Project HOPE NRV is a regional program for Homeless Education which includes the five school division in the New River Valley.

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Project HOPE NRV

McKinney-Vento Count: 2017/2018 School Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Giles</th>
<th>Floyd</th>
<th>Montgomery</th>
<th>Pulaski</th>
<th>Radford</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheltered</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doubled-up</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>42</td>
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<td>Hotel/Motel</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaccompanied</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>73</td>
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Project HOPE Happenings

Heather Turman, Regional Coordinator, attended the VAFPEA Conference in Williamsburg, VA October 15-17. Leading the charge to address the increase in mental health supports of students in school is the idea of Trauma Informed Schools. This approach can help all students, especially McKinney-Vento students. See info graphic to the left.

Dr. Pat Popp, McKinney-Vento State Coordinator, announced a possible HOPE conference with information directed towards McKinney-Vento initiatives and homelessness in our schools. If you would like to help plan the conference contact Project HOPE at homeless@wm.edu.

Woodsmen-Life Thanksgiving Bags delivered November 16th. A big thank you for Margarette Dobbins and colleagues for their continued support of our Unaccompanied Homeless Older Youth in the NRV. They will provide another 20 bags for the winter break.

Project SPROUT, Christiansburg Honor Society and The Blacksburg New Comers Club hosted book drives to support Project HOPE. The clubs collected more than 350 books and more are coming in! Regional Coordinator will restock the libraries at the four New River Family Shelter sites with these children’s and young adult books. Books also distributed to local liaison upon request.
Newly enacted opioid bill could help homeless children, youth and families  
https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/

On Wednesday, October 24, President Trump signed into law bipartisan legislation, H.R. 6, the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act. This sweeping legislation contains many provisions that could help children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness who are impacted by the opioid crisis, as well as provisions to help all children and youth who experience trauma. We’ll share more complete analysis of the legislation in the coming weeks, but below are some highlights of H.R. 6:

- Definition of “Homeless Youth” – The legislation includes a definition of “Homeless Youth” that is aligned with the definition of homelessness in the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act. This definition of homelessness matches the reality of youth homelessness. It includes youth who stay with others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason, and youth who stay in motels due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations.
- Youth Prevention and Recovery Initiative – This initiative requires the Secretary of HHS, in consultation with the Department of Education, to identify and disseminate best practices for the prevention of and recovery from substance use disorder, including for specific populations such as homeless youth and youth in foster care. Grants are authorized to carry out substance abuse disorder prevention and treatment programs.
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Data Collection – The legislation authorizes the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to support states in collecting and reporting data on adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) through the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) in order to help understand the causes and effects of ACEs. The CDC now includes two questions about homelessness on its optional YRBS questionnaire. 24 states and 10 localities included one or both of those questions in their 2017 YRBS.

Sesame Street Workshop launched a national initiative on family homelessness…meet Lily!

**Sesame Street in Communities - Family Homelessness Resources**

Sesame Street in Communities will host an interactive conversation with a panel of experts to raise nationwide awareness about homelessness, its effects on children, and ways providers can help.

**Date:** Thursday, December 13

**Time:** 4:00 pm EST

**Tune in:** Facebook Live and YouTube Live