

Appendix L-2. Annotated List of Available Resources for State Coordinators and Local Liaisons

NCHE Resources

Connecting Schools and Displaced Students handbook series:

This handbook series was published in 2006 following the challenges experienced in many states as families relocated throughout the nation following the Gulf Coast Hurricanes of 2005. The handbooks explain how the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act applies to students displaced by disaster and how the Act can assist these students and their families. Each handbook in the series targets information either to parents of displaced children, relief agencies, or educators. The series includes the following handbooks:

- [After the Storm: Information for Parents on How Schools Can Help After Disasters \(A Handbook for Parents\)](#)
- [Disaster Relief Agencies and Schools: Working Together to Ensure School Enrollment and Success \(A Handbook for Local Liaisons and State Coordinators\)](#)
- [From the School Office to the Classroom: Strategies for Enrolling and Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [School as a Safety Net: Connecting Displaced Children With Educational and Support Services \(A Handbook for Relief Agency Staff and Volunteers\)](#)

The following brief highlight from one of the handbooks referenced above, *Disaster Relief Agencies and Schools: Working Together to Ensure School Enrollment and Success*, provides a concrete list of strategies for working successfully with relief agencies. Strategies are discussed, with tips provided for each, accompanied by a Checklist for Working Together:

- ✓ Communicate: Start building relationships with relief agencies now.
- ✓ Teach: Provide McKinney-Vento training and awareness materials to relief agency staff.
- ✓ Learn: Discuss with local relief agency staff how your program can complement and support theirs.
- ✓ Share: Make sure relief agencies know about doubled-up, unaccompanied and “hidden” homeless students.
- ✓ Strategize: Work with relief agencies to develop release forms so they can share information with you.
- ✓ Coordinate: Enlist a superintendent or school board member to help you gain access to local disaster planning committees.
- ✓ Cooperate: Discuss school enrollment procedures with relief agency staff.
- ✓ Plan for the future: Engage relief agencies in long-term planning.

This handbook, along with others in the series, will be of great value to local liaisons and other key community stakeholders as they come together to build a comprehensive proactive plan for keeping education in the equation before, during and after disaster strikes.

***Connecting Schools and Displaced Students* brief series:**

This series of briefs also addresses how the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act applies to students displaced by disaster and how the Act can assist these students and their families.

Each brief in the series targets information either to youth experiencing homelessness on their own, relief agencies, or school district administrators. The series includes the following briefs:

- [Meeting the Educational Needs of Students Displaced by Disasters: Youth on Their Own](#)
- [What Relief Agencies Should Know About the Educational Rights of Children Displaced by Disasters](#)
- [What School District Administrators Should Know About the Educational Rights of Children Displaced by Disasters](#)

[A McKinney-Vento Toolbox: Constructing a Robust and Rigorous Homeless Education Program, In Case of Disaster and Every Day](#)

This toolbox is designed to help school districts implement the McKinney-Vento Act fully, so they can address the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness on a daily basis and in times of disaster. The toolbox contains information and practical lessons learned and resources developed during the recovery process following the 2005 Gulf Coast hurricanes.

[In Their Own Words: Schools and Students Overcoming Adversity](#)

This NCHE publication provides readers with a window into the daily challenges and triumphs of the schools and students affected by August 2005's Hurricane Katrina. *In Their Own Words*, in large part, is a first-person account of the hurricane's effects on education on the Gulf Coast during the few weeks and months after landfall and since. It is the voices of the students and the school, district, and relief agency staff who were closest to the challenges that resulted from the hurricane.

Other Publications/Guides/Documents

[A National Report Card on Protecting Children During Disasters](#)

This July 2010 brief from Save the Children provides a state-by-state assessment on four measures of caring for children in the wake of a disaster: Does the state require licensed child care facilities to: 1) have a plan for evacuating kids in child care; 2) have a written plan to notify parents of an emergency and reunite them with their kids; and 3) have a written plan that accounts for kids with special needs; and 4) Does the state require all schools to have a disaster plan that accounts for multiple hazards?

[A Practical Guide for Crisis Response in our Schools](#)

This webpage includes links to all chapters of this valuable resource from the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress. Relevant chapters include *Practical Suggestions for*

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Assisting Children in the Aftermath of a Tragedy, Teacher Guidelines for Crisis Response, Parent Guidelines for Crisis Response, and Traumatic Stress: An Overview.

[After the Storm: A Guide to Help Children Cope With the Psychological Effects of a Hurricane](#)

This guide, published by 7-Dippity.com in the wake of the 2004 hurricane season that devastated Florida, provides information, activities, and coping strategies to help parents and children cope with their reactions and feelings resulting from a hurricane and its aftermath.

[FERPA Policy Guidance: Disclosure of Student Information Related to Emergencies and Disasters](#)

This guidance from the U.S. Department of Education, issued in June 2010, answers questions about the sharing of personally identifiable information from students' education records to outside parties when responding to emergencies, including natural or man-made disasters.

[Homeless Education Advocacy Manual: Disaster Edition](#)

This manual from the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty informs advocates and families concerned about the educational needs of children and youth displaced from their homes due to a disaster. It includes information about topics such as which students are considered homeless under federal law; methods of advocating for individual students; methods of advocating for system-wide change; securing immediate school enrollments; ensuring stable school placements; and accessing necessary and beneficial services such as transportation and academic assistance.

[Madison Metropolitan School District: Guide on Enrollment and Service Provision for Students Displaced by Hurricane Katrina](#)

This guide from the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) explains how MMSD will respond to the needs of students displaced by Hurricane Katrina that wish to attend school within the district. The guide covers issues such as immediate enrollment, free and reduced lunch, post-trauma intervention services, and more.

[The National Disaster Recovery Framework](#) is a guide from FEMA that enables effective recovery support to disaster-impacted States, Tribes, Territorial and local jurisdictions. It provides a flexible structure that enables disaster recovery managers to operate in a unified and collaborative manner. It also focuses on how best to restore, redevelop and revitalize the health, social, economic, natural and environmental fabric of the community and build a more resilient Nation.

Related Agencies/Websites

[American Red Cross](#)

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This national organization with local chapters provides relief services to communities affected by disasters, including food, water, short-term shelter, counseling support, and assistance with family reunification.

[American School Counselors Association: Helping Children Cope with Natural Disasters](#)

This webpage provides tips for administrators, counselors, parents, and teachers, in helping children and youth cope with the devastation caused by a natural disaster.

[Center for Mental Health in Schools: Responding to a Crisis](#)

This website provides a variety of quick aids, resources, and materials for use in crisis prevention and response in schools.

[Coordinated Assistance Network \(CAN\)](#)

CAN is a network of seven charities that participate in community-led preparedness and response coalitions focusing on best practices to serve those in need. CAN partnered with FEMA to develop a web-based database to share information between agencies.

[Coping with Disasters](#)

This webpage from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) offers suggestions for how to help young children deal with witnessing or being directly affected by the destruction of a natural disaster.

[DisasterAssistance.gov: The Nation's First Stop for Disaster Relief](#)

This U.S. government website enables citizens to locate and apply for disaster relief.

[Fairfax County Public Schools: Emergency Preparedness and Support](#)

This webpage from Fairfax County Public Schools details the district's emergency preparedness and response plans, which have been cited by the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as national models.

[Federal Emergency Management Association \(FEMA\)](#)

FEMA's website provides disaster victims with information on how to access a variety of support services, including government benefits, hotlines for finding loved ones, and more.

[National Association of School Psychologists: School Safety and Crisis Resources](#)

This website provides a variety of resources dealing with crisis prevention, planning, and response. It addresses a variety of emergency situations, including school violence and natural disasters.

[National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster \(NVOAD\)](#)

NVOAD is a membership organization of approximately 40 disaster response agencies that coordinates the planning efforts of those agencies and serves as an information clearinghouse. There are state and regional VOADs, although not in every state.

[Office of Safe and Healthy Students: Emergency Planning](#)

This webpage from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Healthy Students is designed to be a one-stop shop that provides school leaders with information they need to plan for any emergency, including natural disasters, violent incidents and terrorist acts.

[Oregon School Boards Association \(OSBA\): Student Safety Center](#)

This webpage from the Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) provides various checklists and resources related to emergency preparedness and response.

[Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center](#)

The Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance (TA) Center supports grantees funded under the Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) discretionary grant program by providing emergency management resources, training, and publications. The Center also helps non-grantee local educational agencies (LEAs) and private schools with improving and strengthening their emergency management plans through the provision of resources, responses to technical assistance requests, and facilitation of emergency management for schools training events.

[Salvation Army](#)

A Christian church, founded in 1865 to advance the Christian religion, promote education, relieve poverty, and pursue other charitable works. Employees and volunteers work with programs that focus on health, education, social services and emergency disaster relief.