## AGENCY INFORMATION LIST

The following contacts may be useful resources to

families and children experiencing homelessness.

**Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline**

[www.dss.virginia.gov/abuse/index2.cgi](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/abuse/index2.cgi)

800-552-7096

**Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline**

[www.childhelp.org](http://www.childhelp.org/) 800-422-4453

**Cover Virginia - Medicaid & FAMIS**

[www.coverva.org](http://www.coverva.org/) 855-242-8282

**Free Tax Assistance and Earned Income Tax Credit**

[www.irs.gov/eitc](http://www.irs.gov/eitc) 800-829-1040

**Hill Burton Free and Reduced-Cost Hospital Care**

[www.hrsa.gov/gethealthcare/affordable/hillburton](http://www.hrsa.gov/gethealthcare/affordable/hillburton)

800-638-0742

**National Center for Homeless Education**

[www.serve.org/nche](http://www.serve.org/nche) 800-308-2145

**National Human Trafficking Resource Center**

[http://traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://traffickingresourcecenter.org/)

888-373-7888

**National Runaway Safeline**

[www.1800runaway.org](http://www.1800runaway.org/) 800-786-2929

**SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

[www.dss.virginia.gov/benefit/foodstamp.cgi](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/benefit/foodstamp.cgi)

800-552-3431

**Social Security Administration Hotline**

[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov/) 800-772-1213

**Virginia Housing Development Authority**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [www.vhda.com](http://www.vhda.com/) | 877-843-2123 |
| **Virginia Legal Aid**<http://vlas.org/> | 866-534-5243 |

**Virginia School Immunization Requirements**

[www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/requirements](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/requirements)

800-568-1929

**VA Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance**

[www.vsdvalliance.org](http://www.vsdvalliance.org/) 804-377-0335

The federal McKinney-Vento Act guarantees school enrollment for anyone who, ***due to a lack of permanent housing***, lives in ***inadequate*** or ***temporary*** settings, such as:

* Emergency shelters or transitional housing
* Motels, hotels, or campgrounds due to lack of an adequate alternative
* Cars, parks, public places, bus or train stations, or abandoned buildings
* Doubled up with relatives or friends due to loss of housing or economic hardship



**Virginia Department of Education**

The College of William and Mary – SOE

P.O. Box 8795

Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795

Office: (757) 221-4002

Toll Free in Virginia (877) 455-3412 homlss@wm.edu | [www.wm.edu/hope](http://www.wm.edu/hope)

**Local Homeless Education Liaison:**

Cathey Burks, McKinney-Vento Liaison

Bedford County Public Schools

310 S Bridge Street

Bedford, VA 24523

cburks@bedford.k12.va.us

540-586-1045 Ext. 10274

**What Families Need to Know**

**Your Child Can Enroll in School…**

**Even if you have:**

# Uncertain Housing

* **A Temporary Address**
* **No Permanent Physical Address**



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**Fall 2018**

## EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH LACKING FIXED, REGULAR, AND ADEQUATE HOUSING

**Families should know:**

* You do not need a permanent address to enroll your child in school.
* Your child cannot be denied school enrollment when school records or other enrollment documentation are not immediately available.
* Your child may be able to remain in the same school (school of origin) even if you move.
* When in your child’s best interest, he or she has the right to request transportation assistance.
* Schools must provide you with a written explanation if a placement dispute occurs, and you may appeal the school’s decision.
* Your child automatically qualifies to participate in free breakfast and lunch programs.
* Your child has the right to participate in extracurricular activities and all federal, state, or local programs for which he/she is eligible.

Youth not accompanied by a parent or guardian and lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing have these same rights.

## AT SCHOOL, ASK ABOUT THESE SERVICES

* Basic school supplies
* Before and after school programs
* Contact information for community agencies and helpful resources
* Credit recovery options
* Gifted or talented programs
* Homeless assistance programs
* Mentoring programs
* Preschool programs
* Programs to help children learn English
* Special education programs for students with disabilities, especially if the student has previously received special education services
* Summer school programs
* Tutoring programs

***Schools give children and youth experiencing homelessness hope and a chance for a better future.***

## If you have questions, contact the school division’s local homeless education liaison or Project HOPE-Virginia.

**TIPS FOR FAMILIES WHO MOVE OFTEN**

* Keep a copy of birth certificates and school records accessible.
* Safeguard all health and immunization records.
* Have a reliable person keep a second copy of the child’s birth certificate, school records, and health information.
* Enroll children in school as soon as possible.


## WHAT YOU CAN DO BEFORE MOVING

* Tell your child’s teacher and principal that your child is moving and give them the new address.
* Let school officials know if you want your child to stay in his/her school of origin while you are getting the family stabilized.
* Ask for a copy of your child’s school records, including immunizations.