

Kanawha County Schools will use the ARP-HCY funds to support students, teachers and other stakeholders to overcome barriers that impede access and progress. We will add a case manager to our staff to build relationships and support at a deeper level with families and unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness. We will also provide transportation for those students without transportation to be in attendance at school each day. In addition, we will also provide temporary housing for families so that the family can remain intact and in school. For our unaccompanied youth, we will provide cell phones, hot spots, and laptops for them to continue to be active participants in their education. After consulting with the county homeless shelters, we will expand our tutoring services to include mentors to serve as both tutors and mentors in the evenings at the local shelters. We will partner with community organizations to provide extra tutoring, therapy services, etc, so that all student needs can be met to be successful in school.

Our targeted use of funds will be student support. We need to first identify more students who are in temporary living arrangements. The current data is highly inaccurate based on conversations with school administration, counselors, teachers, and other support staff. The newly hired case manager will visit schools to meet with counselors and principals to ascertain the accurate data on student living arrangements. The case manager would then work with the parents or unaccompanied youth to complete McKinney Vento paperwork to become "official" to begin to receive services through this grant. Once the relationships are established, the case manager will regularly communicate with families/students to make goals, assess their needs, and help them with what they need to reach their goals. We will also use a portion of the grant to provide short-term, temporary housing to families so that students can remain at their school of origin and continue to attend school regularly.

We will partner with a variety of Community-Based Organizations to identify and provide resources to McKinney-Vento students with this grant. We will work with the Grandfamilies Program at WVSVU to help identify additional students who are eligible for McKinney-Vento services. We will also partner with community organizations to provide extra tutoring, therapy services, etc. Using these resources, our McKinney-Vento students will be given the opportunity to catch up on any learning loss that has happened. Laptops, cell phones, and hot spots will also be made available to our Unaccompanied Youth so that they can continue their learning wherever they may be living without interruption.

In summary, the ARP HCY funds will support the students of Kanawha County and improve and increase the level of support that we can offer. The addition of a case manager will help to deepen the relationships and follow-through actions to ensure that their needs are being met. In addition to the increased number of support staff, we will offer transportation, short-term temporary housing, extra tutoring, and mental health services to students so that they continue to attend school and participate in all school activities without interruption.