# **Agency Information List**

- Knox County Homeless Coalition 207-593-8151
- The Landing Place 207-446-9285
- Mid Maine Homeless Shelter 207-872-8082
- United Way First Call (link to resources) 211 or 207-443-9752
- Salvation Army 594-5326
- American Red Cross 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
- Penquis, Rockland
   974-2435 or 1-800-215-4942
- DHHS Rockland 207-596-4200 Augusta 207-287-3707
- Sweetser Children and Youth Services 1-800-434-3000
- Maine Behavioral Health 207-701-4400
- New Hope for Women (Domestic Violence) 1-800-522-3304
- Maine State Housing Authority Homeless Assistance 207-626-4600
- Food Stamp Program
  - Contact DHHS
- AIO Food Pantry, Rockland 70 Thomaston St. 207-596-1043

# Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness

## RSU 40 McKinney-Vento Act Homeless Liaison

#### Christina Wotton

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RSU 40
Friendship, Waldoboro,
Warren, Washington, Union

2020-2021

# What Homeless Families Need to Know

- Homeless children, including unaccompanied homeless youth have a right to attend school.
- You do not need a permanent address to enroll your child in school.
- Homeless children have the right to stay in their school of origin or enroll in the local attendance area school.
- Your child cannot be denied school enrollment just because school records or other enrollment documentation are not immediately available (birth certificate, immunizations).
- Your child has the right to transportation services to and from the school of origin.
- Your child has the right to participate in extracurricular activities and all federal, state, or local programs for which he/she is eligible.

#### Definition of Homeless

Anyone who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and who lives:

- · In emergency or transitional shelters:
- In motels, hotels, seasonal trailer parks, campgrounds, abandoned in hospitals, awaiting foster care;
- In cars, parks, tents, public places, bus or train stations, abandoned buildings; and
- Living in one of the above circumstances and who are migratory children.

#### Unaccompanied Youth

Defined as youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, runaways and school-aged unwed mothers also quality as unaccompanied youth. These unaccompanied youth must be allowed to enroll in school immediately.

## At School, Ask About These Special Services

- Free breakfast and lunch programs
- Transportation assistance services
- Special transportation for children to remain in their home school
- Special education programs, especially if the student has previously received special education services
- Tutoring programs
- Programs to help children learn English
- Gifted or talented programs
- · District summer school programs

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### What Your Family Can Do Before You Move

- Tell your child's teacher and principal that your child is moving and give them the new address.
- Let school officials know if you want your child to stay in his/her home school while you are getting the family stabilized.
- Ask for a copy of your child's school records, including immunizations.

### Tips for Families Who Move Often

- Keep a copy of birth certificates and school records accessible.
- Safeguard all health and immunization records.
- Have a reliable person keep a second copy of all family members' birth certificates, school records, and health information.
- · Enroll children in school as soon as possible.