

## Everett Public Schools partnering with Washington Kids in Transition

Everett Public Schools (EPS) has formed a partnership with Washington Kids in Transition, a local non-profit organization committed to providing basic needs to homeless children residing in Washington State.

Washington Kids in Transition is currently raising funds to help homeless and those at risk of homelessness in Snohomish County Schools.

EPS has identified support for students and families focusing on three areas:

### **Prevention:**

Families **connected with a community housing navigator or referred by their KIT Building Point Person** may be able to access funds for prevention of housing loss. The family may already be working with a community agency (like YWCA, Catholic Community Services, or Volunteers of America) and be identified as having an **active student enrolled in Everett Public Schools**. The family would need to be identified as needing a one-time “boost” to cover rent to *prevent homelessness* and have a good plan for getting payments back on track on their own. Assistance would be fairly limited (up to \$300/family is what we anticipate).

### **Temporary Motel/Hotel Stay:**

Families **connected with a community housing navigator or referred by their KIT Building Point Person** may be able to access funds for a temporary motel/hotel stay. The family may already be working with a community agency (like YWCA, Catholic Community Services, or Volunteers of America) and be identified as having an **active student enrolled in Everett Public Schools**. They must be able to confirm a move in date for a longer-term solution like a shelter room, or a move to affordable stable housing. Motel/hotel stays would be anticipated to last from one night up to a week.

### **Granted Wishes:**

Student Support Advocates or school counselors can make individual requests on behalf of our KIT students. These requests may include items like undergarments, haircuts, prom tickets, yearbooks, sleeping bags, or air mattresses.

\*Navigators, SSA's or counselors working with potentially eligible families should contact the EPS KIT Office at 425-385-4235 or [aperusse@everettsd.org](mailto:aperusse@everettsd.org) to verify eligibility and request the assistance.

**Please do not have clients (students or families) call the KIT office for this assistance.**

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### **Referral Process:**

#### **Prevention:**

(Scenario 1) **EPS staff** who is aware of the need connects with KIT BPP\* (SSA, FSA, or Counselor depending on your building) and brief them on the situation. They will connect with Amy/Gina and a determination is made on a case by case basis with verification of the plan to maintain housing with a one-time limited boost of funding. KIT Office connects the family/student to WA KIT Staff to make payment directly to landlord/management.

(Scenario 2) **Community Housing Prevention Navigator** connects with Amy/Gina and a determination is made on a case by case basis with verification of the plan to maintain housing with a one-time limited boost of funding. KIT Office connects the family/student to WA KIT Staff to make payment directly to landlord/management.

#### **Temporary Motel/Hotel Stay:**

(Scenario 1) **EPS staff** who is aware of the need connects with KIT BPP\* (SSA, FSA, or Counselor depending on your building) and briefs them on the situation. They will connect with Amy/Gina and a determination is made on a case by case basis with verification of the plan to obtain a longer-term solution for housing with a temporary motel stay. KIT Office connects the family/student to WA KIT Staff to make payment directly to hotel/motel and will assess and coordinate to set goals, connect with resources, and follow up.

(Scenario 2) **Community Housing Navigator** who is aware of the need connects with Amy/Gina and a determination is made on a case by case basis with verification of the plan to obtain a longer-term solution for housing with a temporary motel stay. KIT Office connects the family/student to WA KIT Staff to make payment directly to hotel/motel and will assess and coordinate to set goals, connect with resources, and follow up.

#### **Granted Wishes:**

**Student Support Advocates or school counselors** can make individual requests on behalf of our KIT students. They have the Special Request fillable pdf form to submit to the KIT office. The KIT office confirms eligibility and sends the request (with student information removed) to be filled by WA KIT staff and delivered to the requesting staff member to deliver to the student/family.

***\*If you do not know who your KIT BPP is, please call the KIT office directly at x4235.***