



NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL YOUTH HOMELESS AWARENESS MONTH

Not only is discussion about these issues important to a child's individual development and success, but it also has huge implications on the world around them. Opening our children's eyes to people's differences leads to empathetic children.

Educating students about homelessness (housing insecurity:)

- National Child Traumatic Stress Network has fact sheets on homelessness age-appropriate information that addresses causes and solutions to homelessness and offers ways for students to become part of the solution.
https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources/fact-sheet/november_2020_national_homeless_youth_awareness_month_external_resources.pdf
- Human Kind Ministries gives guidelines for sharing information about homelessness for children. <https://www.humankindwichita.org/teaching-kids-about-homelessness/>
 1. Honor their curiosity
 2. Be honest
 3. Check your own biases
 4. Keep the conversation going

McKinney-Vento Program

for Families in Transition & Housing Insecure
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Raise money on your campus to use for urgent MV needs:

- Collect money for students to wear hats to school with logo "Hats off to stopping homelessness,"
- "Cut out homelessness" by charging a small fee for students to enter a Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament. Match them up and get the tournament started! The best two out of three wins, then the winners match up and play again. Keep going until only a few participants are left playing. Then, have a \$5 buy-in to get back into the game. The final winner gets a prize.
- Have a MOVIE NIGHT to fundraise in elementary schools. Organizing a viewing of an age-appropriate movie in your gym or cafeteria is a fun way to raise money for your school while involving students and their families.
- "Power of change" is a simple but effective fundraiser encouraging a fun competition. Just place one jar per class in a secure place. The students can then add their spare change to the jars until a set date. The class that manages to collect the most change gets a reward, maybe donated pizza.
- At Region 15 ESC, we are collecting food gift cards to donate to MV families.
- There are so many ways to successfully raise money and empower your students. Be creative! *Always discuss options with your district administrators.

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