



# Title IX, Part A

## Students in Transition

### Did You Know?

Florida is the third largest hub for human trafficking in the United States.

The data shows that:

\*Students experiencing homelessness were 7.19 times more likely to attempt suicide compared to stably housed youth.

\*High school students experiencing homelessness are 3.21 times more likely to have a suicide plan compared to stably housed youth.

These devastating findings are not inevitable. Schools can provide students experiencing homelessness with access to mental health support, mentorship, basic needs, and hope.

What can I do if I believe one of my students is experiencing homelessness or is at risk of becoming homeless?

Teachers can play a critical role in the lives of students who are homeless. While McKinney-Vento liaisons bear the local-level legal responsibility for serving students experiencing homelessness, teachers are well-positioned to observe and respond to student needs. Some strategies for providing support include:

1. **Learn more about the McKinney-Vento Act and connect with your local liaison.**
2. **Create a welcoming climate and build trust with all students.**
3. **Help to identify and support students experiencing homelessness.**
4. **Take a trauma-informed approach**
5. **Stabilize basic needs and support full participation**
6. **Ensure classroom policies and procedures set students up for success.**
7. **Reach out to parents/caregivers.**

Sources: [EHCY Fact Sheet](#), [Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction: How Teachers Can Help Students Who are Homeless](#).

As of 11/01/2019  
403  
Homeless students



The Salvation Army,  
Catholic Charities of NW  
Florida and The Matrix  
Angel Tree Registration

#### Baker

Tuesday, November 12th  
from 12pm to 2pm  
Location: Baker Area Recreation Association,  
5503 FL-4, Baker

#### Fort Walton Beach

Tuesday, October 22nd from  
9am to 12pm and 1pm to  
4pm  
Location: The Salvation Army, 425 Mary Esther Cutoff Fort Walton Beach

#### Crestview

Wednesday, October 23rd  
from 9am to 3pm  
Location: Our Lady of Victory, 550 Adams Dr.

  
**Attendance Works**  
Advancing Student Success By Reducing Chronic Absence

### Holiday Messaging

Families often don't realize how keeping their student out of school for extra days during the holidays can affect student achievement. Find targeted strategies and tools for educators in the Attendance Works [Holiday Messaging toolkit](#).

If you have any questions, please contact the Title IX Office  
850-301-3008  
[www.okaloosaschools.com/district/titleix](http://www.okaloosaschools.com/district/titleix)