

***Other local support services that may be of assistance to your family and you:***

Colbert County Department of Human Resources

**Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 270  
Tuscumbia, AL 35674  
(256)-314-6870

**Street Address**

3105 George Wallace Blvd.  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

Colbert County Health Dept

1000 S Jackson Hwy  
Sheffield, AL 35660  
(256) 383-1231

American Red Cross of Northwest Alabama

318 S Court Street  
Florence, AL  
(256) 764-2911

Salvation Army of the Shoals

1601 Huntsville Road  
Florence, AL  
(256) 764-4432

Loaves and Fishes Thrift Store

256-381-1119

Dental Assistance Community Health Association Clinic

256-760-4713  
Colbert Caring Center  
108 N. Water Street  
Tuscumbia, AL 35674  
(256) 381-8464

Riverbend Center for Mental Health

635 W. College Street  
P.O. Box 941  
Florence, AL 35630  
(256) 764-6431

Center for Community Change

1-877-777-1536

Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama, Inc.

528 E. Kelsey Ave.  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661  
(256) 383-3832

For additional information regarding our Homeless Program:

Dr. Carlos Nelson  
Liaison for Homeless Children and Youth  
(256) 383-0400  
cnelson@scs.k12.al.us

[www.scs.k12.al.us](http://www.scs.k12.al.us)

## ***Education for Homeless Children and Youth***

Sheffield City Schools  
“Success for Today, Preparation for Tomorrow, Learning for a Lifetime”



***Keith Davis***

Superintendent  
300 West Sixth Street  
Sheffield, AL 35660  
256-383-0400 (O)  
286-386-5704 (F)

### Who is Homeless and what are their rights?

The McKinney-Vento Act (Section 725) defines "homeless children and youth" (school age and younger) as: Children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including children and youth who are:

- sharing the housing of other persons due
- to loss of housing, economic hardship, or
- a similar reason (i.e. "doubled up")
- living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or
- camping grounds due to lack of
- alternative adequate accommodations
- living in emergency or transitional shelters
- abandoned in hospitals
- awaiting foster care placement
- Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
- Migrant children who qualify as homeless if they are living in circumstances described above. The term unaccompanied youth includes a young person not in the

physical custody of a parent or guardian.

- This would include runaways living in runaway shelters, abandoned buildings, cars, on the streets or in other inadequate housing; children and youth denied housing by their families (sometimes referred to as "throwaway children and youth"); and school-age unwed mothers living in homes for unwed mothers because they have no other housing available.

***Determination of homelessness will be made on a case-by-case basis by the homeless education department. We will use the definition above but also consider the relative permanence of the living arrangements.***

Parents of Homeless Children:

#### *Your child has the right to:*

- go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there
- attend either the local school or the school of origin, if this is in their best interest; the school of origin is the school the child attended when he/she was permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled
- receive transportation to and from the school of origin
- enroll in school immediately, even if missing records and documents normally required for enrollment

- such as a birth certificate, proof of residence, previous school records, or immunization/medical records
- enroll, attend classes, and participate fully in all school activities while the school arranges for the transfer of records
- have access to the same programs and services that are available to all other students, including transportation and supplemental education services (if available)
- attend school with children not
- experiencing homelessness; segregation based upon a student's status as homeless
- is prohibited
- receive free meal eligibility through the Child Nutrition Program (CNP).
- obtain a student identification number in the event that a social security card/number is not available.

(ref. National Center for Homeless Education)

