

Lunenburg County Public Schools

Homeless Information and Resources

Homeless Liaison –Louise W Long, Lunenburg County School Board Office

Definition of Homeless

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Definition of Homeless

An individual who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, including children and youth:

- *Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- *Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds, or abandoned in hospitals
- *Living in cars, parks, public spaces, bus or train stations, or abandoned buildings
- *Having a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, regular sleeping accommodations
- *Awaiting foster care placement
- *Doubled up with relatives or friends
- *Migratory children or youth living in circumstances described above

What Families Experiencing Homelessness Need to Know

- *Children and youth experiencing homelessness have a right to attend school

*You do not need a permanent address to enroll your child in school

*Children and youth experiencing homelessness can stay in their school of origin or enroll in any public school that students living in the same attendance zone are eligible to attend, which ever circumstance proves to be in their best interest

*Schools must provide you with a written explanation if a placement dispute occurs. Contact your local Homeless Liaison for assistance in handling a placement dispute.

*Your child may have the right to transportation services to and from school of origin if determined feasible.

*Your child has the right to participate in extracurricular activities and all federal, state, or local programs for which he/she is eligible. Transportation may not be available for these activities.

*Unaccompanied youth have these same rights. (Contact your Homeless Liaison – Louise Long.)

Legal Reference: The McKinney-Vento Assistance Act (42 U.S. C. 11431et seq.) at Subtitle B of title VII. (Reauthorized 2002)

Free and Reduced Lunch Procedures

Homeless students are entitled to free or reduced breakfast and lunch and DO NOT need to fill out the regular application. To obtain meal assistance, please send the student's name, ID number, and school name to the Homeless Liaison, Louise Long. The homeless liaison will approve the request and submit it to Food Services. Please do not contact Food Services directly; the request must be done through the homeless program.

Transportation Procedures

Lunenburg County Public Schools will provide transportation assistance for homeless students so that the student may remain at his/her school of origin. This transportation is arranged through the Homeless Liaison's office. It takes three to five working days for transportation arrangements to be put in place. Transportation can also be arranged to accommodate those students who participate in after school activities. Once transportation is set up the parent/guardian is called and advised of the start time of the transportation.

To obtain transportation assistance the following information must be sent to Louise Long at the Lunenburg County School Board Office:

*Student's name and ID#

*Name and address of the school that the student will attend

*Address where the student is to be picked up

*Name and contact number for the parent or guardian

Who are “Unaccompanied Youth?”

They are youth who are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian including:

*Young people who have run away from home.

*Young people who have been forced to leave their homes.

Their possible living situations include:

*Living with friends (couch surfing)

*Living in shelters

*Living in cars, at campgrounds, in abandoned buildings or on the streets.

School may be the only safe, stable environment for unaccompanied youth. Schools can provide the needed support to ensure continued academic success for these students. In addition to academics, schools can offer adult and peer support, meals and other activities.

There is no mandate requirement to report an “unaccompanied youth” to law enforcement or Child Protective Services, a situation should be reported to CPS or the police if there is suspicion that the student is in an unsafe circumstance. For further assistance, contact the division homeless liaison, Louise Long at (434) 676-2467.

Resources

Food & Clothing Resources

*People’s Community Center (434) 696- 3437- Victoria, Virginia

*Kenbridge United Methodist Food Pantry (434) 676-8117-Kenbridge, Virginia

*Victoria Baptist Church (434) 696-2025

*Lunenburg County Ministries (434)676-6515

*Salvation Army Kenbridge Unit-Majorie Powers (434)676-8062, Kenbridge< Virginia

*Salvation Army Victoria Unit-Patsy Scott (434)696-3439, Victoria Virginia

*Lunenburg County Department of Social Services (434)696-2134

Medical Services

*Lunenburg County Health Department (434)696-2346-Victoria, Virginia

*Lunenburg Health Services Inc. (434)696-4446

Hospitals

*Centra Southside Community Hospital (434)315-2460 Farmville, Virginia

Mental Health and Counseling Resources

*Crossroads Community Service Board (434)696- 3747 -Lunenburg, Virginia

*Southern Dominion Health System (434)696-2319- Victoria, Virginia

Additional Information

Contact Louise W Long, at (434)676-2467