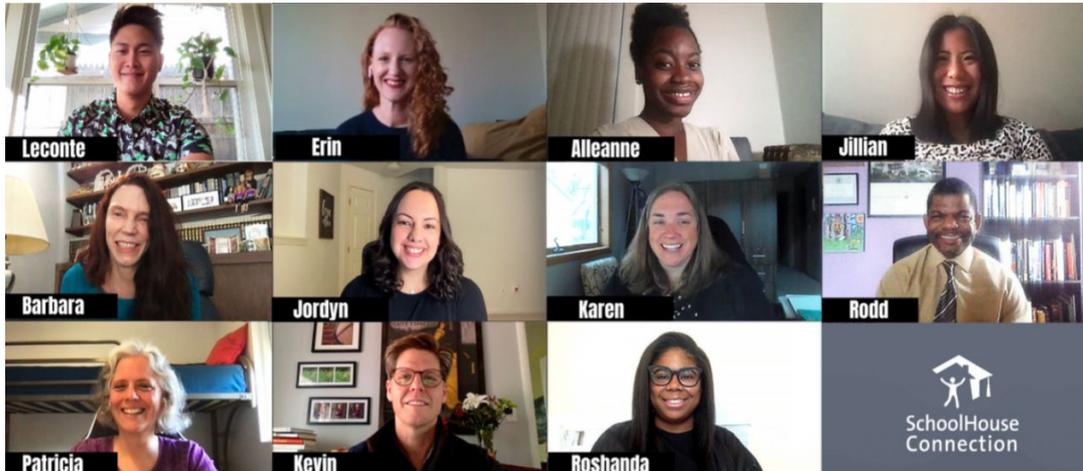
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About SchoolHouse Connection

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

Our Agenda:



1. ARP-HCY overview
2. Why a needs assessment?
3. Needs assessment demonstration
4. Using the needs assessment with and in LEAs
5. Q&A



ARP Homeless Children and Youth

Homelessness and Education

Homelessness causes:

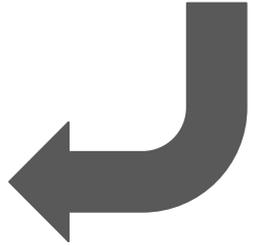
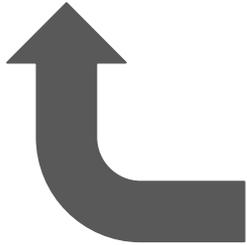
- Chronic health problems
- Trauma
- Mobility



Leading to:

- High rates of chronic absenteeism
- Double the rates of punitive discipline
- Lower graduation rates

And the **lack of a high school degree** is the Greatest single risk factor for young adult homelessness.



How much ARP-HCY funding is your LEA receiving?

- Poll

American Rescue Plan

Homeless Children and Youth ARP HCY Funding

Appropriation specifically for children and youth experiencing homelessness = \$800 million

ARP-HCY I \approx \$200 million
Competitive subgrants

ARP-HCY II \approx \$600 million
Formula grants
Consortia

LEA Allowable Uses for ARP-HCY



1. Any expenses that are **reasonable and necessary** to facilitate the **identification, enrollment, retention, and educational success** of children and youth experiencing homelessness
1. Any purposes permitted by the EHCY program
2. Connect students and families to enrichment programs
3. Provide wraparound services (academic supports, trauma-informed care, social-emotional support, and mental health services)
4. Purchase needed supplies (e.g., PPE, eyeglasses, school supplies, personal care items)

LEA Allowable Uses for ARP-HCY per ED (cont.)



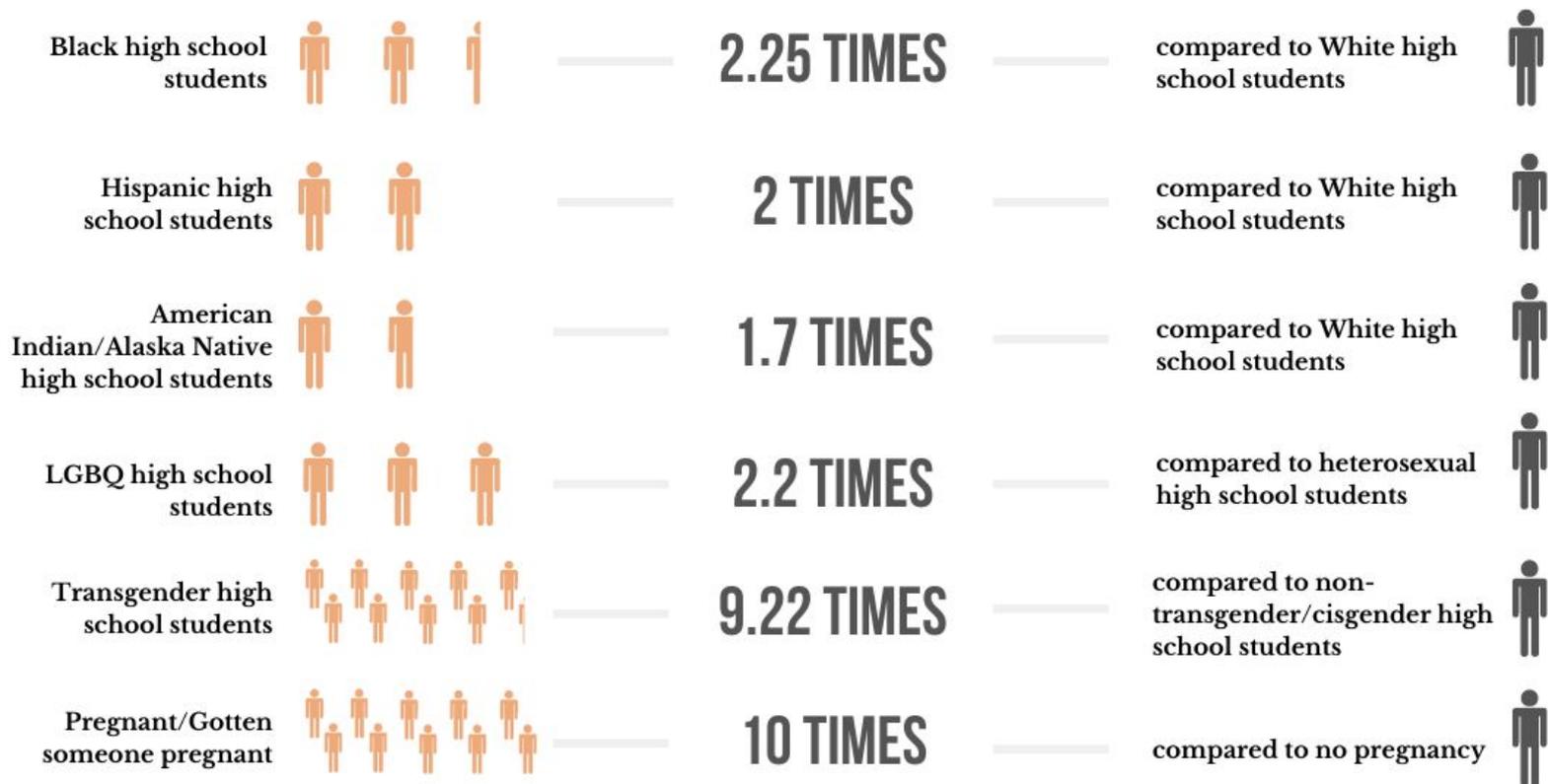
6. Provide **transportation** to enable children and youth to attend classes and participate fully in school activities (excess costs only)
7. Purchase cell phones or other technological devices to enable students to attend and fully participate in school activities
8. Pay for short-term, temporary housing (e.g., a few days in a motel) when the only reasonable option for COVID-safe temporary housing and necessary to enable students to attend school and participate fully in school activities
9. Provide store cards/prepaid debit cards to purchase materials necessary for students to participate in school activities
10. **Increase liaison and McKinney-Vento program capacity**

Community Partnerships

- Both SEAs and LEAs are encouraged to “award contracts to community-based organizations that are well-positioned to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations such as:
 - rural children and youth,
 - Tribal children and youth,
 - students of color,
 - children and youth with disabilities,
 - English learners,
 - LGBTQ+ youth, and
 - pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students, and
- connect them to educationally-related support and wraparound services”



Disproportionate incidence of homelessness



Strategic Use of Funds

- ARP HCY must not replace funds that are otherwise available or provide services that are otherwise provided.
 - ESSER, Title I, district funds
 - Devices, enrichment, school meals, other programs provided to other students
 - Community agencies
 - Other federal funds/programs outside of school

Funds Available to Support Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness

1. **Access to School and Learning:** ESSER
2. **Early childhood:** Child Care, Head Start, Home Visiting
3. **Higher Ed:** Emergency Financial Aid Grants
4. **Housing Assistance:** HOME Investment Partnership Program, Emergency Housing Choice Vouchers, **Emergency Rental Assistance**
5. **Technology and Connectivity:** E-Rate, Emergency Broadband Benefit
6. **Food:** National School Lunch Program, Pandemic-EBT, SNAP
7. **Health/Mental Health:** ESSER, Federal Insurance Market Place
8. **Income Support:** Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Stimulus Payments

Strategic Use of Funds (cont.)

- Support the specific and urgent needs of students experiencing homelessness, “including **reduced identification** of such students, **decreased enrollment** in school, interrupted classroom instruction, and challenges **navigating services** for shelter/housing, clothing and school supplies, food, and child care.”
- Support the work of the liaison and “**build capacity in LEAs**, which will help to identify greater numbers of students experiencing homelessness and better coordinate services for those students.”

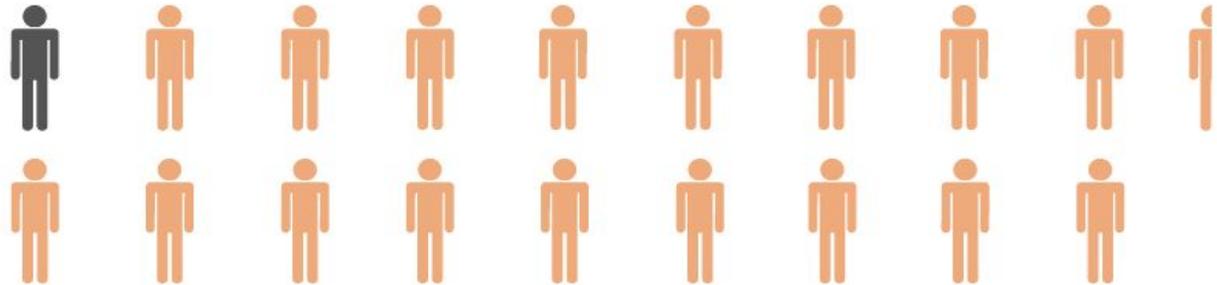
Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data Analysis



Survey results show:

5.4% OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS INDICATED THEY HAD EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS IN THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

For every 18.5 high school students, 1 has experienced homelessness.



Data: SchoolHouse Connection's analysis of 2019 YRBS data from 27 states (AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, ID, IL, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MI, MT, NH, NM, NC, ND, PA, RI, SC, SD, VT, VA, WI)

Strategic Use of Funds: The Needs Assessment

- Why did Rhode Island's Department of Education want to provide LEAs with a template needs assessment to help guide ARP-HCY expenditures?
- What elements were important to include in a needs assessment?

McKinney-Vento Act, Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program - Short Needs Assessment

This short assessment is based on objective information. If you are not able to obtain a certain data element, simply skip that portion of the assessment. As you consider needs and how to meet them, keep in mind that students experiencing homelessness should be fully included in all Educational Services programs, as well as being uniquely served through the Title I, Part A homeless set-aside. While McKinney-Vento and ARP-HCY funds offer an opportunity to provide innovative, supplemental services, they do not replace Title I, Part A supports.

1. Liaison capacity

- What FTE percent does your liaison(s) spend on McKinney-Vento duties?
- Divide the FTE (expressed as a decimal) by the number of identified McKinney-Vento students in the LEA. Then, multiply that number by 2.4. The result is the number of minutes the liaison can spend per student, per week, on average.

	Yes	No
Based on FTE, is the liaison spending fewer than 15 minutes per McKinney-Vento student, per week, on average?		

If you checked "Yes," consider [suggestions for using ARP-HCY funds to increase liaison capacity](#).

Additional indicators

	Yes	No
Does your liaison provide professional development about the McKinney-Vento Act to all LEA staff at least annually?		

Using American Rescue Plan – Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) Funds to Meet Students' Needs

This document is designed to be used in tandem with the McKinney-Vento Act, Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program Needs Assessment. It shares ideas to meet needs identified through the needs assessment. It is important to note that many of the activities suggested in this document actually are *required* McKinney-Vento services. We noted some of these and encourage you to review McKinney-Vento Act [summaries](#) and the [law](#) itself for more information.

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- [Suggestions for Using ARP-HCY funds to Increase Liaison Capacity](#)
- [Suggestions for Using ARP-HCY Funds to Improve Identification](#)
- [Suggestions for Using ARP-HCY Funds to Reengage and Conduct Outreach Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [Suggestions for Using ARP-HCY Funds to Improve Attendance of Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [Suggestions for Using ARP-HCY Funds to Improve Academic Achievement of Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [Suggestions for Using ARP-HCY Funds to Increase Participation of Children Experiencing Homelessness in Early Childhood Education Programs](#)
- [Suggestions for Using ARP-HCY Funds to Provide Mental Health Supports to Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [Suggestions for Using ARP-HCY Funds to Increase Participation of Students Experiencing Homelessness in Career and Technical Education \(CTE\), Extra-curricular, and Enrichment Programs](#)

Deploying the Needs Assessment

- What kind of support have you provided to LEAs to help them use the needs assessment and otherwise use ARP-HCY funds strategically?
- Have you gotten any feedback from LEAs about challenges or successes?



Questions?

Additional SHC Resources

1. ARP-HCY Spotlights
2. How to Use American Rescue Plan Act K-12 Education Funds to Identify and Support Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness
3. Supporting Young Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness with American Rescue Plan Act Funds
4. Overview of U.S. Department of Education Guidance on American Rescue Plan Act Homeless Children and Youth Funding
5. Navigating the American Rescue Plan Act's Relief for Children, Youth, and Families Experiencing Homelessness

Thank you!



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