

SNOHOMISH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

MCKINNEY-VENTO/FOSTER MEETING 8/27/20

IN ATTENDANCE: 20 staff from 14 districts, Representatives from, Cocoon House, DCYF, DVS, Everett Police Dept., Housing Hope, Interfaith Shelter and Treehouse. 34 participants total via online Zoom Meeting.

District/ Agency	First name	Last Name	Title
Arlington	Brenda	Dobry	Administrative Assistant
Cocoon House	Sam	Blair	HSSeP Advocate
Cocoon House	Rachel	Mathison	Senior Director of Programs
Darrington	Linn	Brooks	Truancy/Athletic Secretary
DCYF	Debbie	Gomi	Education and Disproportionality Program Consultant
DVS	Michelle	McKibbin-Kable	Family Advocate
DVS	David	Weingardt	Children's Advocate
Edmonds	Leanne	Brisbois	McKinney-Vento Liaison
Edmonds	Arlet	Gess	Transportation Dispatcher/MKV Router
Edmonds	Kelly	Moses	Director, Fed. Programs
Everett	Lisa	Samaniego	KIT Program Transportation Administrative Assistant
Everett	Chad	Golden	Director of Categorical Programs
Everett	Angelica	Glaser	Foster Care Coordinator
Everett	Gina	Key	Secretary, Categorical Programs
Everett	Amy	Perusse	KIT Coordinator
Everett Police Department	Jeff	Pountain	Youth Services Sergeant
Everett Police Department	Doug	Jackson	Gang Education & Prevention Officer

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Granite Falls	Brandi	Walker	McKinney-Vento Coordinator
Housing Hope	Denise	Hollenbeck	ISA Collaborative Advocate
Housing Hope	Monica	Wilson	ISA Collaborative Coordinator
Interfaith Shelter	Julie	Brenaman	Child Advocate
Lake Stevens	Sarah	Danielson	Director of Student Intervention
Lakewood	Jeannette	Hamilton	Administrative Assistant
Marysville	Deanna	Bashour	McKinney-Vento & Foster Care Liaison
Monroe	Kathy	Bernhardt	Family Liaison
Mukilteo	Beth	VanderVeen	Director of Student Services
Northshore	Anamaria	Loera Foy	McKinney-Vento Liaison
Shoreline	Carol	Matsumoto	Student Services Specialist
Stanwood-Camano	Michelle	Kunzman	Family Support Specialist/Liaison
Sultan	Paul	Douglas	Executive Director, Special Services
Treehouse	Stacy	Bailey	Education Specialist
Treehouse	Heidi	Barden	Education Advocate
Treehouse	Jamie	Burns	Program Manager
Treehouse	David	Harris	Education Specialist

INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was hosted via Zoom by Amy Perusse. The meeting was called to order at 10:02am Amy requested that everyone message in the chat room with their name for attendance purposes. Amy reviewed the minutes from our last meeting which was held on February 28, 2020. [Click HERE to view & print the minutes from the February Meeting](#). Amy strongly encouraged attendees to email her with programs or issues they would like to add to the agenda for future meetings.

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Covid-19 and the 2020 -21 school year: Snohomish County school districts all report remote learning; with some utilizing a hybrid model, as we start up for the fall. Identifying McKinney-Vento Students will look very different this school year and the needs of those students and their families will be varied, ranging from accessing free school meals, to housing, and the need for access to Wi-Fi, hotspots and technology to remain engaged in remote learning. The team discussed what those scenarios might look like for families experiencing homelessness. For additional information here is the [link for today's slides from the PowerPoint presentation](#). (clickable links are embedded).

We discussed coordination of providing meals to highly mobile students during remote learning. For school meals school districts will use a combination of delivery to pick-up sites consisting of schools, housing complexes, other public location and shelters. Most are working together to get meals to families who can't access the pick-up sites. At the time of this meeting, guidance was that we could provide a meal to an out of district student IF we could confirm they are MKV/Foster in the other district. This information was updated within a few days and the new USDA guidance allows any youth 1-18 to receive free meals from any district, this was an extension of the nationwide waiver.

Additional resources and ideas to share:

- Everett Community College provides free wifi in their parking lot at 915 N. Broadway
- Xfinity wireless Wifi HotSpot locator maps and Apps are [available online](#).
- Washington State Department of Commerce has a [clickable Wifi locator map](#).
- Free or Low-Cost cell phone from [SafeLink](#) & [Assurance](#) wireless
- Many districts are using electronic/online Housing Questionnaires in addition to distributing paper housing forms.
- Disseminating information to families of how to access school meals
- [Additional resources & useful templates can be found on Schoolhouse Connection](#).
 - [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - [Public Service Announcements](#)
 - [Checklists, Guides, and Strategies](#)
- Everett Public Schools is using a combined [housing and assistance online survey](#) which is available for reference. It is posted on their website, used for staff to send out to parents/youth, and also added as a hyperlink to the pre-order meal form for parents to use if they have had a change to their housing during remote learning. Staff are being trained to [look for signs of homelessness during remote learning](#) and to [take note of certain needs](#) for already identified and potential McKinney-Vento situations.

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Guest Attendees from local Shelters:

Representatives from local shelter advocates had time to share concerns and experiences in assisting students/families staying at their shelters. Michelle, a family advocate with the DVS shelter, has concerns as to what supports are being put in place to support students with 504 Plans and IEP's? The advice from the school representatives were that parents and case managers from special services should work with shelter advocates to supply students with the necessary tools needed for remote learning. Some districts are bringing their students with special needs into the classroom for in-person instruction.

David, DVS Children's Advocate reminded attendees to use affirmations when talking to a parent/family in crisis. Some examples are, "You're smart," and "We care about you." Often school staff are focused on the students. It's important when talking to parents to remember to ask how **they** are doing. He also informed everyone that the Crisis Hotline is also available to those who are experiencing secondary/vicarious trauma, such as a counselor, staff person, friend or family member of the victim(s). Please call the 24/7 Domestic Violence Support Hotline if you need assistance or someone to talk to: 425-25-ABUSE (2-2873) or visit the website: www.dvs-snoco.org.

Julie Brenaman, Children's Advocate from Interfaith Shelter expressed her concerns in getting parents to register their students online in a timely manner. Parents are resistant to online enrollment and she is working very closely with her families to overcome this obstacle. It's very challenging to get the students to engage in learning remotely as well, their shelter is struggling to set up a good learning environment at their facility. They are looking into learning centers at the YMCA and Boys & Girls Clubs.

Another challenge for shelters is that they are hosting youth from multiple school districts with each district using different learning platforms and devices. This makes it tough to keep up with what each district is expecting and to help guide the families appropriately. A key contact in each district would be helpful for each shelter to know who to contact to help their families/students. **Remember that when a client is in a domestic violence situation, they may have to give up their cell phone as an abuser can use the phone to track locations.* If this is the case, we are encouraging advocates to help guide the parent to report either the new contact information to the school, or to notify the school of the need for a phone to see if there is assistance.

Q & A and Resources from Attendees:

Debbie Gomi, DCYF, Snohomish County Educational Lead, has asked all of her Social Workers in Region 3 to complete School Notification Forms to provide updated information to schools of Foster student's current situation. The key is to over-communicate with all parties. Debi said the primary concern for most foster parents is how to provide schooling and supports for their kids while they are working?

Arlet from Edmonds SD said many Edmonds parents are coordinating what they are calling "learning pods" this is a collaboration similar to a parent co-op with each parent

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rotating to supervise the learning of a small group of students. Edmonds has worked with Right at School and Boys and Girls Club to establish online work areas for students.

The Boys & Girls Clubs and YMCA's are also prioritizing McKinney-Vento and Foster students for childcare.

Jeff Pountain, Youth Services Sergeant from the Everett Police Dept. said that School Resource Officers (SRO) have completed newly mandated training. Each school district is utilizing SRO's differently. Some SRO's are working virtually with/at schools as well as in-person check-ins with students on campus and well-checks with families in the community. Snohomish County Sheriff's Office has a similar program, for districts outside the City of Everett. Jeff said that he would be happy to share information and resources with the families & students that he communicates with. As a community we have to work together to keep our students safe.

Gang Education and Prevention Officer, Doug Jackson, referred everyone to the city [website, highlighting programs](#) that Everett PD is doing to help educate and prevent youth violence.

The core-working group recommended a three-part approach:

- 1) Resource Guide: Create a comprehensive list of the existing intervention and prevention services available within Snohomish County. The list will include all types of human services (public and private), provider information, and population groups designed for the services .
- 2) PIVOT for Youth: Implement the Positive Intervention Outreach Team (PIVOT) for Youth. This new multi-disciplinary review team will identify individual youths, and their families, who are at high risk of youth and gang violence. The team would categorize specific needs, challenges, and opportunities before creating an action plan that identifies resources available.
- 3) PAY Program: Develop and enact the Pathways for Adolescent Youth (PAY) program. PAY provides community role models and positive reinforcement for youth who are at high risk of youth and gang violence. The program will initially focus on Explorer Middle School with school staff and Everett Police School Resource Officers selecting participants. The program aims to support both the youth and their entire family, through positive mentorship and enrollment in the Strengthening Families program. An additional component seeks to incentivize good behavior and decisions of selected youth by offering "rewards", in the form of gift cards and recognition, for positive behavior as a healthy replacement for "rewards" and lure of the "gang-life".

If anyone has questions about these programs, please contact Doug at: djackson@everettwa.gov.

Cocoon House Update: Rachel Mathison, Senior Director of Programs reported some exciting news: All programs are up & running at CH. They still have parent outreach

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virtually and in-person in Spanish as well as English. The Way-out classes are virtual, and laptops are provided. Street outreach is continuing around Snohomish County. If you see young people in your area that you think might benefit from the street outreach program please call CH and they will send someone out to chat with the youth(s).

Mariyah Carrier, Human Trafficking Program Coordinator, is planning to work with every school district in the county to offer human trafficking awareness PD training for staff. Please contact Mariyah if you are interested Cell: 425.365.1159 Email: mariya.carrier@cocoonhouse.org. Also, Deanna Bashour is part of a subcommittee that is working towards bringing awareness of human trafficking to educators and encourages other liaisons to get involved in the monthly meetings centered around human trafficking awareness. If you're interested, please email Deanna at: Deanna_bashour@msd25.org.

Cocoon House has been awarded funding through the CARES Act for Rental Assistance & Prevention of Loss of Housing Assistance. They were awarded \$800,000 for 18–24 year old heads of household. This funding will pay up to three months' rent. This includes undocumented people as well. The funds must be spent by 12/31/20. If you know of a candidate that fits the criteria please refer them to Cocoon House: [Click HERE for a shareable flyer](#).

CH also received \$200,000 of flex funds to assist families who have a student 8 to 18 years old living in the household who are in need of financial assistance and fit the following criteria: Experienced a decrease of income due to Covid and have a person in the household who is in the high-risk category for Covid. Payments must go directly to a qualified third party/company to pay bills, etc. Funds cannot be issued directly to the family. Please contact CH or VOA for referral. [Click HERE for more information](#).

Amy announced that the VOA is also receiving additional CARES Funds to assist families in need, who meet certain criteria. For more information please contact VOA directly by dialing 2-1-1. [More locations to refer families in need by clicking HERE](#). The 2020-21 school year is a great opportunity to host a future MKV/Foster Meeting, virtually! If you are interested, please contact Amy Perusse.

NEXT MEETINGS (dates TBD, most likely will be Zoom hosted):

November
February
May
August

Please email Staff changes or agenda suggestions to Amy at aperusse@everettsd.org

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 am.