

Education for Children & Youth Policy

River Valleys Continuum of Care (MN-502)

Adopted: September 21, 2017

Background

The McKinney-Vento Act requires Continuums of Care, including River Valleys Continuum of Care (MN-502), to collaborate with State and Local Education Agencies (SEAs and LEAs), principally through the McKinney Vento Act Local Education Liaisons and State Coordinators for the coordinated and continued identification of persons eligible for both homeless and educational services, and the continued effort in the provision of services.

Policy

The policy of River Valleys Continuum of Care (MN-502) is to ensure that households with children, including unaccompanied youth, are identified, informed of available educational rights and resources, and supported to access educational services available to them.

As such, Continuum of Care Program grantees that serve households with children, including unaccompanied youth, in the River Valleys CoC region, must ensure and document that they:

- 1) Collaborate with local education agencies to assist in the identification of homeless families as well as informing these homeless families and youth of their eligibility for McKinney-Vento education services.
- 2) Consider the educational needs of children when families are placed in emergency or transitional shelter and, to the maximum extent practicable, place families with children as close to possible to their school of origin so as not to disrupt the children's education.
- 3) Establish policies and practices that are consistent with, and do not restrict the exercise of rights provided by the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act, and other laws relating to the provision of educational and related services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
- 4) Designate a staff person to ensure that children are enrolled in school and connected to the appropriate services within the community, including early childhood programs such as Head Start, Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and McKinney- Vento education services.
- 5) Measure and document outcomes in education access and participation for children, youth and families in the housing program.

Collaboration with local education agencies must be documented in Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) or Community Partner Agreements as attached. Agreements should address key contacts, shared data practices, safety protocols, information and services provided to households, and other elements required by the LEA or CoC Program.

The River Valleys CoC, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, SEA, and LEAs may monitor projects for compliance with this requirement.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

For HUD CoC-funded programs serving infants, toddlers, and youth children

In compliance with the Federal McKinney-Vento Act and guidelines for Continuum of Care program grantees of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), this agreement seeks to formalize collaboration between a HUD Continuum of Care grantee and educational services in the grantee’s community.

The goal of this agreement is to ensure that children and families experiencing homelessness/transition are:

- Identified and informed of their eligibility for homelessness and educational services
- Connected to appropriate educational services in their community, including school and early childhood programs

This Community Partnership Agreement will be in effect for the grant period listed below.

| HUD Continuum of Care Grantee | Community Partner |
|--|--|
| Agency: Program: Address: Primary Contact: | Agency: Program: Address: Primary Contact: |
| HUD CoC Grant Number: Grant period: | Program type: <input type="checkbox"/> Head Start <input type="checkbox"/> Child Care & Development Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy Start <input type="checkbox"/> Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting <input type="checkbox"/> Public Pre-K <input type="checkbox"/> Public school <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Grantee Services: | Community Partner Services: |
| How will the partners work together to better serve children and their families? | |
| Specifically, what will the HUD CoC Grantee do? | Specifically, what will the Community Partner do? |
| Comments: | |
| Signature: Name: Title: Date: | Signature: Name: Title: Date: |