

# KIT BPP Spring Training 2022-23 School Year

Thanks for being part of the EPS KIT Team!



# Today's goals



Amy Perusse  
EPS KIT Coordinator

Abby Mayers  
Interim KIT & Foster Education  
Coordinator

## Overview of Who, Why, and How we support

- Review of the year for KIT -Share data
- Review a scenario
- Removing, Continuing, Transitions and Checking in
- Summer School & Summer Resources

## Updates & Announcements

- Family Resource Centers- Impacts and updates
- Collaboration & partnership updates

## Where to find more information

- KIT Staff toolkit
- Other great resources, training, and PD opportunities

# KIT Overview

- Eligibility
- Why this support is important
- How we can support

**KIT Total**  
so far for 22-23

**1514**

**M-V**  
Total  
So far for  
22-23  
**1470**

**Foster**  
Total  
**44**

*M-V & Foster  
(Dual support)  
Total So far  
for 22-23  
24*

**UHY**  
**330**



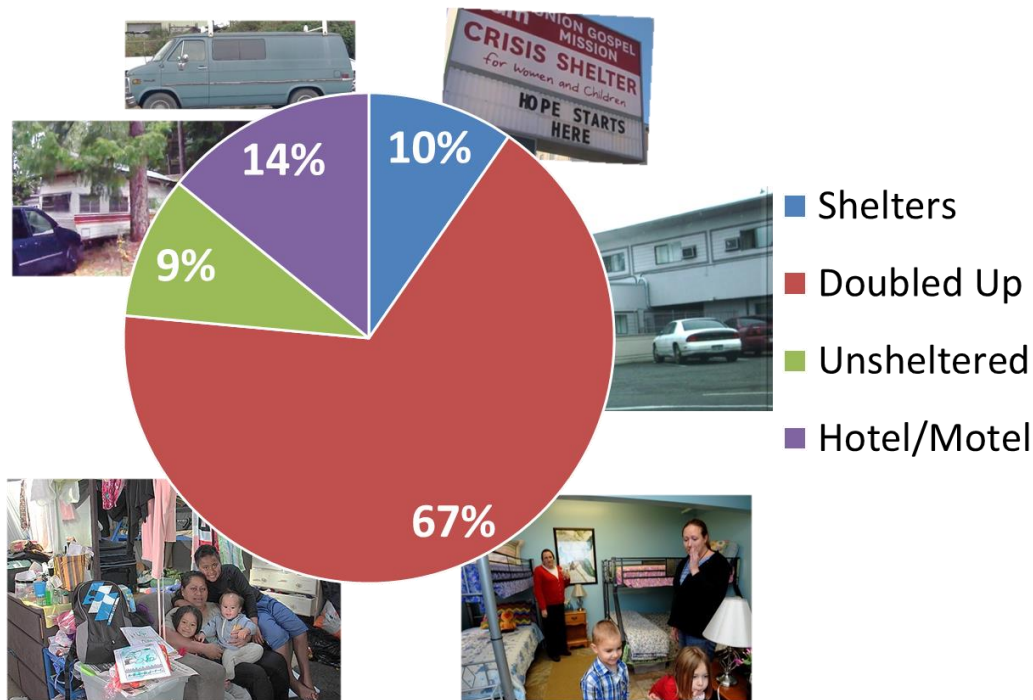


## A more inclusive definition of “homeless”

Children & Youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence

*“Doubled-up” means sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason.*

*“Adequate” means the space where the child is sleeping meets the physical and psychological safety needs of the child.*



Eligible situations as coded at the time of identification, most are moving around so could be different from night to night.

# Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY)

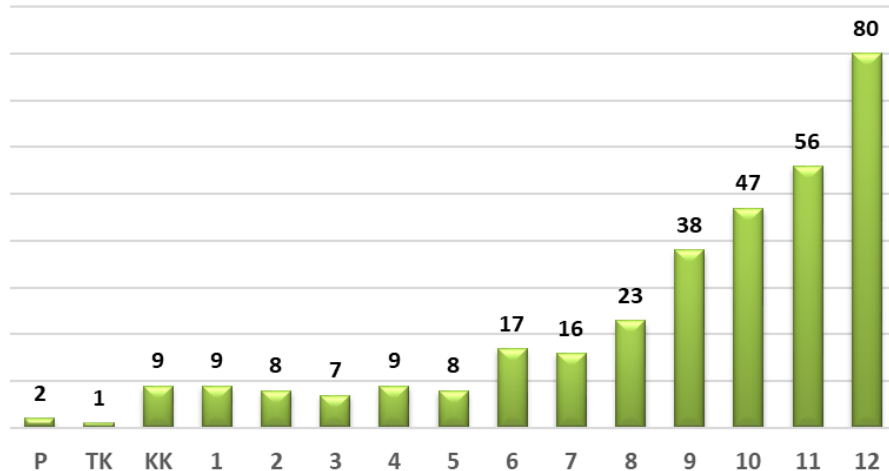


*“A child or youth without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence  
and not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.”*

## Can be any age...

Many due to unexpected parental death, incarceration, or conflicts in the home.

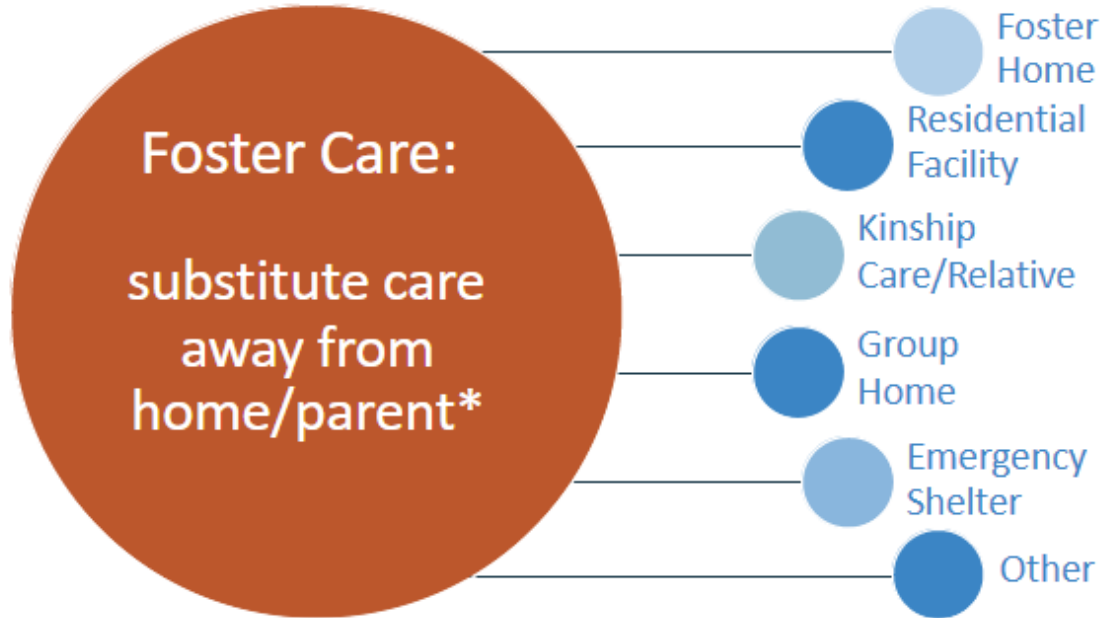
UHY (n=330)



Youth may runaway due to abuse or neglect.

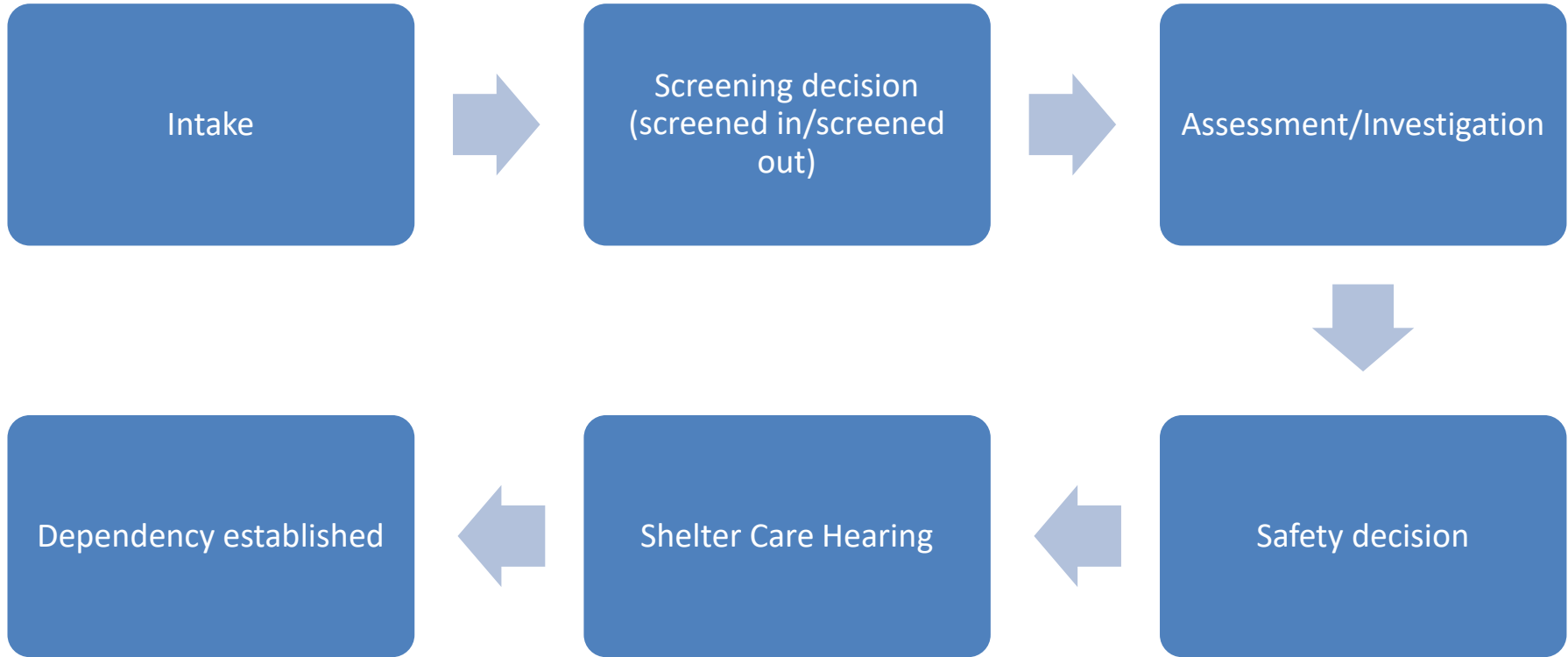
Parents force youth out of the home due to conflicts many times related to sexual orientation, gender identity, and pregnancy.





*\*Child Welfare Agency has PLACEMENT, CARE, & AUTHORITY  
May also include: Tribal Foster Care & Federal Foster Care*

# How do kids come into foster care?





## RCW 28A.225.350 - Students in out-of-home care - Best Interest Determinations.

- Best interest determinations should be made as quickly as possible in order to prevent educational discontinuity for the student.
- Every effort should be made to gather meaningful input from relevant persons.
- Student-centered factors must be used to determine what is in a student's best interest.
- Student must remain in his or her school of origin while a best interest determination is made and while disputes are resolved.
- The special education services of a student must not be interrupted by a transfer to a new school.







RCW 28A.320.148 - Foster care liaison and building points of contact.

Each school district must designate a foster care liaison to:

- Facilitate district compliance with state and federal laws related to students in out-of-home care.
- Collaborate with the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to address educational barriers.
- In consultation with building principals, designate a foster care building point of contact in every school.





<https://youtu.be/Gb8BGKqVVZM>



### McKinney-Vento

Children & Youth who lack a ***fixed, regular, and adequate*** nighttime residence

### Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY)

Meet the McKinney-Vento definition and are not in the physical custody of a parent/guardian.

### Foster Care

Substitute care away from home/parent and Child Welfare Agency has Placement, care, & authority



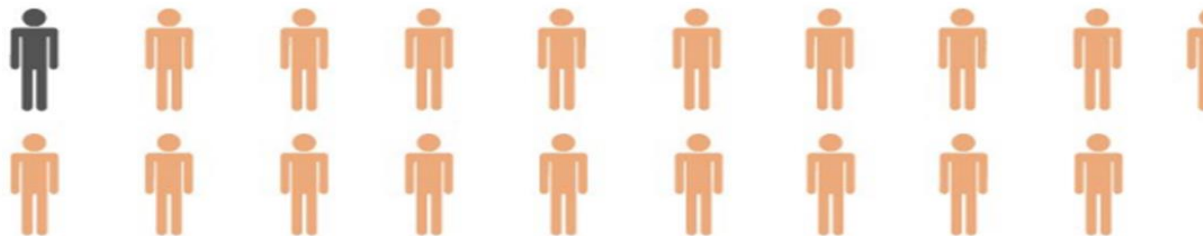
## Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data Analysis



Survey results show:

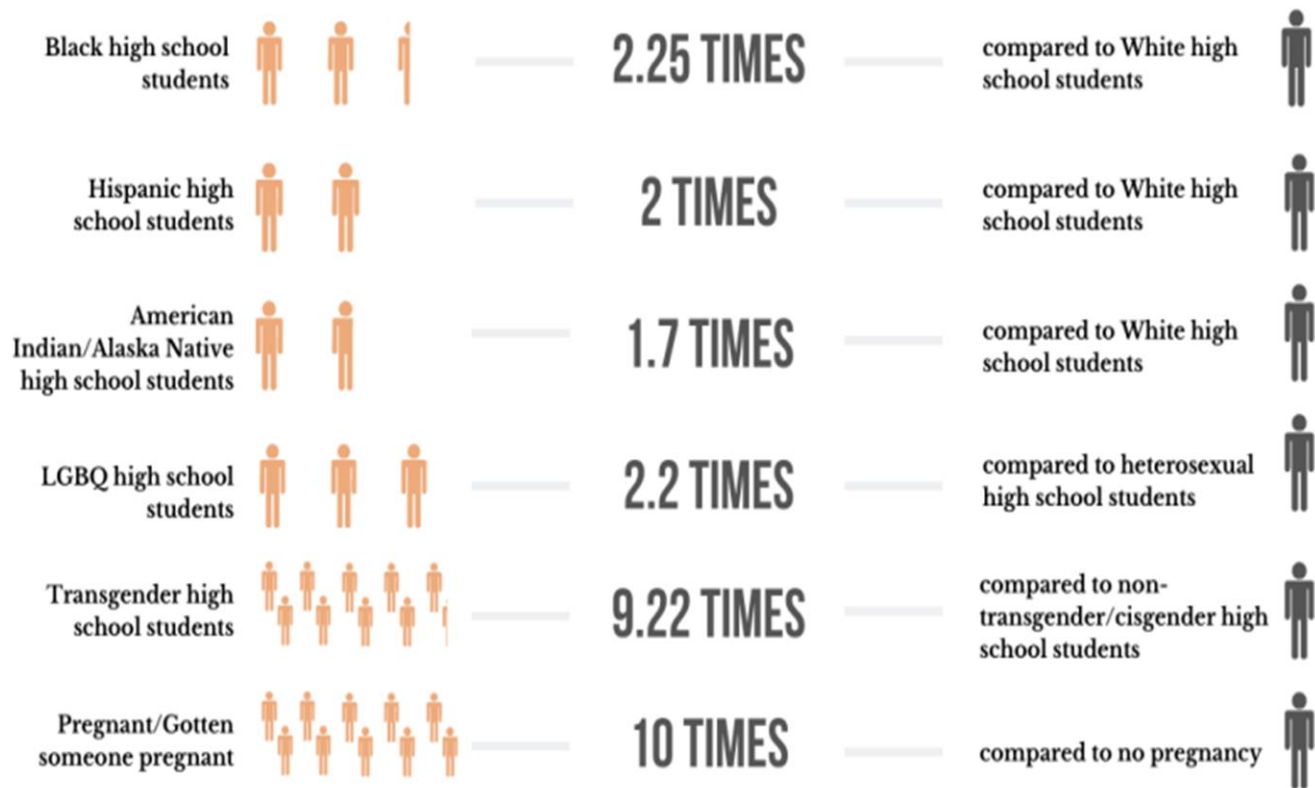
**5.4% OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS INDICATED THEY HAD EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS IN THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR**

For every 18.5 high school students, 1 has experienced homelessness.



Data: SchoolHouse Connection's analysis of 2019 YRBS data from 27 states (AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, ID, IL, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MI, MT, NH, NM, NC, ND, PA, RI, SC, SD, VT, VA, WI)

# Kids in Transition Disproportionality






### Homelessness causes:

- Chronic health problems
- Trauma
- Mobility



### Leading to:

- High rates of chronic absenteeism
- Double the rates of punitive discipline
- Lower graduation rates



And the **lack of a high school degree** is the  
Greatest single risk factor for young adult homelessness.

**Goal:** Ensure identification, enrollment, and success in school

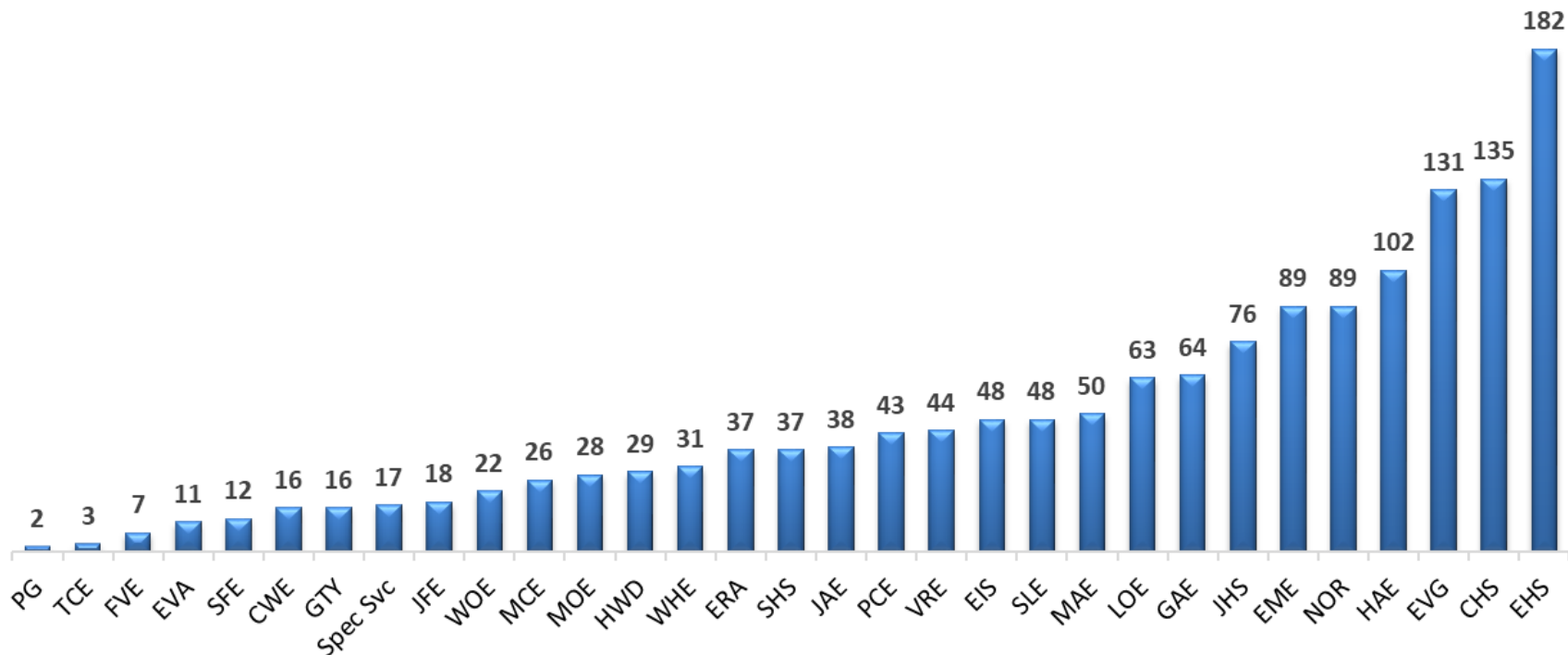


# Kids in Transition

## 1,514 Identified and supported so far



KIT By Building 22-23 school year as of 4.19.23 (n=1514)



## High mobility experienced by KIT students creates educational barriers



- Educational disruption due to changing schools often multiple times
- High rates of absenteeism and dropping out
- Undiagnosed learning or special education needs
- Inability to focus on studies due to:
  - The trauma of losing their home, belongings, routines
  - Lacking basic needs: food, clothing, health care
- Feeling embarrassment and shame



# McKinney-Vento & Foster Education Support



**School Stability**  
Right to remain in the school of origin or to enroll in the resident area school.



**Transportation**  
If temporary location is outside of the regular school service area and as long as it is feasible.

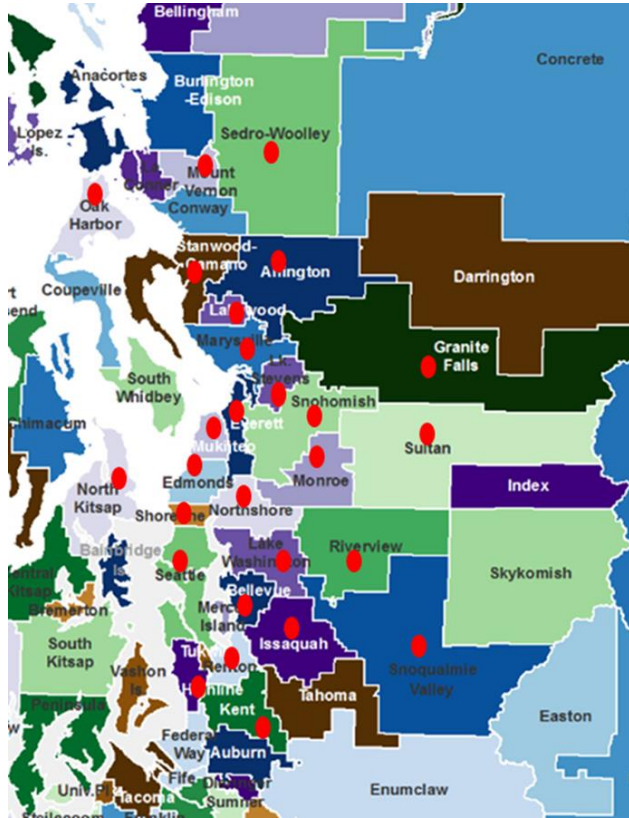


**School Support**  
School supplies, fees, and fines. Referrals to other resources



**School districts do not provide housing!**  
Might be able to refer families to community resources.

# Transportation



Shared between the district where the child is temporarily staying and where they are enrolled.



In one school year EPS provided KIT transportation for over 1500 students (includes those enrolled in our district and those living in our district but attending in others). We shared routes with 29 different districts and 150 different schools!



## Things to know about when requesting transportation:



- The magic doesn't happen overnight! Allow up to one week when requesting!
- When there is another district involved, Everett arranges the “from” school; the other districts handle the “to” school. The information from the other school is not available for any staff to see in power schools.
- When submitting a request, it helps to know if there are any special accommodations or siblings, even at other schools!
- Send all requests to the KIT office, not to transportation, (see KIT staff toolkit for more guidance)



## How can you help KIT students and families?

- Know who your KIT students are.
- Check in regularly with them to build a relationship and trust.
- Help families learn to communicate with the schools. Is their information correct in eschools? Do they have needs we can help with?
- Explain transportation processes and eligibility.
- Help explain the boundary maps for schools and districts.
- Guide the enrollment processes and have a conversation with parents around the child's best interest of school placement, or to explain the process for applying for a school transfer (aka variance).
- Explore Early Learning options if you find there are younger siblings.





- Help determine options for childcare or other activities before and after school that fit with the school location.
- Explain the importance of attendance and the rules around truancy laws.
- Assist with planning routines as families become more stable.
- Bedtime and morning routines encourage students' readiness to learn.
- Create a transition plan with the family in anticipation of ending KIT eligibility.
- Identify and communicate with the appropriate staff in your building to assist with supporting the student.
- Invite Social Workers to IEP meetings, attendance meetings, events.



- Once a student is stably housed (or no longer in foster care), they are eligible for support through the end of that school year and includes summer school if needed.
- Students may enroll in their resident area school at any time. We encourage transferring at a “natural transition time” like over spring, winter, or summer break.
- At registration in the new school, a parent should alert the new school if they are now stable but would like to finish the school year with support (this can be noted on the student housing form).





It is November. You just found out from a teacher that Billy reported having “millions” of people at his house. You look in e-schools. Funny, he is not listed as being KIT.

What are your next steps?





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What are your next steps?



- Depending on Billy’s age, you might ask him what he means by “millions” and who are the people staying at his house.
- Call/talk to a parent to learn more about the situation
- Without being too pushy try to find out if this is stable housing for their family and for the others in the household.
- Are the people at the house living there or just visiting?



You have determined from talking to Billy's Mother that there are 3 families living together in a 2-bedroom home for a total of 12 people.

What do you do next?





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What do you do next?



- *This is starting to look like an “inadequate” housing situation as it is likely overcrowded;* reassure the parent that you are here to help support the children access school and possibly other supports and referrals to community resources.
- Are there other students in the household? If so, who are they and where do they go to school?
- Complete and email a housing questionnaire to the KIT office.





It is now January. Billy's Mother wants him to join the basketball team but they don't have the money to pay for the uniform. Also, they have only 14 more days at the current shelter and don't know what to do or where to go.

What would you do?





It is now January. Billy's Mother wants him to join the basketball team but they don't have the money to pay for the uniform. Also, they have only 14 more days at the current shelter and don't know what to do or where to go.



- If the basketball team is run through the school district, the student should be eligible for the uniform cost to be waived through HB 1660. Ask your ASB treasurer or office manager for help with this. Contact the KIT office for guidance if you are running into barriers.
- Share resources with the family:

[Community Services Brochure](#) (print on legal-sized paper)  
[Family Housing Resources](#) in and around Snohomish County



In March, Billy's Mom calls you excitedly, stating that she has just found a new apartment. Mom asks for bus service whereas she previously did not need this. You notice the address is no longer in the same school area, and you are not sure if this is permanent or not.

What are your next steps?





In March, Billy's Mom calls you excitedly, stating that she has just found a new apartment. Mom asks for bus service whereas she previously did not need this. You notice the address is no longer in the same school area, and you are not sure if this is permanent or not.



- Ask if this is their own, stable apartment. If yes, congratulate them.
- Explain that KIT supports through the end of the school year that they move to stable housing & they can enroll in the neighborhood school any time; recommend a natural transition time (winter or spring break; or semester for HS).
- If stable, must enroll in the neighborhood school for fall, or if on a choice transfer no district transportation.
- Use the [School Selection Check List](#) to help determine *the student's best interest*.
- Send a completed housing questionnaire with updated information to the KIT office to officially update addresses, track for continued eligibility, and request transportation.



In April, Billy's Mom finally thinks that his 4-year old sister is ready for pre-school and wants to enroll in ECEAP. Billy goes to school at Hawthorne and Mom wants the sister to go to that ECEAP site.

You recall that the family moved and is now in Mukilteo. Can the sister be enrolled into ECEAP at Hawthorne? Can she get bussing?

Why/Why not?





In April, Billy's Mom finally thinks that his 4-year-old sister is ready for pre-school and wants to enroll in ECEAP. Billy goes to school at Hawthorne and Mom wants the sister to go to that ECEAP site. You recall that the family moved and is now in Mukilteo. Can the sister be enrolled into ECEAP at Hawthorne? Can she get bussing?



- The ECEAP student has not established any school of origin and technically does not have McKinney-Vento rights if they have never enrolled and are now in stable housing.
- Please contact the KIT office to assist.
- We will find out if there is space in the ECEAP program, if ECEAP is still enrolling, and whether there would be space on a bus route that already exists.
- Inform the parent that if this happens, they will still need to plan to roll up for kindergarten in the fall to their neighborhood school.





In June, Billy's Mom asks if she can keep both children at Hawthorne for the fall...

You recall that the family moved and is now stable in the Mukilteo school district.  
Are there any options for the parent to keep the children at Hawthorne?  
Can they get bussing?

Why/Why not?





In June, Billy's Mom asks if she can keep both children at Hawthorne for the fall...  
You recall that the family moved and is now stable in the Mukilteo school district. Are there any options for the parent to keep the children at Hawthorne?  
Can they get bussing?



- Confirm whether they are still in the stable housing as reported.
- If they have not had any changes, they are no longer in our KIT program for the fall.
- They are welcome to apply for an out of district choice transfer and if they are accepted, the school district does not provide transportation.



### **Any changes to contacts or housing?**

Report to the KIT office using a student housing questionnaire

### **Plans for Summer school?**

Notify the KIT office if they will need transportation

### **Best interest plan for school for the fall?**

Review the school decision making guide with staff, parents, caregivers, student

**If Foster**, check in with Abby to make sure there is a good plan for fall if unsure

Helps with basic needs for students and families in crisis when no other options *and as funds are available through Granted Wishes*

*(Typically, \$10-\$250):*

- Rental assistance to prevent homelessness-often pooled with other sources
- Move-in costs to get out of homelessness
- Other items: such as utility assistance, undergarments, haircuts, prom tickets, cookware, sleeping bags, or air mattresses.
- Short term temporary hotel stays (Coming Soon)

[Granted Wishes Request Form](#)

## MADRONA SQUARE



New apartment complex with 67 units set aside prioritizing EPS KIT families

### CURRENT STATUS/TIMELINE:

- **BLDG. A** – 10 1-bedroom units (0 left)
- **BLDG. B** – 15 2-bdrm & 3 3-bdrm (0 left)
- **BLDG. C** – 23 2-bedroom units (14 left)
- **BLDG. D** – 12 2-bdrm & 4 3-bdrm
  - 12 2-bedrooms left and 0 3-bedroom left

*Referred by EPS Family Resource Center & Millennia Ministries only*

# Family Resource Center



Strengthen student wellness,  
engagement and safety

**Strategic Initiative:** Strengthen student wellness, engagement, and safety.

Most situations are supported on campus at the student's school, but sometimes there is a greater level of coordination needed. That is when the Building Point Person might refer a family to the Family Resource Center (or FRC).

At the FRC appointment parents and caregivers meet a knowledgeable guide, helping connect to support and services within EPS and our local community.

The FRC is also used as a hub, receiving and storing limited donations to be dispersed by school support staff as needed.

# Family Resource Center- by referral only



Conchita Chinchilla, [Cchinchilla@everettsd.org](mailto:Cchinchilla@everettsd.org)



## HOMELESS - KIT PROGRAM

Overview

Community Resources

COVID-19 Resources

Teen Links

Shelters & Housing Assistance

Student Housing Form

Dispute Resolution

KIT Staff Toolkit

Family Resource Center (FRC)



Welcome to the KIT Staff Toolkit  
Check here to find the latest information for coordinating support for students who are eligible for support through the Everett Public Schools KIT (Kids in Transition) Program. Please be sure to review the Role of the KIT BPP and get to know who your building's KIT representative is. They are a wealth of information!

**Student Housing Questionnaires:** Completed at registration, distributed to all families annually for updates, or completed at any time a situation needs to be screened as potentially eligible. Please complete the form and then scan it and email to Amy Perusse: [aperusse@everettsd.org](mailto:aperusse@everettsd.org) and Diane Indivero: [dindivero@everettsd.org](mailto:dindivero@everettsd.org).

Please print and scan as an attachment: [Arabic](#), [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Russian](#), [Ukrainian](#), [Vietnamese](#)

- See [Office Staff Quick Guide](#) and [KIT FLOWCHARTS](#) for quick information when enrolling new students, identifying possible eligible situations and as a guide for frequently asked questions, like:

How can I create a welcoming environment for highly-mobile students and families? Can I enroll a student without proof of address? Can I enroll a student without immunizations being up to date? Are absences for KIT students always excused? What about transportation?

- **Weekly Check-In Questions Guide** use to track notes for family/student check-ins. Email a copy to your KIT building point person if there are needs we can assist with through the KIT program.
- **NEW! Family Resource Center Referral** \*BPP's can use for requesting basic needs items from the resource hub, or to schedule an appointment for a student or family in need of more coordination of services and support than can be covered at the building level. Students/families referred must either be already identified as KIT or at risk of losing their housing, **and** have other facets of coordination needed.

### Helpful Information

### Professional Development Training Tools

[Slides from Fall BPP Training 10/25 & 10/26/2022](#)

[Slides from Spring BPP Training 3/9 & 3/11/2022](#)

[Washington State School Staff Resource Guide](#) Information for different staff roles and how you can help identify and support.

[OSPI Staff overview presentation](#) (12-42 Minutes) this is useful for staff training

[OSPI Apollo Health and Youth Experiencing Housing Instability or Foster Care](#) (Slides from original presentation October, 2020)

["We Need A Little Time" Family and Youth Homelessness in Washington State](#) (16 min video)

### KIT Connections

- [Spring 2022](#)

**Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY) are Students who meet the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness and are not in the care of a legal guardian.**

Go to the [KIT staff toolkit](#) (log in as staff to access this)

## Family Resource Center Referral

BPP's can use for requesting basic needs items from the resource hub, or to schedule an appointment for a student or family in need of more coordination of services and support than can be covered at the building level.

Students/families referred must either be already identified as KIT or at imminent risk of losing their housing **and** have other facets of coordination needed after you have exhausted all other resources.

# Refer to the Family Resource Center?



YES	NO
<b>KIT BPP has exhausted ALL resources and not able to get help</b>	<b>Family/Student needs ongoing food supplements (refer to local food banks, EBT, budgeting classes, DCYF, etc.)</b>
<b>Family has no where to go tonight and BPP has already guided them to call 2-1-1 and helped them brainstorm all options. (No Guarantees FRC will have anything for tonight, but they will try)</b>	<b>Family has a lease, and it is over in 3 months, and they need help finding an apartment. FRC is not a real estate service.</b>
<b>Family had a fire and lost all of their belongings- Has emergency needs.</b>	<b>Student needs clothing or shoes (and you haven't yet referred for OSB, Clothes for Kids or PTSA Shoe Fund)</b>
<b>BPP has met with a family with an interpreter and exhausted all resources and family still needs help.</b>	<b>Family does not speak English and you are not sure if they need any help with resources. (You can call the KIT office if you are concerned about the housing situation)</b>







### **KIT Office:**

Amy Perusse, KIT Coordinator x4235  
Abby Mayers, Interim KIT/Foster Coordinator and  
Family and Community Engagement Coordinator x4138  
Diane Indivero, KIT Office Assistant x4086

### **Family Resource Center- by referral only**

Lyn Lauzon, Family Resource Coordinator [Llauzon@everettsd.org](mailto:Llauzon@everettsd.org)  
Conchita Chinchilla, FRC Assistant [Cchinchilla@everettsd.org](mailto:Cchinchilla@everettsd.org)

### **Support Staff:**

Mike Keiss, On-Time Graduation Success Coordinator x4535 (M,T,F); x5148 (W,Th)  
Lisa Samaniego, KIT Transportation Router x4148\*

*\*only contact Lisa after transportation has been requested if there are emergencies or questions re: route details.*

Chris Fulford- Director Categorical Programs x4030



**Request individualized assistance from the KIT team**

**Check out the KIT Staff toolkit [www.everettsd.org/KIT](http://www.everettsd.org/KIT)  
login as staff and unlock the goodies in the staff toolkit!**

**OSPI Has a ton of resources and trainings:**

[McKinney-Vento](#)  
[Foster Care](#)

[Schoolhouse Connection](#) is a national non-profit organization working to overcome homelessness through education. We provide strategic advocacy and practical assistance in partnership with early childhood programs, schools, institutions of higher education, service providers, families, and youth.

# THANK YOU!

For being part of our KIT Team

*Complete the evaluation in frontline to  
receive credit for this training*

