



*Helping your student succeed in school*

## Tips for Parents:

- Talk to your child's teacher about your living situation. Your child may qualify for additional help through other programs and resources available at the school.
- Tell your child's teacher about your current situation. The more a teacher knows about your child, the more they can help them succeed.
- Make sure your child attends school every day.
- **Read to your child every day – even if it is only a few minutes.** The time spent will make a difference in your child's education.

## Area Resources



Call 2-1-1

**English and Spanish speaking operators available 24 hours a day.**

**Department of Health & Human Services**  
Provides connections for food, medical, childcare and other needs.  
(269) 673-7700

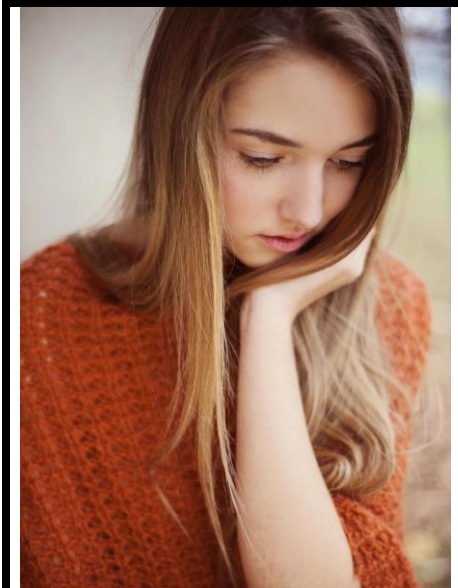
**Allegan County Community Mental Health Housing Assistance Programs**  
(269) 686-4703

LOVE INC  
4621 135th Ave.  
Hamilton, MI (269)-751-2533

The Allegan County Food Pantry  
The Bridge (church building)  
247 North Main, Allegan, MI (269)-686-6369

First Congregational Church  
**Free Meal on Thursdays**  
323 Cutler St.  
Allegan, MI  
(269)-673-3139

First Presbyterian Church  
**Free Lunch on Wednesdays**  
200 Cutler St.  
Allegan, MI  
(269)-673-4631



# RESOURCES

FOR

# HOMELESS YOUTH

AND THEIR

# FAMILIES

**Allegan Area Educational Service**

## Do you live in any of the following situations?

- In a shelter
- In a motel or campground due to lack of an alternative adequate accommodation
- In a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station
- Doubled up** with people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

*You may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney Vento Act*

## The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act

**The Act is a federal law that governs the educational rights of children and youth in homeless situations. According to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, a homeless person is an individual, including children and youth, who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence.**

**If you and your family meet certain qualifications, the homeless education liaison at your school district can help you with a variety of services for you and your children.**

### Eligible Children have the right to:

- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents
- Enroll in the local school, or continue attending their school of origin (the school they last attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is their preference and is feasible
- Receive transportation to and from their school if appropriate
- Have access to the same programs and services that are available to all other students, including transportation and supplemental educational services



### Dispute Resolution Procedure

**The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act acknowledges that disputes may arise between the school district and transitioning student(s) and their parents/guardians when the student is placed in a school other than the one requested. Guidance for school selection is provided in the law. The law includes dispute resolution among the required duties of the LEA Liaison.**

**The following procedures are specified in the Act:**

- Transitioning student is to be immediately enrolled in the school preferred by the parents until the dispute is settled
- The school must provide a written explanation of the school placement decision to the parent/guardian or unaccompanied youth. They must also tell you in writing how you can appeal this decision.
- Liaison: The designated District Liaison is assigned to carry out the dispute resolution in an expeditious manner.