

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Charlene Russell-Tucker, Chief Operating Office

DATE: August 31, 2015

SUBJECT: McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Liaison

Educational stability resulting from the implementation of the McKinney-Vento Act currently provides rights and relief to thousands of homeless children and youth in Connecticut. This law provides the foundation to help students who are experiencing homelessness to continue receiving a quality and stable public school education.

With the beginning of a new school year, it is necessary to ensure that program records concerning local homeless education liaisons in Connecticut are kept up to date. The Federal law requires that all local education agencies (LEAs) identify an appropriate staff person to serve in this capacity. The work of the liaisons includes building awareness of homelessness in their school systems, assisting in the identification of homeless children and youth, providing community outreach, and resolving issues that may arise while working with homeless students.

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) continues to maintain the Connecticut LEA Homeless Liaison Catalog, which lists all LEA liaisons, on the CSDE Web site <u>homeless</u> <u>liaison catalog</u>. All LEAs are advised to review the contact information listed and notify the CSDE of any changes or corrections by September 10, 2015. Updates can be made at <u>collection</u> <u>survey</u> or by emailing Louis Tallarita at <u>louis.tallarita@ct.gov</u>.

If you have any questions related to homeless education and local liaisons contact Louis Tallarita at 860-807-2058 or by e-mail. Thank you for your prompt response.

CRT:ltt cc: Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Commissioner of Education John Frassinelli, Bureau Chief