

# Chattooga County Schools



Evaluation of the 2009-2010 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant

# Evaluation

## OVERVIEW

The McKinney-Vento Act defines and protects the rights of students in transition to enroll in, attend, and succeed in our public schools. Chattooga County Schools was approved by the State Board of Education for a three-year grant cycle of the Education of Homeless Children and Youth grant in 2007-2008 for an award amount of \$49,943, an award amount of \$28,466 in the 2008-2009 school year, and an award amount of \$70,000 for 2009-2010. The Evaluation summarizes the assistance provided during the 2009-2010 grant cycle.

## DEFINITION

The McKinney-Vento Act provides educational services to any pre-school or school-aged student who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term transient includes:

- Children and youth who are sharing the housing of other people due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason—"doubled up"
- Children and youth who are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to the lack of alternative housing
- Living in emergency shelters or transitional shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Awaiting foster care placement—temporary (approximately one year or less)
- 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
- Migratory children described in the above situations
- Unaccompanied youth are youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

## EVALUATION

Five schools utilized after-school tutoring services proving to be the most successful activity shown by the improvement in student report cards and Graduation Test achievement. Of the 46 transient students receiving tutoring, 72% showed an increase in at least one letter grade quarterly. At the high school, 21 transient students out of 22 (95%) total passed the Graduation Test in Math and Writing and 19 transient students out of 22 (86%) total passed the Graduation Test in Language Arts. The administrators and counselors marked tutoring as the highest need in the county on a feedback questionnaire.

Professional counseling continues to be a successful activity beginning in the 2007-2008 year with Dr. Jennings. Dr. Jennings met with 35 transient students at six schools. The administrators and counselors marked professional counseling as the second highest need in the county on a feedback questionnaire.

# County Data 2009-2010

- Chattooga County identified 311 transient students in 2009-2010.
- **Approximately 8,000** Summerville News papers typically sold weekly in the county, with nearly 9,200 households in Chattooga County. The paper printed 2 awareness/educational articles on McKinney-Vento.
- 35 transient students out of 311 total transient students are seen by Dr. Jerry Jennings from Innovative Counseling Solutions at six schools.
- Dr. Jennings spent 202 hours with our transient students through individual or group counseling.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth– [www.naehcy.org](http://www.naehcy.org)
- Georgia Department of Education– [www.gadoe.org](http://www.gadoe.org)
- National Center on Homeless– [www.serve.org/nche](http://www.serve.org/nche)
- National Law Center for Homelessness & Poverty– [www.nichp.org](http://www.nichp.org)
- National Network for Youth– [www.nn4youth.org](http://www.nn4youth.org)
- Horizons for Homeless Children– [www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org](http://www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org)

# School Data 2009-2010

## TUTORING

- 46 transient students out of 311 total transient students receive tutoring assistance at five of the seven schools. (This is 15%)
- From the letter grades recorded in Excel, our school found that 72% of students receiving tutoring assistance increased at least one letter grade quarterly (primarily in Math, Language Arts, and Reading or in the area being tutored).

## ASSISTANCE

- 44 transient students received field trip assistance.
- 73 transient students received school supplies/hygiene products.
- 1 transient student received supplemental transportation services.
- 2 transient students received Camp Goodtimes assistance.

## COUNSELING SERVICES

- 91 transient students were served consistently by School Counselors.
- 23 transient students received group therapy through Kids Matter.
- 35 transient students received individual counseling through Dr. Jennings at all seven schools.
- 19 transient students received group therapy through Extended Family for Kids.

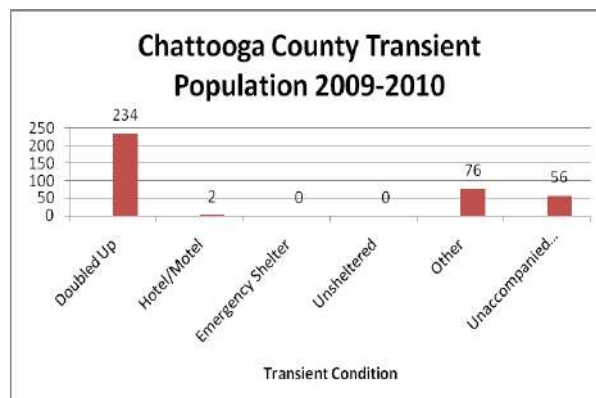
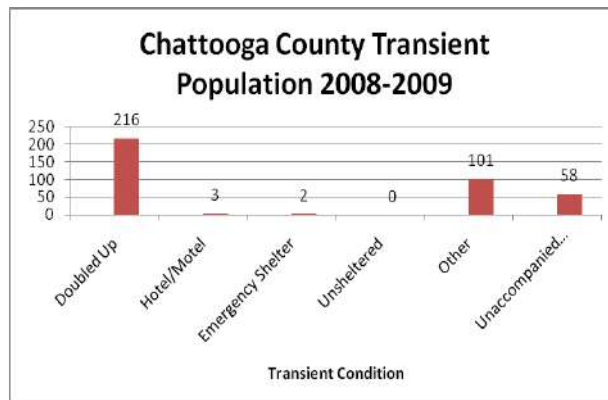
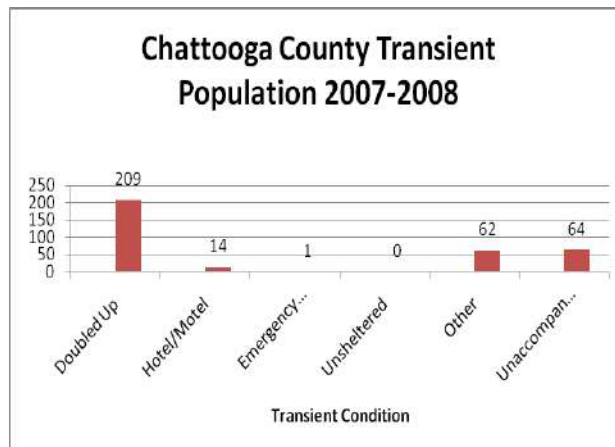
## OTHER

- 81 transient students had over 15 absences this school year. (This is 26%)
- 47 transient students withdrew during the year. (This is 15%)
  - a. 14 transient students transferred within district schools. (This is 30% of withdrawn students)

## TESTING SCORES

- 163 transient students out of 199 total transient students that took the CRCT met or exceeded the standard in Reading. 81.9 %
- 142 transient students out of 199 total transient students that took the CRCT met or exceeded the standard in Language Arts. 71%
- 102 transient students out of 199 total transient students that took the CRCT met or exceeded the standard in Math. 51%
- 21 transient students out of 22 total transient students passed the Graduation Test in Math. 95%
- 19 transient students out of 22 total transient students passed the Graduation Test in Language Arts. 86%
- 21 transient students out of 22 total transient students passed the Graduation Test in Writing. 95%

# Three Year Comparison



- These three charts illustrate the living situations of the Chattooga County transient population.