

Project HEART

Helping Students in Housing Transition

Manatee County Schools Homeless Education Program

Project HEART assist students living in the following situations:

- In a shelter
- In a motel or campground due to lack of an alternative adequate accommodation
- In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station
- Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

Under the McKinney Vento Act, eligible students have the right to:

- A free, appropriate public education.
- Education in a mainstream school environment.
- Participation in the school food service program.
- Prompt resolution of disputes regarding educational placement.
- No isolation or stigmatization due to their homeless status.
- Placement in their school of origin the entire time they are homeless for the duration of any academic year.
- Consideration of parent's requests regarding placement at the school of origin or the zoned school.
- Educational, social, athletic, and recreational services offered to other students

PROJECT HEART CAN HELP WITH

- School enrollment
- School supplies and uniforms
- School stability
- School related expenses
- Graduation or GED fees
- Post high school planning
- Referrals for pregnant or parenting teens
- Referrals for medical/dental, vision and mental health assistance
- Referrals for community resources such as:
 - Housing/rental assistance, emergency shelter, utilities assistance, food pantries, employment/job training, adult education, food stamps, Medicaid, pre-k and summer programs

OUR MISSION

The mission of Project HEART, homeless education Program is to provide Manatee County students living in housing transition with support and resources to enroll, attend and succeed in school.

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