

A photograph of two children sitting on the floor of a school locker room. On the left, a young boy with short dark hair, wearing a plaid shirt and dark pants, sits with his arms crossed, looking towards the right. On the right, a young girl with long blonde hair in a ponytail, wearing a white shirt and blue shorts, sits holding an open book and looking towards the boy. They are positioned in front of a row of green metal lockers. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, possibly from a window out of frame. A thin white line connects the top of the girl's head to the top of the boy's head, emphasizing their interaction.

“How to make your McKinney-Vento Program the best it can Be”

**Speakers: Stacey Sills, Ottawa Area ISD
Health and Prevention Consultant and McKinney-Vento
Grant Coordinator
Michelle Bechler, Barnabas Ministries, Assistant Director**

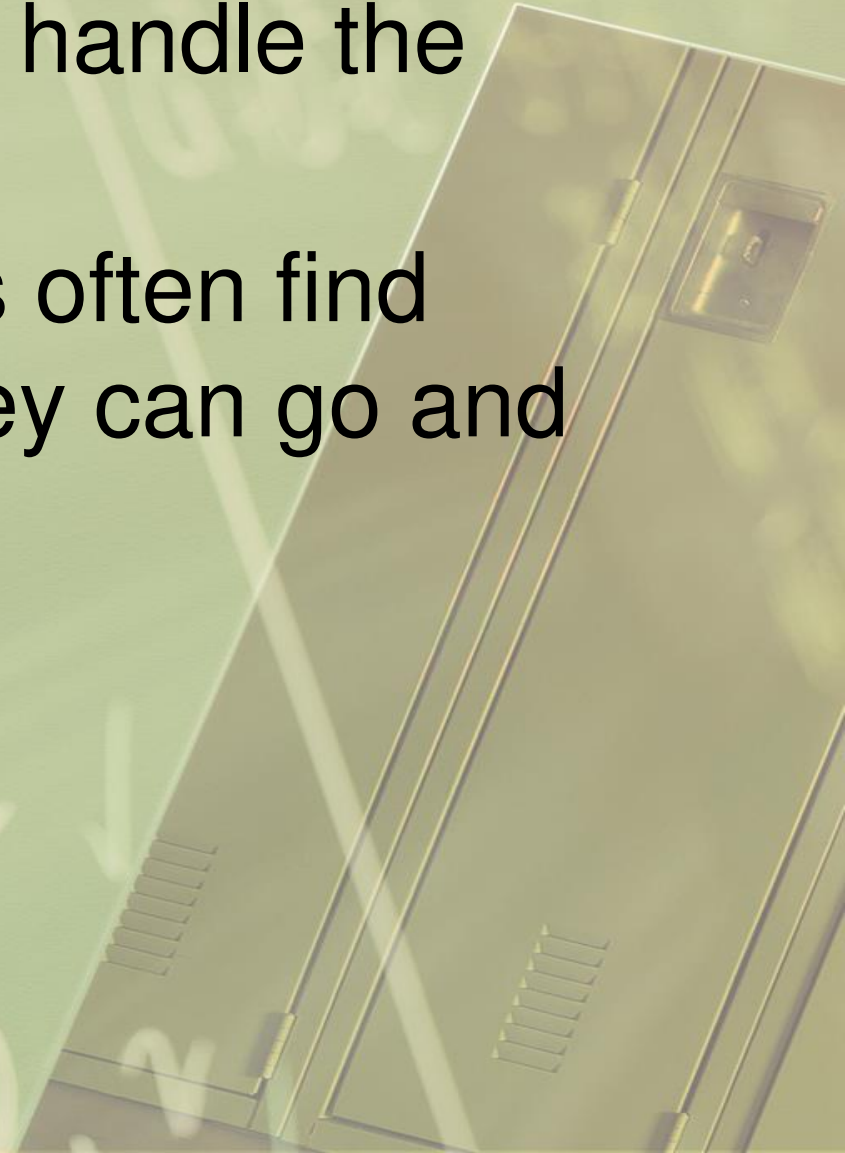
Today's Goals

- Best Practice
- Who we Are
- Social Media
- Promotion
- Funding
- Collaboration
- Getting Students Involved
- The Future



Best Practice

- “To be the best you must be able to handle the worst” – author unknown
- Kids who experience homelessness often find schools to be the one safe place they can go and have a “normal” life.
- What words describe your role as a liaison/coordinator?
- What about youth homelessness?



Describe Youth Homelessness

support
reluctant
deserving vulnerable frustrated
dejected overwhelmed lost
anxiety Sad
stressful
hunger
alone
wanting scared
destitute
depressing desperate
embarrassed
fear
homeless

Who we Are



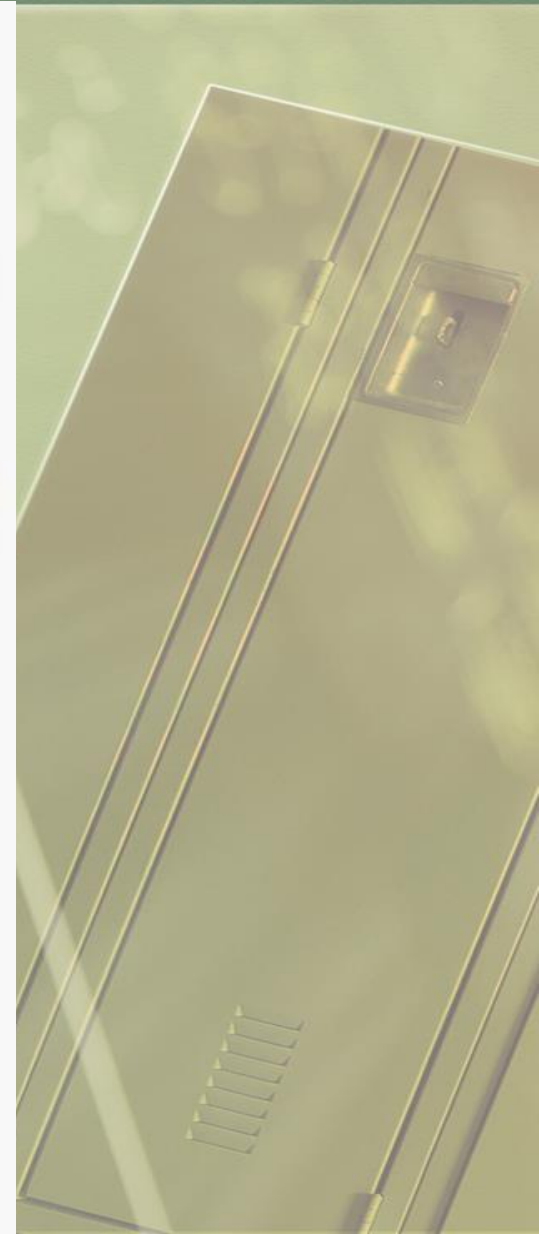
[Barnabas Ministries #Homeless2Hopeful Video](#)



Responsibilities of the Local Liaison

- Identify children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Make sure homeless children and youth are enrolled and have full and equal opportunity to succeed in school
- Make sure families, children and youth have access to and receive educational services for which they are eligible
- Inform parents/guardians of their rights
- Provide professional development to staff servicing homeless youth and families
- And MORE.....

To MDE and Beyond.....



Social Media

Ways in which parents, liaisons, staff and students can access your information.

The Facebook logo, featuring the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

facebook®



www.livebinders.com

– **Homeless Education Tabs**

- 2014-17 Self Assessment
- 2015 Regional Meeting
- Charter Schools
- College Resources
- ESSA
- Forms Used by Schools
- Foster Care
- Human Trafficking
- Liaison Information
- Local Resources
- MDE Website

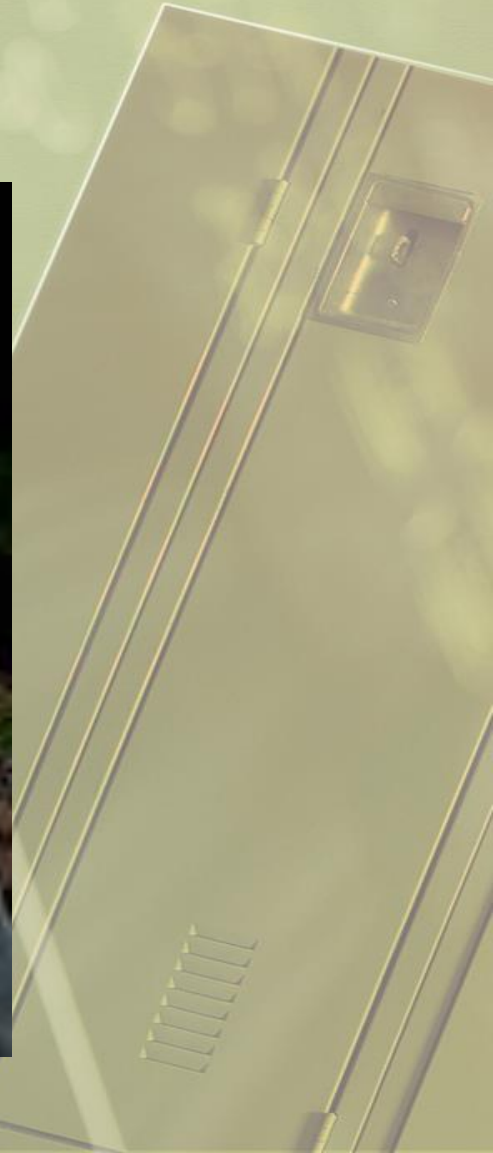
More Tabs

- MOISD Data System
- NCHE
- News Articles
- Preschool/Early Childhood
- Staff Information
- Title I
- Transportation
- Unaccompanied Youth
- Violence Prevention

<http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=1490432>

KIDS CARE About Homelessness

- [KIDS CARE About Homelessness](#)



FACEBOOK

Ottawa County Youth Homelessness

– <https://www.facebook.com/OAHCYouthHomelessness/>



Website

<http://www.oaisd.org/oaisd/departments/instructionalservices/homeless/>

Parent Resource Page


<https://www.oaisd.org/oaisd/departments/instructionalservices/homeless/for-parents/>

Promotion

- Develop your own brochure
- School fliers, newsletters, emails
- Speaking at the local Chamber of Commerce
- Speak to your superintendent
- Audio clip /interview on the radio station
- Volunteering at local events
- Present to administration in district (ask coordinator to present with you)
- Community days in district can be homeless related
- Twitter, Facebook, Jibe
- Stickers - **#Homeless2Hopeful**
- Local Bus



Macatawa Area Express (MAX) Bus Banner



HELP FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS

You qualify if you stay:

- With friends or family because you can't afford housing
- In a vehicle or campground
- In a shelter or motel
- On the street
- In an abandoned building

If you need assistance with your children's educational needs, contact your local school district and ask for the homeless liaison, or visit WWW.OAISD.ORG/HOMELESS

 **Ottawa Area ISD**
Learn. Serve. Lead.

Raising Money

- Middle school dance proceeds
- Wrestling team – donate per “take down” during match
- Dodgeball game – staff vs. students
- Buy a paper “hand” and write their name on it. Spell the word, “HOPE” with the completed hands.
- T-shirts!
- Stickers, bracelets
- “Hats for a Homeless Shelter”
- “High Fives” – donate change
- Bin for hygiene items for kids
- Department challenges



#Homeless2Hopeful





#homeless2hopeful



Barnabas Ministries Receiving \$ from Holland Public Schools



Hold a FAFSA night in your building! Colleges will come!



Get the Students Involved – Kids Helping Kids

- Make district specific homeless posters (and use NCHE)
- Middle school dance proceeds
- Poverty simulation
- Homeless Awareness Week
- Decorate lunch bags for Kids Food Basket – 42 schools involved
- Donate and organize hygiene kits for kids



**Kids' Food
Basket**

National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week

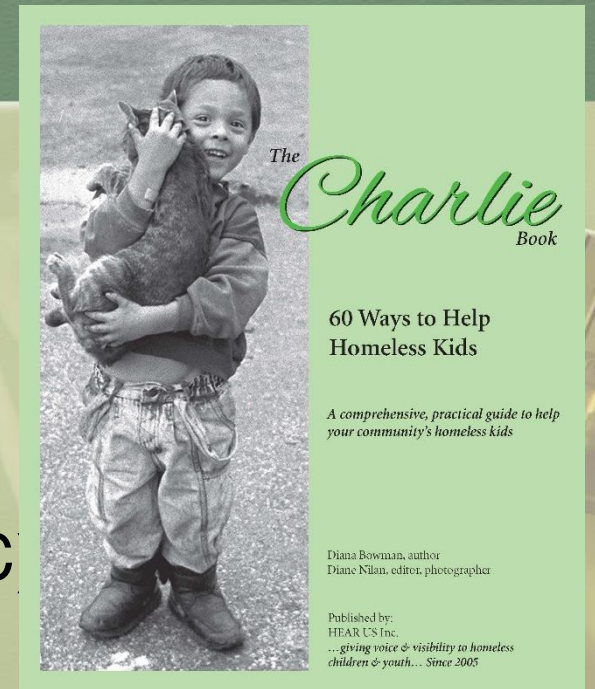
November 11-19, 2017

- It's not just a week, it's all year long...
- **Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week** is an annual program where people come together **across the country** to draw attention to the problems of hunger and homelessness. Participating groups spend the week holding a series of educational, service, fundraising, and advocacy events.
- www.hhweek.org



Other Ideas

- Food/Clothing Drive
 - Closet at school
- SNAP Challenge - \$4.40 per day
- Community Task Forces
- Create a community resource booklet (work with your COC)
- Provide suitcases or plastic bins for homeless families
- Mentoring programs
- Hang homeless posters everywhere (campgrounds, shelters, laundromats, grocery stores, health dept., medical clinics, food banks, libraries, etc.)
- Host a community event
- “The Charlie Book – 60 Ways to Help Homeless Kids” - \$10/share with district
- **Your IDEAS**



This WILL Happen

BARNABAS HOUSE | BARNABAS MINISTRIES

GMB ae



Photo Credits

- www.livebinders.com
- http://site.foodshare.org/site/PageServer?pagename=programs_movement_education_snapchallenge#SNAP
- www.hhweek.org
- www.kidsfoodbasket.org
- https://www.google.com/search?q=barnabas+ministries+zeeland+mi&safe=strict&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiPpautiJbWAhUj0IMKHSrJBcoQ_AUIDCgD&biw=1011&bih=590#imgrc=bcla8FrOKgFG9M:
- <http://cantorontheshore.blogspot.com/2014/10/the-real-meaning-of-to-infinity-and.html>
- <http://www.hearus.us/projects/ybyk/charliebook.html>

Presenters

Stacey Sills

McKinney-Vento Grant
Coordinator
Health and Prevention
Consultant
Ottawa Area ISD
13565 Port Sheldon Street
Holland, MI 49424
616.738.8940 ext. 4111
ssills@oaisd.org

Michelle Bechler

Assistant Director
Barnabas Ministries
9479 Riley Street
Zeeland, MI 49464
616.748.8435
michelle@barnabasmin.org
www.barnabasmin.org