

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 area are eligible to attend, according to their best interest.
- Schools must provide you with a written explanation if a placement dispute occurs and you may appeal their decision. (Contact the homeless liaison.)
- Your child cannot be denied school enrollment just because school records or other enrollment documentation are not immediately available.
- Your child may have the right to transportation services to and from the 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 or she is eligible. Transportation may not be available for these activities.
- Homeless, unaccompanied youth have these same rights. (Contact the homeless liaison.)



DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS

Anyone, *due to a lack of housing*, who lives in **inadequate** or **temporary** settings, such as:

- emergency or transitional shelters
- motels, hotels, trailer parks, campgrounds, abandoned in hospitals, awaiting foster care placement
- cars, parks, public places, bus or train stations, abandoned buildings
- doubled up with relatives or friends
- or those living in these conditions and is a migratory child or youth.

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is committed to providing support for our students who are experiencing homelessness. We understand the challenges facing homeless students and have programs in place to make certain that these students have the resources necessary to obtain a successful education. FCPS has a homeless liaison responsible for ensuring that homeless children are identified, enrolled, and receive equitable access to high quality education and support services. Parents should contact the homeless liaison at 571-423-4332 for assistance.



Fairfax County Public Schools
Department of Special Services
Gatehouse Administration Center Room 4738
8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042

A BROCHURE FOR FAMILIES IN
TRANSITION:

WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW



FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL SERVICES
571-423-4332

RESOURCES

Fairfax County Coordinated Services Planning (CSP)

CSP is your **first** point of contact for help with emergency housing, health care, financial assistance, and other human service needs

703-222-0880

FOOD RESOURCES

Our Daily Bread

703-273-8829

Food for Others

703-207-9173

Salvation Army

703-385-8700

MEDICAL SERVICES

Fairfax County Health Department

703-246-7100

Walk-in Health Clinics

Willard Health Center – 703-246-7100

Falls Church – 703-534-8343

Herndon/Reston – 703-481-4242

Springfield – 703-569-1031

Mt. Vernon – 703-704-5203

Hospitals

INOVA Fairfax – 703-776-4001

INOVA Fair Oaks – 703-391-3600

INOVA Alexandria – 703-504-3000

INOVA Mt. Vernon – 703-664-7000

Reston Hospital Center – 703-689-9000

Emergency Care Centers

Fairfax – 703-877-8200

HealthPlex, Alexandria – 703-797-6800

Reston-Herndon – 703-668-8333

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Northwest Center, Reston

703-481-4100

Woodburn Center, Annandale

703-573-0523

Gartlan Center

703-360-6910

Springfield Office

703-866-2100

24 Hour Emergency Services

703-573-5679

LOW-COST MEDICAL INSURANCE ASSISTANCE

Partnership for Healthier Kids

703-698-2571

HOUSING

Emergency Shelters

Embry Rucker Community Shelter (Adults & Families)

703-437-1975

Patrick Henry Shelter (Families)

703-536-2155

New Hope Housing (Adults & Families)

703-799-2293

Eleanor U. Kennedy Adult Shelter

703-799-0200

Volunteers of America Bailey's Shelter (Adults)

703-820-7623

Katherine K. Hanley Shelter (Families)

571-522-6800

Fairfax County Housing & Community Development

703-385-3662

24-HOUR HOTLINES

Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline

703-360-7273

Alternative House Teen Hotline

1-800-729-8336 or 703-356-6360

Adult Abuse

703-324-7450

Child Abuse

703-324-7400

FAIRFAX COUNTY OFFICE FOR CHILDREN

Childcare, after-school programs, Head Start, etc.

703-324-8100

CHILDFIND, FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Free assessment of child development
for children under five

571-423-4121

PARENTING INFORMATION, FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Parent Resource Center

703-204-3941

Family Services and School Partnerships

703-204-4300

LEGAL AID

Legal Services of Northern Virginia

703-246-4500

Lawyer Referral Services

703-246-3780

IMMIGRATION AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Ayuda

202-387-4848 (Washington, DC)

703-444-7009 (Sterling)

Just Neighbors

703-979-1240 (Falls Church)

Hogar Immigrant Services

703-534-9805 (Falls Church)

Progreso Hispano

703-799-8830 (Alexandria)

FOR QUESTIONS OR ASSISTANCE

Kathi Sheffel
FCPS homeless liaison
571-423-4332

Susan Tesorero
FCPS homeless educational support
571-423-4354

Tami Eppolite
FCPS social worker
571-423-4371

Meghan Crowley (Spanish speaking)
FCPS social worker
571-423-4356