



The Homeless Education & Literacy Project (HELP) is a program of Lincoln County School District (LCSD) designed to help homeless students overcome barriers to school attendance and academic success. The McKinney – Vento Homeless Education Act defines homeless students as those who “lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence.” The heart of the McKinney-Vento Act is to provide school stability and equal access to education for students living in unstable living situations.

**The Numbers**

During the 2017-18 school year, the LCSD HELP Program staff identified 1016 homeless children in Lincoln County. 116 students were unaccompanied (homeless without the supervision of a parent/guardian). These are the highest numbers of homeless children in Lincoln County’s history.

Multi-year Comparison - Lincoln County Homeless Students									
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Birth to PreK	8*	23*	40*	127	120	138	198	147	191
K-12 Students	403	448	426	535	519	579	772	647	825
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>1016</b>

\*Does not include children birth to two years old. Oregon Department of Education did not require a comprehensive birth to five count until recent years.

East County PreK-12 Data 2017-18 Grand Total					
	Doubled Up	Motel	Shelter	Unsheltered	Total
Grand Total	136	2	10	57	205
Percentage by living situation	66%	1%	5%	28%	

North County PreK-12 Data 2017-18 Grand Total					
	Doubled Up	Motel	Shelter	Unsheltered	Total
Grand Total	215	14	26	99	354
Percentage by living situation	61%	4%	7%	28%	

South County PreK-12 Data 2017-18 Grand Total					
	Doubled Up	Motel	Shelter	Unsheltered	Total
Grand Total	96	4	0	51	151
Percentage by living situation	64%	3%	0%	34%	

West County PreK-12 Data 2017-18 Grand Total					
	Doubled Up	Motel	Shelter	Unsheltered	Total
Grand Total	190	19	30	67	202
Percentage by living situation	62%	6%	10%	22%	

Lincoln County Data 2017-18 Grand Total					
	Doubled Up	Motel	Shelter	Unsheltered	Total
Grand Total	637	39	66	274	1016
Percentage by living situation	63%	4%	6%	27%	

Please note that many families switch between the various McKinney-Vento homeless living situations. Students are placed in a category of homelessness based on the first referral we receive. There are very high rates of mobility between the different categories of homelessness.



Lincoln County School District  
Homeless Education and Literacy Project



**McKinney-Vento Act Compliance:** Four Advocates and Coordinator ensure federal law is followed and that all homeless children have equal access to education.

**Duties include:** outreach to students; staff training; ensure immediate enrollment and retention in school; assist students with school fees, immunizations, birth certificates, free meal programs, college financial aid; arrange special transport to school of origin.

**HELP Centers and Services to Families**

Four HELP Centers provide basic needs resources and educational programs, filling gaps in the community to meet students' needs. HELP Centers are a stable place for students and families to get support. Many of the programs also benefit non-homeless students.

- **School Supplies:** School supplies are offered to every homeless student. HELP partners with community agencies for larger school supply giveaway efforts for all students.
- **Clothing Closet & Basic Resources:** Donated school clothing, shoes, hygiene supplies, household items, blankets, and emergency food.
- **Basic Assistance Funds:** Donation funds are utilized when there is no other community resource available. Examples include shoe/clothing gift cards, sports gear, gas cards, propane, hygiene supplies, household items, emergency food, lost textbooks, graduation caps and gowns.
- **Tutoring:** Tutoring provided to K-12 students on an as needed basis or referred to after school programs with scholarships.
- **Learning is Fun Together (LIFT):** Kindergarten readiness class for children ages 3-5 and their parents. The target populations are homeless and low-income families that cannot afford pre-K programs and are on the Head Start waiting list. Bilingual class in Newport.
- **Job Opportunities for Youth (JOY):** Students earn income, gain job/life skills, and work toward career goals with the support of caring mentors. Drop-out prevention. Referral needed.
- **Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP):** Case management of non-adjudicated youth ages 10-17 with high risk factors. Students are referred to services such as family or individual counseling, family mediation, drug and alcohol counseling, tutoring, student work, after-school activities, etc.
- **Read & Feeds:** Family meals with a focus on literacy activities. Church volunteers and community groups donate their time, space, supplies and food.
- **East County Backpack Program:** HELP provides oversight of the East County backpack program sending home weekly backpacks full of nutritious meals.
- **Student & Family Workshops:** HELP has partnered with a wide-variety community partners to host workshops that are based on the interests and needs of students and families. Examples include workshops on healthy cooking, parenting classes, and budgeting.
- **Second Home of Lincoln County:** A housing program for unaccompanied minors ages 16 and older or 15 if pregnant/parenting. LCSD is a partner organization.



HELP Coordinator – Katey Townsend, 541-265-4506

[http://www.lincoln.k12.or.us/dept\\_programs/help.php](http://www.lincoln.k12.or.us/dept_programs/help.php)

East County HELP Center – 541-336-4357; Newport HELP Center – 541-574-5824;

North County HELP Center – 541-996-4878; South County HELP Center 541-563-8584