What are Their Rights

The United States Department of Education's McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (reauthorized December 2001) requires that district's Board of Education to ensure that each homeless student has access to a free, appropriate public education. The McKinney-Vento Act mandates they have full and equal opportunity to succeed and gives them the LEGAL right to:

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- enroll without a permanent address or proof of residency.
- choose to either stay in the school they were in when they lost their home (school of origin) OR to attend the school nearest their temporary residence, whichever is in the student's best interest.
- receive transportation to and from their school of origin if requested.
- remain in their school of origin for as long as they are still homeless or for the remainder of the school year if they find residency outside of the district.
- participate in the same activities and programs offered to other children including free and reduced school nutrition and Head Start programs, as well as appropriate special education and Title I programs.

Dispute Resolution Procedure