Resources for the Homeless

FOOD

Westwood Food Pantry (781) 329-8799 Dedham Food Pantry (781) 320-9442 Norwood Ecumenical Food Pantry (781) 769-0425 Walpole Community Food Pantry (508) 668-7318 Needham Council Food Pantry (781) 444-2415 Greater Boston Food Bank (617) 427-5200 Helping Hand Food Pantry (617) 876-4381

FURNITURE/CLOTHING Salvation Army (617) 427-6700 Solutions At Work (617) 492-0300 St. Francis House (617) 542-4211

HOUSING

Department of Transitional Assistance, Boston (617) 348-8400 Department of Housing and Community Development (617) 573-1100 Homes for Families (617) 227-4188 Mass. Affordable Housing (617) 822-9100 Mass. Coalition for the Homeless (781) 595-7570 Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership (617) 859-0400 Westwood Housing Services (781) 320-1031

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

American Red Cross (617) 274-5200 Boston Medical Center Homeless Program (617) 534-2526 Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program (857) 654-1000 Department of Children and Families (781) 641 8500 Friends of Boston's Homeless (617) 534-2526 Head Start Norwood (781) 255-0413 Jesse Synan, Housing Manager (508) 857-7645 Society of St. Vincent De Paul (617) 268-0710 South Middlesex Opportunity Council (S.M.O.C.) (508) 872-4853



Homeless Shelters

For Individuals:

Harvard Square Homeless Shelter, 66 Winthrop St., Cambridge, MA (617) 547-2841

Pine Street Inn, 444 Harrison Ave., Boston MA (617) 482-4944

St. Francis House, 39 Boylston St., Boston, MA (617) 542-4211

For Families or Individuals:

Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless (781) 595-7570

Multi-Service Center for the Homeless, 19 Brookline St., Floor 1, Cambridge, MA (617) 349-6340

Hotlines

SafeLink Domestic Violence Hotline (877)785-2020 National Domestic Violence Hotline (800) 799-7233 Parent Stress Line (800) 632-8188 Greater Boston Legal Services (800) 323-3205 National Runaway Hotline (800) 786-2929 Food Source Hotline (800) 645-8333 MA 2-1-1 (877) 211-6277 or dial 2-1-1

The Mission of Westwood Public Schools:

Honoring Tradition – Inspiring Excellence – Shaping the Future

WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF AGE, RACE, COLOR, GENDER, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER IDENTITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR DISABILITY.

WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



McKINNEY-VENTO Homeless Assistance Act of 2001



Local Liaison for Homeless Education:

Abby Hanscom Westwood Public Schools Director of Student Services (781) 326-7500 x1345

Definition of Homelessness:

Children and youth who lack a regular, adequate and fixed nighttime residence including: children who share housing with other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship; children living in emergency or transitional shelters; children living in motels, campgrounds, trailer parks, etc. as well as unaccompanied youth.

If Your Family Lives in any of the Following Situations:

- In a shelter, motel or campground
- On the street
- In an abandoned building, trailer, or other inadequate accommodations, or
- Doubled up with friends or relative because you cannot find affordable housing

Then your preschool-aged and school-aged children have certain rights or protections under the McKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT.

When you move, you should do the following:

→ Contact the school district's local liaison for homeless education for help in enrolling your child in a new school or arranging for your child to continue his/her former placement.

 \rightarrow Contact the school and provide information that will assist the teachers in helping your child.

 \rightarrow Ask the local liaison for homeless education, the shelter provider or social worker for help with clothing and supplies, if needed.

Homeless students and their families have the following rights:

- 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 pre-school education, provided to other children.
- To stay in their original or last school even if they move to another district. Homeless students have the right to stay in the school they attended prior to the loss of housing, or to remain in the school they were last enrolled, unless the parent or unaccompanied youth chooses otherwise. This is called the "school of origin".

• To get transportation to their original school.

School districts must arrange transportation for students in homeless situations so that students can stay at their school of origin, even if students move to a different city, county, or school district.

- To enroll immediately in a new school. Homeless students who move and wish to enroll in a new school where they are situated while homeless may attend classes immediately, without proof of residency, immunizations, school records or other papers, and without a uniform.
- To receive automatically free breakfast and lunch at school.

A shelter worker or parent may contact the school to verify the child's homelessness. The school must immediately begin providing meals based on verification.

- To receive Title 1 services.
- To receive all the educational and supplemental services that all other children are provided.

Westwood Public School Resources

Dr. John Antonucci, Superintendent of Schools (781) 326-7500 x1340

Emily Parks, Assistant Superintendent (781) 326-7500 x1348

Glen Atkinson, K-5 Department Head of Elementary Student Services (781) 326-7500 x5108

Robin Fabiano, K-5 Department Head of Elementary Student Services (781) 326-7500 x5110

Edith Graichen, 6-8 Department Head of Middle School Student Services (781) 326-7500 x2330

Robert Fanning, 9-12 Department Head of High School Student Services (781) 326-7500 x3137

Cynthia Brunelli, Out of District Coordinator (781) 326-7500 x1389

Aprile Albertelli, Integrated Preschool Director (781) 326-7500 x5113

Janet Lucey, Early Childhood Coordinator (781) 461-9548

Town of Westwood Resources

Police & Fire Emergency **911** Fire Department (781) 326-3885 Police Department (781) 320-1000 Public Library (781) 326-7562 Recreation Department (617) 796-1500 Youth and Family Services (781) 320-1006

For Assistance with Medical Services Westwood Board of Health Linda R. Shea, R.S., *Health Director* (781) 320-1026