The Washington State Governor's Office of the Education Ombuds: **Supporting Students** and Families **Experiencing Housing** Instability



## Assisting Students and Families Experiencing Housing Instability or Homelessness

As the COVID-19 pandemic wears on, OEO recognizes these are very hard times in our communities, and many students and families are struggling to keep or find stable housing.

OEO is a resource that can help address concerns about K-12 public schools. Please contact OEO if you are a community professional working with families of school-age children who need school-related assistance.

OEO's legislative mission is to reduce opportunity gaps. Our strategic plan priorities concentrate on education justice, especially for communities most affected by COVID-19. We are focusing our limited conflict resolution resources, such as informal mediation and coaching, on K-12 students who are:

- Out of school, including students with disabilities receiving partial school days
- People of color, Black, or indigenous
- In kinship or foster care
- Involved with the juvenile justice or juvenile rehabilitation systems
- Immigrant, refugee, asylee, or migrant, or students or families whose primary language(s) is not English, or
- Receiving Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe) or Children's Long Term Inpatient Programs (CLIP) supports

Even though supports look different in this time of COVID, school district McKinney Vento liaisons are still working to connect with, and support students and families who are experiencing homelessness.

If you or someone you know needs help, reach out to the McKinney Vento liaison in your area (contact info for each district is available here:

https://www.k12.wa.us/.../homeless-education-liaison...)

Experiencing homelessness Email:

We listen. We inform. We help solve problems

Washington State

Governor's Office of the

ducation

Phone: 1-866-297-2597 Web: www.oeo.wa.gov Interpretation Available, Email: oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov

\*Toll-free: <u>1-866-297-2597</u> (Phone interpretation available) \* Email: <u>oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov</u> \* Web: <u>oeo.wa.gov/en</u>

Students, Families and **Community Professionals** are encouraged to contact OEO to see how we can help.

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