

# **Project Hope**

2007-2008 McKinney-Vento Program for Children in Transitional Living Proposal

# "Giving A Rainbow of HOPE"

# A. Statement of Need: <u>I. Assessment of the size of the local homeless population.</u>

Colonial Beach is a small rural community that geographically is located in Westmoreland County which lies in the northwestern area of the state and is interpolated westerly by King George, Virginia, easterly by the Potomac River, southerly by Richmond County, Virginia and northerly by Washington, D.C./Northern Virginia. Colonial Beach has an extremely transient and mobile population as indicated by its location close to two military bases (families in transition due to parents sent abroad to serve our country) coupled with a high poverty rate (47%), and moreover, it is impacted by a low literacy rate.

According to the definition and guidelines of families in transition (homelessness) set forth by the NCLB reauthorization of the ESEA, McKinney-Vento Act, an initial survey was conducted in May 2007 to identify such students. While Colonial Beach Public Schools strive to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment effort, it is of note that additional resources are needed to more accurately identify homeless children and youth in this area.

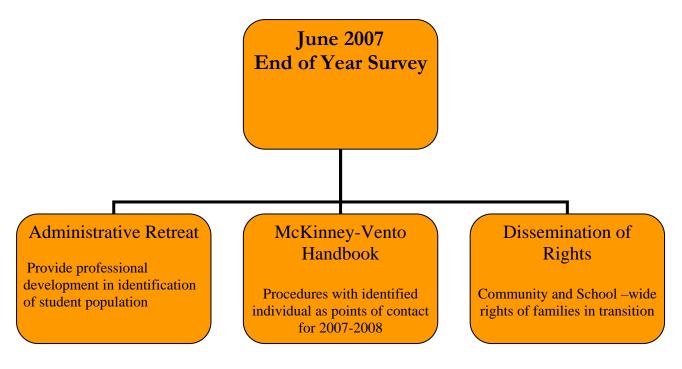
# II. Description of Education and Outreach Programs

# Phase I. Identification and Needs Assessment of Families in Transition (Homeless Children and Youth) in the Service Area

Colonial Beach Public Schools will conduct a survey annually to identify students as defined by McKinney-Vento Legislation. A comprehensive needs assessment will consist of analysis of disaggregated data delineating student academic performance as well as socio-emotional needs. A Housing Living Survey (HLS) will include methodologies for the identification of specificity of transitional living status. Key personnel will be trained in the identification and regulatory statutes of the McKinney-Vento legislation.

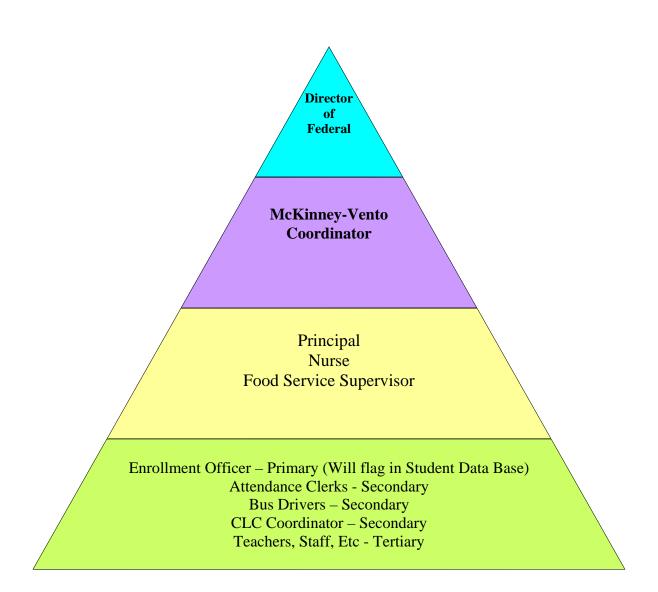
# Measurable Outcome:

By June 15, 2008 a comprehensive identification process will be completed for FY 2007-2008 as follows:



A clear delineation of roles, confidentiality and rights of families will be provided for all individuals. Points of contact will be outlined as indicated in the Hierarchy of Point of Contact. On-going identification efforts will be conducted throughout the year.

# Hierarchy of Points of Contact



#### Barriers:

- 1. Colonial Each Public Schools currently is challenged to complete this task due to a lack of funding. While creativity, innovativeness, and, collaboration have provided the resources, a more comprehensive professional development effort is needed to include support attendance of national and state meetings and conferences.
- **2.** Additional support personnel are needed to provide more comprehensive services for identified students.

### 4 <u>Phase II</u>. Academic, Socio-Emotional and Basic Needs Support Needs

Students will receive additional support during the regular school year, after school and during the summer through remediation, experiential literacy/language lessons, family literacy outreach programs and individual tutoring.

#### Barriers:

- During the summer of 2007 and school year 2007-2008, outreach services were provided to assist families in identifying and utilizing local services, family literacy, acquisition of needed school supplies and providing adequate support for students. Additional resources are needed to more comprehensively meet the needs of the students and families.
- Previously, Colonial Beach Public Schools utilized federal, state and local funds to provide summer opportunities to students in grades 3-12. Due to limited funds and a lack of economic resources to adequately fund a full summer intervention program, K-2 students are not able to receive critical supplemental intervention services. Critical early intervention in the academic and socio-emotional areas is tantamount to overall drop-out prevention and school failure.
- 3. On-site and outreach counseling services requiring additional resources are needed.
- 4. Personnel are needed to comprehensively research, implement and disseminate resources and program activities as well as to seek partners and new collaborations.
- Policy and regulatory revisions are critical in order to fully be in compliance with all federal regulations mandated by the McKinney-Vento Act. All entrance forms requiring revisions

need to be identified and fully aligned with the federal requirements.

# IV. Program Description

# <u>Objective 1.</u>

By August 31, 2008, students will demonstrate academic success as seen in state and local assessments, pre and post assessments, literacy attainment, and participation in parental involvement activities.

# Activities:

a. Family Literacy Outreach Program

- Identified high need areas will be selected and targeted for weekly literacy and parenting sessions.
- Brochures, posters and additional literature will be provided to assist families and students.
- Literacy and early intervention best practices will be modeled.
- Students will receive take books, and be immersed in experiential literacy activities.
- Implement a three week intensive summer Literacy/Mathematics Academy will provide at-risk K-2 students early interventions to circumvent the risk of failure or dropping out of school. Identified students who meet the criteria for homelessness as set forth by the NCLB (reauthorization of the ESEA); McKinney-Vento Act will be prioritized for participant selection along with peers exemplifying at-risk behaviors. The instructional program will consist of intensive small group and tutorial instruction delivered by highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals in each of the core areas previously delineated. Apart-time guidance counselor will be employed to coordinate and provide services inclusive of, but not limited to, career counseling, socio-emotional adjustment, dealing with anger, frustration or change, etc.

# Please Note: Transportation will be provided.

# Objective 2.

By August 31, 2008, all administrative, support and paraprofessional staff will be provided professional development opportunities in the identification and delivery of service to meet the needs of the homeless populations.

# Activities:

- 4 Administrative Professional Development William and Mary Pat Popp
- School Enrollment/Intake Officers Audrey Simms Berryman, Federal Programs
- Professional, Paraprofessional and Support Staff Professional Development -Project Hope Intake/Policy Specialist
- 4 Attendance of local, state and national conferences.

# Objective 3.

To update and align all enrollment procedures and forms, policies and provisions to accurately and completely reflect regulatory requirements set forth by the NCLB McKinney-Vento Act.

# Activities:

- Attend training and review legislation to become knowledgeable with all regulatory and non-regulatory requirements of the McKinney-Vento Act.
- Develop brochures and newsletters to inform parents and providers of the rights of homeless students.
- Provide professional development opportunities for LEA and community stakeholders.
- **4** Coordinate services between schools and service agencies.
- Address needs of homeless children and youth arising from domestic violence, or separation of family unit.
- Recommend policy and procedural revisions needed to fully comply with NCLB McKinney-Vento Act.

Please Note: Previously compiled/developed brochures, newsletters, and handbooks are in need of updates and revisions. Collaboration with Social Services and other community agencies and businesses will be researched.

# **Rationale:**

A lack of funding prohibits the implementation of a comprehensive program that would fully meet the needs of the students of Colonial Beach. Although, the program is subsidized with funding from other local, state and federal resources, we are utilizing limited resources and are attempting to provide a program that more comprehensively meets the needs of families in transition and to provide adequate support in critical areas as defined by Maslow. Providing support in the areas of academics, transportation, physiological needs, safety, love/belonging, esteem, and self-actualization are essential in order to achieve the mandates of NCLB dictating mastery of higher levels of achievement as delineated by Bloom's Taxonomy six levels of learning within the cognitive domain. Additional funding would provide resources to support instructional opportunities designed to promote intellectual attainment in the domains of analysis, synthesis and evaluation.

Approximately 11% of the student population of the town of Colonial Beach is identified as members of families in transitional living status (i.e. homeless). We must provide for youth of America adequately and learn to better protect our children in order to ensure the longevity and proliferation of the influence of this great democracy. We must be able to exemplify the characteristics of this great nation as it is portrayed throughout the world. Perhaps more indicatively of the challenge faced locally is the lack of a preschool educational program for all children. Limited funds in the amount of \$11,000 (state allocated funds) are not adequate to implement a research-based early childhood program.

## Section V. Program Administration and Management

Timeline and Responsibilities: Employ Project Hope Intake/Policy Specialist Sept. 1, 2007 Identify participants for Academies May 30, 2008 Conduct accurate survey of current homeless population On-going Employ Personnel for Summer Activities June 30, 2008 Literacy/Mathematics Academy July 2008 Conduct Pre Assessments June 2008 Conduct Post Assessments July 31. 2008 Observe instruction in the classroom

On-going Collect and Assimilate Data for Disaggregation On-going Disaggregate/Disseminate Data On-going with final 7/31/08Provide Professional Development Opportunities for September 2007 Administration and School Enrollment/Intake Officers Complete Policy and Procedural Recommendations,

Update Forms and Submit Evaluation Reports Analyze data and prepare for disaggregation and dissemination

Submit Plan for 2008-2009 School Year

**Completion Date** 

**On-going**