

APPENDIX 2 I

STATE COORDINATORS' COMPANION

The McKinney-Vento Toolbox is designed to assist school district personnel in building a robust and rigorous McKinney-Vento program. However, State Coordinators for Homeless Education may find many of the tools useful, and all can be used for technical assistance and training.

The following specific points will assist State Coordinators in making the best use of this toolbox. State Coordinators should:

1. Assist school districts in completing the self-assessments, to ensure that they evaluate their McKinney-Vento programs objectively and critically. This type of an evaluation will permit districts to take advantage of the toolbox and improve their programs. If used correctly, the self-assessment could also be a useful tool for evaluating subgrant applications and for program evaluations and monitoring.
2. Link to sample state emergency response plans:
<http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/dtac/default.asp>
3. Link to sample state-level dispute resolution procedures:
Delaware: <http://www.state.de.us/research/AdminCode/title14/900/901.shtml#TopOfPage>
Maryland: <http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/13a/13a.05.09.07.htm>
4. Pursue collaborative relationships on the state level. In addition to the organizations listed in the chart in Appendix 2, State Coordinators may wish to pursue collaborative relationships with the organizations in the table below. State Coordinators should also make every effort to join the task forces of their State Emergency Management Agency and/or Emergency Operations Center.

STATE-LEVEL CONTACTS FOR COLLABORATION

Organization	Role/Function	Local Contact Info	Contacted?	Follow-Up
State Board of Charter Schools National Charter School Clearing-house: http://www.ncsc.info/	In many states, charter schools are an important alternative education venue. They may be unaware of their obligations under the McKinney-Vento Act.			
Child Welfare System and Family Courts	State child welfare contact info: http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/reslist/rl_dsp_website.cfm?rs_ID=16&rate_chno=AZ-0004E			
State Coalitions Against Domestic Violence	State domestic violence coalition contact information: http://www.ncadv.org/resources/StateCoalitionList_73.html			
Governor's Office National Governors' Association: http://www.nga.org/portal/site/nga	As the chief executive of the state, the governor can be a powerful ally for McKinney-Vento programs. Many governors have special offices or task forces on issues such as children and families, youth, homelessness, and education.			
Department of Health	Health departments manage public health concerns throughout the state.			
Department of Health and Human Services	Health and human service agencies manage physical and mental health care and social services.			
Department of Housing and Community Affairs / Housing and Urban Development	Housing departments manage the supply and availability of affordable housing in the state, as well as services for people in homeless situations.			
State Legislature National Conference of State Legislatures: http://www.ncsl.org/	Members of the state legislature can champion laws to support the rights and needs of families and children experiencing homelessness, to facilitate implementation of the McKinney-Vento Act, and to increase funding for homeless services in the schools and the community.			

Organization	Role/Function	Local Contact Info	Contacted?	Follow-Up
State Mental Health Association To find contact info: http://www.nmha.org/affiliates/directory/index.cfm	Mental Health Associations (MHAs) bring together mental health consumers, parents, advocates, and service providers for collaboration and action. MHAs provide public education, information and referral, support groups, rehabilitation services, socialization, and housing services to those confronting mental health problems and their loved ones.			
Department of Mental Health http://www.nasmhpd.org/index.cfm	A state's mental health department coordinates its mental health services and programs to support people with mental retardation. This department may go by different names in different states.			
Department of Preparedness or Emergency Management	Departments of emergency management or preparedness lead the state's efforts in disaster planning, response, and recovery.			
State Refugee Coordinators	State contact information available at: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/partners/coordina1.htm			
Department of Transportation	The state's transportation department manages all the transportation resources of the state. Find links to each state's transportation agency at: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/webstate.htm			
Youth Services agencies and organizations	State and regional youth service agencies are important collaborative partners. Many states have established youth service task forces to coordinate youth services effectively and efficiently. The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act requires funded programs to collaborate with schools. For Family and Youth Services Bureau Regional Office contacts: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/content/youthdivision/resources/regional-rhycontacts.htm			