

# **MAKING THE MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT AND HOMELESS EDUCATION PROGRAM A SUCCESS**

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Silvia Chavez  
State Coordinator Homeless Education Program  
[Homeless@azed.gov](mailto:Homeless@azed.gov)

# SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Understand the impact of homelessness on the education of homeless children & youth.
- Become familiar with data requirements related to serving homeless children & youth.
- Identity key areas of implementation for review
- Review NCHE's needs assessment tool
- Discussion

# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Arizona Department of Education has made a commitment to providing **equitable** experiences to all students.

## ADE Equity Commitment Statement

*The Arizona Department of Education is committed to ensuring that all Arizona students are provided the opportunity to succeed and reach their full academic potential. The department is committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion in its policies, programs, procedures, and practices.*

# EDUCATIONAL IMPACT

- Effects of trauma may show as behavioral problems
- Poor concentration due to hunger, sleeplessness or health issues
- Hoarding food or other items
- Inappropriate placement in classes due to delays in school records
- Delays in services i.e. special education
- Suspension or expulsion due to inadequate Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)

## EDUCATIONAL IMPACT CONT.

- Behavior issued due to not having school supplies or clothing
- Low grades due to not having space or supplies for homework
- Poor attendance due to not having adequate living space or difficulties accessing transportation
- Low credit accrual
- Poor parent involvement with school

# THE MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT

## PURPOSE

Ensure that each child & youth experiencing homelessness has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as housed children & youth.

## KEY FOCUS AREAS

- **Immediate Enrollment**
- **Attendance/Retention**
- **Academic Success**

# LEA REQUIREMENTS

- Identify children and youth experiencing homelessness through coordination between school staff and other agencies;
- Enroll children and youth experiencing homelessness and provide full & equal opportunity for success;
- Provide educational services to children & youth experiencing homelessness, including public preschool/head start programs;
- Inform parents or guardians of educational & related opportunities available to their children

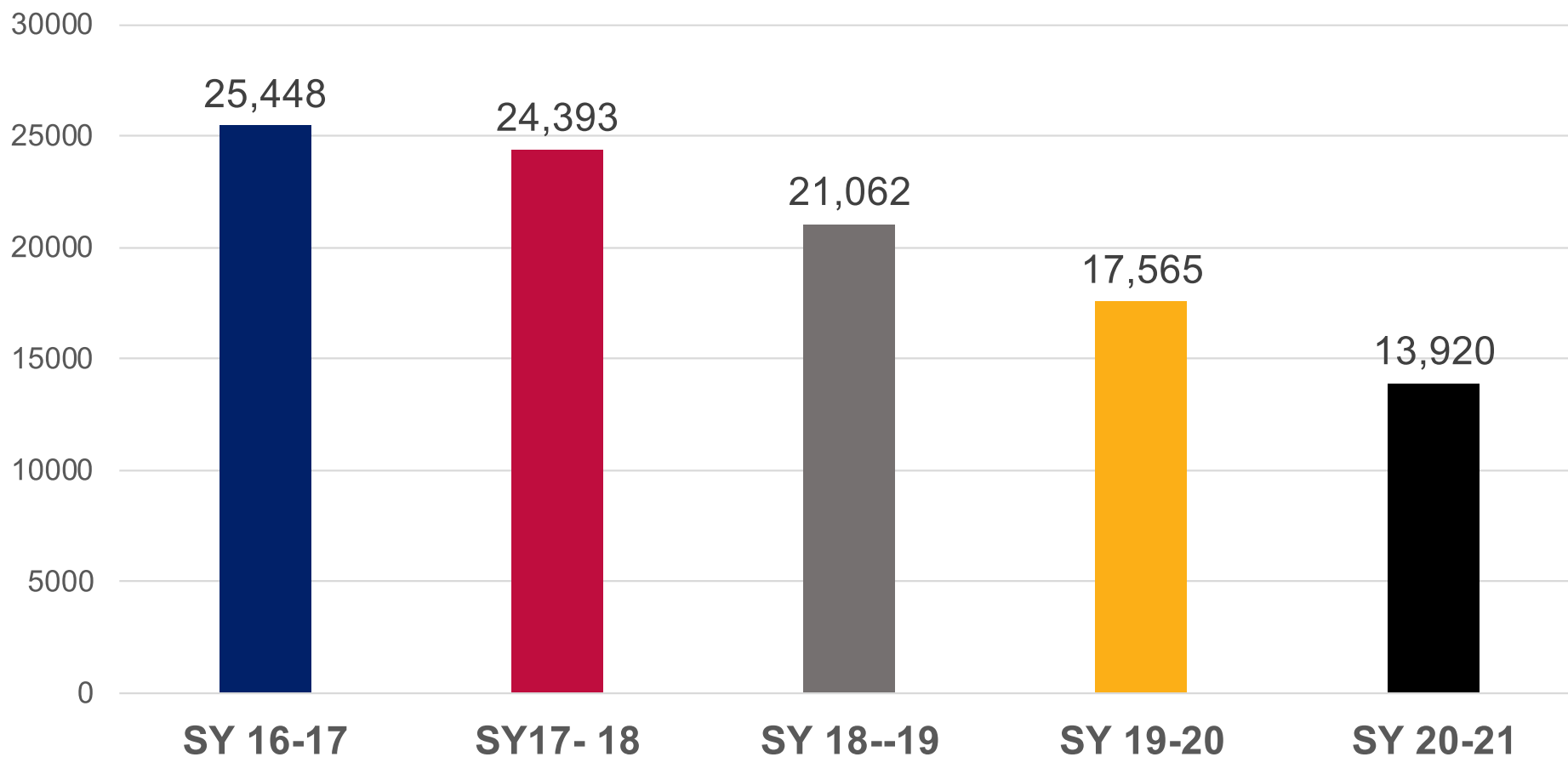
## LEA REQUIREMENTS CONT.

- Post public notice of educational rights for children & youth experiencing homelessness;
- Mediate a dispute;
- Inform parents, guardians, & UHY about transportation services as well as provide transportation;
- Revise policies to remove barriers;
- Collect data



# DATA REQUIREMENTS

## Number of AZ Homeless Students Enrolled



# THE FEDERAL FUNDING

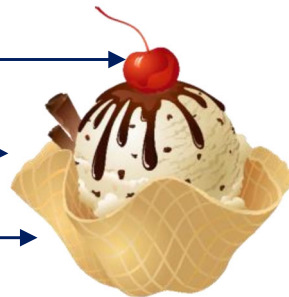
**Arizona awards approximately \$1.7 million dollars annually to approved LEAs. The grant is competitive and currently on a 3-year grant cycle.**

**The new grant application will be available to LEAs in March 2023.**

McKinney-Vento Sub Grants

Title 1-part A set asides

General Funds



# TITLE I, PART A EHCY AZ GUIDANCE

- McKinney-Vento subgrants cover approximately 20% of all LEAs where Title I, Part A can make a significantly higher impact in more LEAs
- Effective coordination between the two programs can have substantive impacts on many children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Provides tips for facilitating a collaboration between the Title I Department and Homeless Education Program

The guidance document can be found on the ADE Homeless Resources webpage

## PURPOSE OF ARP-HCY II GRANT

In early 2021, The US Department of Education and the federal government allocated \$800 million dollars from the American Rescue Plan (ARP), specifically to support the **identification, enrollment, retention, and educational success** of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

# ARIZONA ARP-HCY II FUNDING: \$9,520,398

- The funds are allocated using a Federal funding formula.
  - 50% Title 1, part A set aside (FY21) and 50% # of homeless students reported in SY 18-19 or SY 19-20 (whichever is greater)
- LEAs or Charters with less than \$5000 allocation must form a consortium (TBD at award time).
- The list of allocations using the formula can be located on the ADE Homeless Education Program-Funding page.

# NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Allows LEAs to understand the unique needs of students
  - Identifies areas where improvement is needed
  - Prioritizes activities to get the greatest return on investment
- Creates a process for reviewing data and documentation
  - Communicates needs with evidence and authority

# NCHE NEEDS ASSESSMENT TOOL

- Awareness
- Policies/Procedures
- Identification, Enrollment & Access
- Student Success
- Collaboration

Each section includes guiding questions, space for notes and summary information

# AREAS OF FOCUS

- Program awareness
- Identification
- Enrollment
- Access
- Student Success
- Collaboration



# QUESTIONS TO FORMULATE A PROGRAM

- Are the activities related to the outcomes?
- Are they likely to address the identified need by reducing the gap between what is & what should be?
- Are they based in research or good practice?
- Are they appropriate for the context in your LEA?
- Is cost, training, required resources, etc., feasible?
- Can they supplement or be supplemented by existing programs?

# OUTSIDE OF SUPPLIES AND CLOTHING

- Supplemental and Summer Educational Learning Programs
- Family Literacy Nights
  - Food can be included!
- Parents as Teachers (PATs)
- FAFSA and Scholarship Nights
- College Tours
- Internships
- CBOs
- CTEs
- Technology

# FINALIZING THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Allows consideration of root causes
- Allows consideration of a range of options, not just one way
- Facilitates the development of a measurable goal to achieve outcomes
  - What you need to ACHIEVE, rather than what you need to DO
  - Describe where your program will be when the need is addressed

**When you understand your LEA needs, you can finalize a great program.**

# SUMMARY

**Research has found that the lack of a high school diploma or GED is the single greatest risk factor for homelessness as a young adult.**

Homeless Education Programs have learned that proactive identification and support for children and youth experiencing homelessness is essential to pandemic recovery:

- *Homelessness underlies many pandemic recovery challenges facing schools, including drops in enrollment, chronic absenteeism, mental health/behavior challenges, low academic performance and drop-out rate.*
- *Identification allows schools to provide the unique protections and supports of the McKinney-Vento Act to support attendance and success.*

# RESOURCES

## Arizona Dept. Of Education-Homeless Education

- Funding
- Resources

## SchoolHouse Connection

- FAQs

## NCHE (National Center for Homeless Education)

- Serving Students Experiencing Homelessness under Title I, Part A



**ANY QUESTIONS?**