

## FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE IN BERRIEN COUNTY

**Benton Harbor Area Schools**  
269-338-2240

**Benton Harbor Charter**  
269-925-3807

**Berrien RESA**  
269-471-7725, ext. 1357

**Berrien Springs Public Schools**  
269-471-2796

**Brandywine Community Schools**  
269-684-8574

**Bridgman Public Schools**  
269-465-5410

**Buchanan Community Schools**  
269-695-8409

**Coloma Community Schools**  
269-468-2424

**Countryside Academy**  
269-944-3319, ext. 108

**Eau Claire Public Schools**  
269-461-0083

**Lakeshore Public Schools**  
269-428-1402

**Mildred C. Wells Preparatory Academy**  
269-926-2885

**New Buffalo Area Schools**  
269-469-6068

**Niles Community Schools**  
269-683-0736, ext. 134

**River School Sodus #5**  
269-925-6757

**Riverside School Hagar #6**  
269-849-1343

**River Valley School District**  
269-756-7872

**St. Joseph Public Schools**  
269-926-3123

**Watervliet Public Schools**  
269-463-6755

**McKinney-Vento Project Coordinator**  
269-471-7725, ext. 1155

**DHHS Ed. Planners (Foster Care)**  
(269) 303-3642

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Housing Resources for Berrien County: 269-277-5055

National Runaway Safeline: 1-800-786-2929 or [www.1800runaway.org](http://www.1800runaway.org)

# MCKINNEY-VENTO Homeless Education Assistance Act



## What Parents and School-Aged Youth

# NEED TO KNOW

BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

# MCKINNEY-VENTO Homeless Education Assistance Act

## If your family lives in any of the following situations:

- In a shelter, motel, car, or campground
  - On the street
- In an abandoned building, trailer, or other inadequate accommodation
- Doubled up with friends or relatives because of housing loss or economic hardship
- Or, if you are a youth separated from a parent or guardian and are living in this way

## You or your preschool-aged and school-aged children may qualify for certain rights or protections under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act.

### Eligible students have the right to:

- Go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there. They must be given access to the same public education, including preschool education, provided to other students.
- Continue in the school they attended before they became homeless or the school they last attended, if that is your choice and is feasible. If a school sends the child to a school other than the one requested, the school must provide a written explanation and offer the right to appeal the decision.
- Receive transportation to the school they attended before you or your family became homeless or the school last attended, if you or a guardian request such transportation.
- Attend a school and participate in school programs with children who are not homeless. Children cannot be separated from the regular school program because they are homeless.
- Enroll in school without giving a permanent address. Schools cannot require proof of residency that might prevent or delay school enrollment.
- Enroll and attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer of school and immunization records or any other documents required for enrollment.
- Enroll and attend classes in the chosen school even while you and the school seek to resolve a dispute over enrolling children.
- Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other students served in these programs.
- Receive transportation to school and to school programs.



## PARENTS → WHEN YOU MOVE, DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Contact the school district's homeless education liaison for help in enrolling your child in a new school or arranging for your child to continue in his or her former school.
- Contact the school and provide any information you think will assist the teachers in helping your child adjust to new circumstances.
- Ask the district's homeless education liaison, the shelter provider, or a social worker for assistance with clothing and supplies if needed.