

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

**Colbert County Department of Human Resources**

Street Address:  
3105 George Wallace Boulevard  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661  
256-314-6870

**Colbert County Health Department**

1000 South Jackson Highway  
Sheffield, AL 35660  
256-383-1231

**American Red Cross of Northwest Alabama**

318 South Court Street  
Florence, AL 35630  
256-764-2911

**Salvation Army of the Shoals**

1601 Huntsville Road  
Florence, AL 35630  
256-764-4432

**Colbert Caring Center**

108 North Water Street  
Tuscumbia, AL 35674  
256-381-8464

**Riverbend Center for Mental Health**

635 West College Street  
Florence, AL 35630  
256-764-6431

**Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama, Inc.**

528 Kelsey Avenue  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661  
256-383-3832

**St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store**

659 South Poplar Street  
Florence, AL 35630  
256-718-0901

**Loaves and Fishes Thrift Store**

3720 Hatch Boulevard  
Sheffield, AL 35660  
256-383-5554

**Dental Assistance**

Community Health Association Clinic  
256-760-4173

**Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments**

(transportation)  
256-314-0047

The Tuscumbia City School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person(s) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Darryl Aikerson, Superintendent  
(daikerson@tuscumbia.k12.al.us)  
Vickey Moon, Title IX Coordinator  
(vhmoon@tuscumbia.k12.al.us)  
Marsha Ricks, Special Services & 504 Coordinator  
(mmricks@tuscumbia.k12.al.us)  
303 North Commons Street East, Tuscumbia, AL 35674  
(256) 389-2900

TUSCUMBIA CITY SCHOOLS



# Education of Homeless Children and Youth

**“Educating Students for Today**

**... Preparing Students for  
Tomorrow!”**

Darryl Aikerson  
Superintendent/Federal Programs Director  
256-389-2900

# Homeless Information

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, Title VII, Subtitle B guarantees that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as provided to other children and youth.

Children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, which may include children and youth who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to the 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
- Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is public or not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for humans
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard

housing, bus or train stations or similar settings.

- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

The McKinney-Vento Act also recognizes unaccompanied youth who are homeless. An unaccompanied youth is a youth who is not in the physical custody of a parent or legal guardian; including those living in runaway shelters, abandoned buildings, cars, on the streets, or in other inadequate housing; children or youth denied housing by their families (sometimes called throwaways); and teen parents living in shelters or other facilities for pregnant and parenting teens who have no other housing available.

**Determination of homelessness will be made on a case-by-case basis by the Federal Programs Department and the Homeless Liaison. We will use the definition above but also consider the relative permanence of the living arrangements.**

## Educational Rights

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, children in homeless situations have 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.

- 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
- Have access to the same programs and services that are available to all other students, including transportation and supplemental education services (if applicable)
- Attend school with children not experiencing homelessness; segregation based on a student's status as homeless is prohibited.
- Automatically become eligible for free school breakfast and lunch

Homeless children and youth are entitled to educational services comparable to those offered to other students. These services include but are not limited to the following programs: Special Education, English Learners (EL), Career and Technical Education, gifted, and talented programs and extracurricular activities. Homeless children and youth are also eligible to receive Title I services that target students most at risk of failing in school.

