

**Paula Gumina**

**Highly Mobile Student Programs Manager & State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children & Youth**

**Colorado Department of Education**

**303-551-3851**

[Gumina\_p@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Gumina_p@cde.state.co.us)

**McKinney-Vento Homeless Education**

**Updates – October 2024**

**Highly Mobile Youth Professionals Peer-to-Peer Conversations**

Thank you for staying engaged in our monthly Peer-to-Peer conversations! Our next peer-to-peer will be hosted **on Tuesday, October 8th from 11:30 am -12:30pm**. This month we will be joined by partners from the Colorado Department of Higher Education to learn more about [EmpowerEd](https://cdhe.colorado.gov/students/preparing-for-college/financial-aid-for-students/empowered), [FosterEd](https://cdhe.colorado.gov/programs-and-services/postsecondary-education-programs-and-services/fostered) and the [Education & Training Voucher Programs](https://cdhe.colorado.gov/programs-services/foster-youth-programs-and-services/etv-program).

The link for the recurring meeting has moved to zoom. Please join us using the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtc-Cpqz4jE9SAD-WnwoQ6xzL-67aVyIr_>

**US Department of Education Required 2023-24 Reporting**

On October 2nd every liaison across the state was emailed an individualized URL link to complete a mandatory **report required by the U.S. Department of Education.**  The data collected in this online report will be used by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to complete the annual homeless education data collection required by the U.S. Department of Education. Every school district in Colorado is required to complete this report, which is **due Friday, November 8, 2024.**

**If you did not receive a link to this report, please email Cathy Ebel,** [**cathyebel65@gmail.com**](mailto:cathyebel65@gmail.com)

**CDE will host a webinar** designed to support your completion of the survey on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, from 9-10:00 am. We will walk you through, step by step and make sure you’re comfortable responding. We want to make sure you have all the support you need with this required data collection. Please register for the webinar [here.](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUocuChqzkiHNB_67vptPKf0_5Xjuo3HWLb) The webinar will be recorded and posted to the CDE McKinney-Vento Website.

**November is Homeless Youth Awareness Month**

November 1st marks the start of Homeless Youth Awareness Month bringing attention to the important issue of youth homelessness across the state and the nation.  As in years past, the **Colorado Department of Education will be running a basic need item drive** for our students experiencing homelessness across the state. We need your help in understanding which basic need items are in most demand for the students and families you serve. **Please complete the following** [**survey**](https://forms.gle/cqVnSZoQqiaTu6br7) to help CDE employees donate the most meaningful and impactful items to the students and families you serve. Please submit your ideas and requests by Wednesday, October 30, 2024.

**McKinney-Vento New Liaison Webinar**If you are new to your role as the McKinney-Vento District liaison and you would like the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the responsibilities of the liaison under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, [please register](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUuc-Gorz8qHN0jbEoRzSFDG12ttUgx5eqh) for the McKinney-Vento New Liaison Webinar, **Thursday, October 24, 2024 from 9 – 11:00am**. Following the webinar participants should be able to:

* Explain the criteria for a student to be considered a homeless child or youth (HCY) under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (MV)
* Explain the responsibilities of a local educational agency (LEA) homeless liaison
* Identify the basic rights of students experiencing homelessness and LEA responsibilities for ensuring those rights.

Participants may also attend ongoing office hours and meetings with CDE contractor, Cathy Ebel for ongoing new liaison support throughout the year.