

No Migrant Child Left Behind

How McKinney & Migrant Education Programs Work Together to Serve Migrant Students Experiencing Housing Insecurity

"Migrant work is vital to local economies"
-Colorado Coalition for the Homeless





The McKinney-Vento Act Title X, Part C of NCLB

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CBOCES Data - Title X & MEP

- In the **2009-10** school year:
 - CBOCES 54 districts (34 active w/ MEP students) had 2,232 students
 - 336 students were 09 / 10 MEP eligible
 - 142 were MEP Title X = 39% children and youth experiencing housing crisis



Barriers to Education for Children & Youth in Housing Instability



- High mobility, loss of familiarity
- Enrollment requirements
- Lack of transportation
- New curriculum
- Lack of school supplies, clothing, etc.
- Poor health, fatigue & hunger
- Prejudice and misunderstanding



Eligibility = Who is a McKinney student?



Children who lack a **fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence**—

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals





Who is a McKinney student?

- Awaiting foster care placement
- Living in a public or private place not designed for humans to live
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, etc
- Unaccompanied youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian who are lacking a fixed, adequate or regular nighttime residence
- ***Children who are migratory living in above circumstances***





McKinney-Vento Overview

Main themes:

- School access
- School stability
- Academic & social success
- Child-centered, best interest decision making





The Rights of McKinney students:

MEP students identified as under the McKinney-Vento Act are ensured many rights:

- A Homeless Education Liaison in every school district to assist in identification, enrollment and academic success
- Go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there
- Enroll in school immediately, without proof of residency, immunizations, school records, or other documents





The Rights of McKinney students:

- Choose between the local school where they are living, the school they attended before they lost their housing, or the school where they were last enrolled (School of Origin);
- Get transportation to their school of origin (if in their best interest);
- Be free from harassment and isolation; and
- Have disagreements with the school settled quickly through a dispute resolution process





Title 1 Part A Homeless set aside funds

- **Districts are mandated by NCLB federal law to set aside a minimum amount, \$100.00 or more**
- **Used to remove barriers**
- **Funds used for basic needs, school supplies, staff support, etc**
- **As an advocate, you ask!**





College Cost Reduction & Access Act - Federal Legislation for Higher Education

- Unaccompanied Homeless Youth
- **Homeless Education Liaison verifies or SPOC @ college**
- **File zero for the tax section on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) – Do not need parent / guardian tax info**
- **Increases access to free grant money, scholarships, work study & low-interest loans**





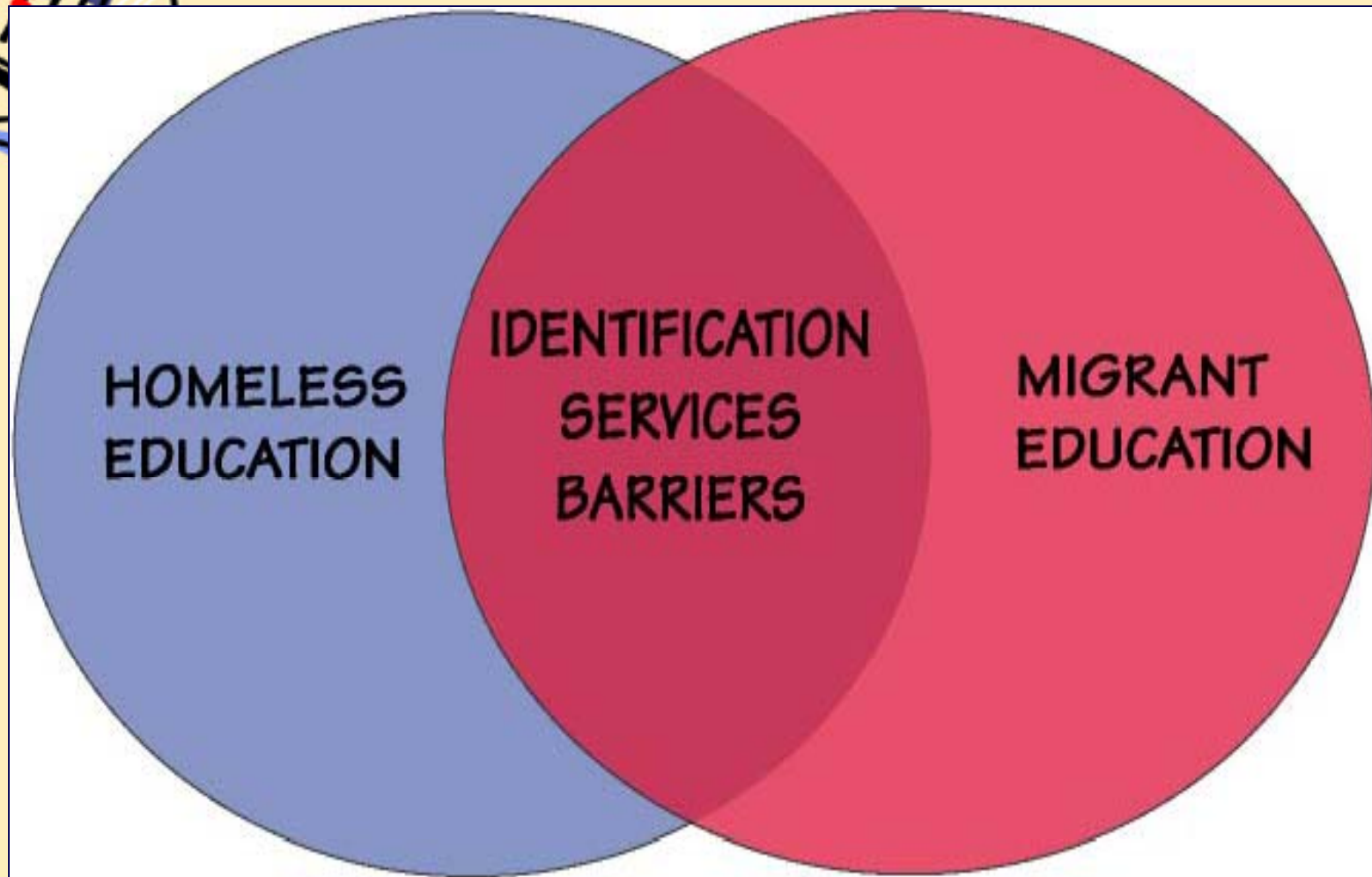
A migrant housing crisis

”Farmworker housing is often substandard or non-existent. Over the last decade much housing has been demolished and not replaced. Farmworkers must move frequently to seek employment. If labor camp housing is not available, they are often unable to find or afford housing. As a result, many farmworkers must camp in the open or sleep in their vehicles....”

- National Center for Farmworker Health, 2005



SHARED SYSTEMS



Personalismo

Migrant Recruiters often have the trust of families

- Students & families are more likely to reveal important needs = lacking stable housing, hungry, sick...
- Otherwise, fear, shame, pride, and poor access to social services can present huge barriers to serving students for school success!



Identification

Other groups serving migrant families:

- Migrant Head Start & Even Start
- Migrant Health Centers
- Workforce Investment Act-funded centers & other employment agencies
- Rural housing agencies
- Local growers & family farms
- Faith-based organizations (Catholic Charities)




Delivery of Services



- **Support services:**
 - ✓ ***FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH!***
 - **Guidance / counseling**
 - **Health / immunizations**
 - **Nutrition**
 - **Social work / advocacy**
 - **School transportation**
 - **Basic needs (food, clothing, etc.)**
 - **Other support (RIF books, hotlines, informational brochures...)**





Migrant Ed + Homeless Ed

Where do I start?

**Build a relationship with your local
Homeless Education Liaison**

For the list of Colorado district Homeless Education Liaisons
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/homeless_liaisons.htm

**Contact your State Homeless Education
Liaison = Dana Scott @ 303.866.6930**

