

SNOHOMISH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

MCKINNEY-VENTO/FOSTER MEETING 5/11/2018

IN ATTENDANCE: 17 staff from 8 districts, 1 Rep from Snohomish Co., 1 Cocoon House Rep & 1 Rep from Sno. Co. YMCA.

District/ Agency	First name	Last Name	Title
Snohomish County	Robin	Hood	Snohomish County-Housing
Marysville	Deanna	Bashour	Categorical Programs
Monroe	Kathy	Bernhardt	Family Engagement Liaison
Cocoon House	Travis	Birse	Education and Employment
Everett	Nancy	Brown	Transportation
Snohomish	Jami	Cross	McKinney-Vento Liaison
Mukilteo	Cynthia	Davis	Categorical Programs
Granite Falls	Kayla	Dupler	McKinney-Vento Liaison
Everett	Angelica	Glaser	Foster Care Coordinator
Everett	Cynthia	Jones	Director, Categorical Programs
Everett	Gina	Key	Secretary, Categorical Programs
Everett	Sarah	Koehler	Routing Specialist
Stanwood-Camano	Cayli	Odegard	Family Support Specialist/Liaison
Stanwood-Camano	Angie	O'Connor	Transportation Specialist
Everett	Amy	Perusse	McKinney-Vento Coordinator
Granite Falls/ Lk. Stevens	Bill	Reynolds	Router
Mukilteo	Cindy	Steigerwald	Transportation Manager
Mukilteo	Beth	VanderVeen	Director of Student Services
Arlington	Amie	Verellen-Grubbs	Director of Career Readiness and Innovative Programs
Snohomish County	Ka'ohe	Wong	YMCA Program Manager

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INTRODUCTION

Meeting was held at Everett Public Schools, Community Resource Center in Everett, WA. Called to order by Amy Perusse, Everett Public Schools. Introductions were made among the attendees. Reviewed the 2016-17 Homeless Student Data which was recently released through OSPI. There was an increase of 211 MKV Students in Snohomish county, compared to last year's data.

Guest Speaker: Robin Hood, of Snohomish County Human Services Department explained the difference between the definitions of "Homeless" as defined by MKV and HUD. (Click [*HERE*](#) to learn more about current legislative efforts on this topic). According to HUD, families who are living in a hotel/motel (unless they are paying for the room with assistance from a non-profit) and those who are doubled-up or couch-surfing are not literally homeless. This means that they are not eligible for many HUD-funded housing assistance programs. Families and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth have very few housing resource options; the community services and shelters for this population are always at capacity. Robin emphasized the importance of connecting our MKV Families and UHY with 2-1-1.

Although they may not be able to assist a family or individual right away, calling 2-1-1 is still the best way to quickly assess their situation and refer to eligible programs as well as assisting the individuals in determining other options. 2-1-1 is the most efficient way to access shelter information and is the first step in accessing the "coordinated entry system." 2-1-1 is funded by federal and local government agencies and is vital in collecting data that helps identify the needs of the community. Coordinated entry helps to clarify the situation or profile of the person/family and match them to the program that will be most helpful for them. Different community agencies work with sub-populations throughout the county; these agencies build a more detailed profile of the person/family and can offer interim resources and support.

Note that it is very common for housing navigators to lose contact with families after the initial 2-1-1 contact and referral to agencies. Phones get disconnected or run out of minutes, and crisis situations change rapidly. A family who is ineligible for some services, may have a change in circumstances that would determine eligibility. It is important for families/individuals to stay in contact with their navigator, or to reach out to 2-1-1 regularly to keep information up to date to remain eligible for services.

Robin explained how the [Dispute Resolution Center \(DRC\) operated by Volunteers of America \(VOA\)](#) works to help prevent a family or individual from losing their housing. If the client has a current vacate notice they may qualify for assistance from the DRC. The DRC provides mediation, Fair Housing/Landlord-Tenant assistance, training and subsidy support. If the client and landlord are unable to come to a solution to maintain the unit they are in, they may help by mutually agreeing to break the lease and find re-housing in something more affordable. Robin also informed us that the affordable housing search [housingsearchnw.org](#) website is no longer the best search tool as its funding is not

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continuing. Other websites like [Apartment Finder](#) are still helpful for families and individuals seeking low income housing.

Robin also talked about the Point in Time Count, (PIT). The most current PIT data can be accessed online: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/2857/Point-In-Time> You can find multiple reports related to PIT Count and very informative information about housing and community services in Snohomish County. This is a great overview of the Everett/Snohomish County Continuum of Care plan and how the system operates in Snohomish County. Robin encouraged everyone who has any additional information or feedback regarding the data, to contact Chris Hatch at 2-1-1. This information will be available on the shared Google Drive as well.

Review and Approval of February Meeting Minutes – Minutes were approved as distributed. [View/Print February 2018 Minutes.](#)

Action Item Reports:

Cocoon House Safe Place Logo on School Buses

At the February meeting, Anna Esquibel, NWESD Regional Transportation Coordinator and Glenn Gorton, State Director of Student Transportation suggested the idea of offering additional training and/or information for bus drivers at the monthly “Driver Trainer Meetings.” Since Glenn and Anna were not present at the May meeting no further action was taken Amy will check in with them to see if there is an update. It was suggested that this additional training will most likely occur at school district level and be at the discretion of each district. Also, if Safe Place training is to be part of the next “In-Service” training in August of 2019, then it will need to be put on the calendar this coming Fall 2018.

Action Item: Amy to contact Anna & Glenn to get “**Safe Place**” training on the agenda for future driver training, in-service day, August 2019; or decide to have each district do the training individually.

Shared Drive:

See shared Google Drive Folder

A reminder to check out the Google Shared Drive. Deanna Bashour of Marysville can help with access, and Arlet Gess of Edmonds gessa@edmonds.wednet.edu is willing to share her expertise with creating forms. Please log in and check it out if you haven’t already. Find and share templates and forms and information here for easy access and idea sharing. (Please DO NOT store any confidential or student-related information on this site--only templates and information). A Link was sent in a direct email to Snohomish County McKinney-Vento/Foster contacts. If your email is not on the list or you need access, email Deanna at Deanna_bashour@msvl.k12.wa.us

It was suggested that Google Drive would be a good place to provide family and student resources as well as school district calendars.

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Action Item: We will continue to review this at future meetings to familiarize the group and encourage use of the shared drive. Schedule time after August meeting to practice and familiarize.

Snohomish County districts coordination of Homeless Transportation:

Amy Perusse & Nancy Brown of Everett Public Schools (EPS), reported that EPS have initiated the pilot program with Boys & Girls Club to establish a transportation hub for students being transported from the Marysville area to EPS. Amy said that it was difficult to get the paperwork back from the families in a timely manner. She would like to streamline this process. Nancy reported that they started the program with a small manageable size and downsized from ten buses to eight, and saving about two hours per day. Because they now have this hub they have also established bus-to-bus transfers at the Boys & Girls Club, which has been more cost effective. The plan is to also streamline the system more on the Marysville side, so that Marysville has an efficient way to use the hub for the routes they are bringing in to Everett. Nancy is looking forward to using this system in the beginning of the 2018-19 school year. Deanna reported that Marysville tried using schools as transportation hub sites but it was not cost effective. Using the Boys & Girls Clubs is more efficient and is a great benefit to the families because it provides them with an annual club membership.

Amy introduced Program Manager, Ka'ohe Wong, from the YMCA. Ka'ohe stated that the Snohomish County YMCA is looking at their systems agency-wide to create procedures to improve collaboration with school districts to help MKV Families. One of the ways they can potentially help is by utilizing their existing sites as transportation hubs for MKV/Foster students. The YMCA hosts programs in 41 different sites across seven different school districts in Snohomish County. They have 28 sites currently that provide before and after school structured and supervised activities. These could all become potential hub locations for transporting our highly mobile students. Ka'Ohe is currently working with EPS to establish a process that would include ROI's for streamlining paperwork and sharing information to reduce barriers, allowing transportation departments to quickly set up routes using the hub locations. Monroe & Marysville YMCA sites are open at 6am, the others are open at 6:30, which may help accommodate students with early start times and families with parents who need to get to school or work early. The YMCA is a terrific way for families to get connected in their community too, especially if they are new to the area. The YMCA already offers dramatically reduced rates for an annual youth membership for students who qualify for free or reduced meals at school (this means that very MKV & Foster student qualifies). Scholarships and other waivers are also available if the family cannot afford the reduced rates. The YMCA is a safe outlet and resource for MKV and Foster families. Comprehensive sites also provide access to basic needs like hot shower and a safe place to exercise, participate in sports, and other various activities. We are excited about this partnership and will continue to work on getting the YMCA hubs in place.

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MKV Transportation Requirement:

In February, Glenn Gorton, reminded us that OSPI requires districts sharing MKV transportation, to have a contract/agreement in place in the beginning of each school year. Email is not sufficient; the contract must be **signed** and **on file**. Marysville emphasized that they were also told, during a recent Consolidated Program Review (CPR) to keep a signed transportation agreement with districts we share transportation with. If a district disputes sharing transportation costs with another district then it makes it extremely difficult to enforce without this document. It was suggested that districts who share transportation regularly should have an **annual** agreement, signed and approved by both districts. Other district agreements will be signed as added. Contracting with a transportation company like ALC, alleviates contract issues between school districts. After discussion, Beth, Karen and Cindy from Mukilteo School District volunteered to create a template for Snohomish County districts. It was also reiterated that if a guardian is providing transportation (“In-Lieu”), there must be a contract in place that is signed by the guardian and the transportation department.

<p><u>Action Item:</u> Check in with Beth, Karen and Cindy regarding the template for MKV transportation agreement for school districts in Snohomish County.</p>

Foster Care:

The OSPI Foster Care Program Supervisor is Peggy Carlson. She is a good contact if you have more questions about the Foster Care Education Program.

Angelica Glaser reported out that Treehouse advocates have been a great resource and partner for our Student Support Advocates in the Everett schools. Treehouse advocates help coordinate services for students in Foster Care including those who have special needs. Treehouse advocates work by identifying and partnering with the team of existing supports in a youth’s life—foster parents, social workers, teachers, school counselors and mentors—Treehouse provides timely, appropriate supports and services tailored to a youth’s individual developmental needs. One of the greatest things about utilizing Treehouse support for foster students is to help when a student must be moved to a new school. They can assist on the other end at the new school as they face another difficult transition and can support by removing barriers to fully participating in school and school related activities.

Other News/Updates: Please upload summer resources, summer meal schedules to the shared drive. Meeting was adjourned at 11:50am.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

Upcoming meeting dates: All are scheduled at Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center 10:00 – 12:00 in the Board Room Please email aperusse@everettsd.org with agenda items.

- **August 10, 2018**
- **Will determine future meeting dates at August Meeting.**