LEA Web Survey Instrument

March 27, 2023

Sponsored by:

U. S. Department of Education

INTRODUCTION

This survey is part of a study of grant funding resulting from the American Rescue Plan funds for Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) as administered through the Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED).

The purpose of this survey is to collect information on implementation of ARP-HCY funding in your LEA. The survey will ask about the collection and use of data on children and youth experiencing homelessness, the barriers facing children and youth experiencing homelessness, and efforts to address those barriers. The findings will provide useful information on the program to ED, Congress, and practitioners.

As a recipient of an ARP-HCY program grant, your participation in the survey is requested by the U.S. Department of Education on whose behalf we are administering this survey. Responses to this survey are voluntary and will be used for statistical purposes only and will in no way tie to ED's monitoring reviews of state or LEA programs. The reports prepared for this study will summarize findings across the sample and will not associate responses with a specific state, district, or individual. We will not provide information that identifies a student, LEA, or state to anyone outside the study team except as required by law. Every effort will be made to maintain confidentiality of the information collected.

We estimate that this survey will take approximately 35 minutes to complete. You may fill out the survey all at once or over multiple sessions. If you fill out the survey over multiple sessions, please use the link provided to you in the email from ARP-HCY@2MResearch.com to continue the survey. You will automatically go to the last page of the survey where you left off.

LEA Background

1. Prior to receiving ARP-HCY funding, had your LEA received EHCY funding through the McKinney-Vento Act any time since July 1, 2018?

☐ Yes, received McKinney-Vento EHCY funding since that date
☐ No, *did not receive* McKinney-Vento EHCY funding since that date

2. ARP-HCY funding was provided in two parts. ARP Homeless I was a limited funding stream provided primarily to LEAs that had received EHCY funding from the McKinney-Vento Act. In contrast, each state was required to award ARP Homeless II sub-grants via a formula to LEAs based on their Title I allocation and their count of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

Indicate which ARP-HCY grants you received, including grants received as part of a consortium. *Check all that apply.*

☐ Homeless I funding

☐ Homeless II funding

☐ None of the above

[IF "NONE OF THE ABOVE" SELECTED, SHOW STATEMENT BELOW]

It is possible that we sent you this survey by mistake. Please call 1-800-xxx-xxxx or email ARP-HCYsurvey@2MResearch.com and let the attendant know that you received this message, and we will talk with you to clarify our understanding. You can exit the survey by clicking the x in the top right corner of your browser.

Capacity Building

3. The activities below are focused, specifically, on how your LEA has used ARP-HCY funding to **increase staff capacity** to serve children and youth experiencing homelessness, if applicable. Types of activities, with or without additional staff time, will be addressed later in the survey. *Check all that apply.*

☐ Increased the time allocation of our existing homeless liaison position
☐ Added staff to carry out the duties of the homeless liaison
☐ Added other personnel to support students experiencing homelessness (e.g., staff for outreach, purchasing, working with students over the summers, tutors, graduation coaches, etc.)
☐ Added staff or staff time to find and/or re-engage students experiencing homelessness who have dropped out of school
☐ Trained teachers and/or school staff to help identify children and youth experiencing homelessness
☐ Added transportation staff capacity (more detail is covered later in this survey)
☐ Contracted with another agency to provide system navigators to assist families of children and youth experiencing homelessness in accessing resources that could assist them with housing, employment, health care, or other needs.

☐ Other, Explain:

[   ]

☐ None of the above apply. **[SKIP TO QUESTION Q3ʙ]**

3a. Among the categories that you checked in question 3, which are **your top 2 or 3 priorities**? Arrange the top three by dragging the most important categories to the top of the list in order of priority. .
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Categories from Question 3
Increased the time allocation of our existing homeless liaison position
Added staff to carry out the duties of the homeless liaison
Added other personnel to support students experiencing homelessness (e.g., staff for outreach, purchasing, working with students over the summers, tutors, graduation coaches, etc.)
Added staff or staff time to find and/or re-engage students experiencing homelessness who have dropped out of school
Trained teachers and/or school staff to help identify children and youth experiencing homelessness
Contracted with another agency to provide system navigators to assist families of children and youth experiencing homelessness in accessing resources that could assist them with housing, employment, health care, or other needs.
Added transportation staff capacity
Other [ᴅɪꜱᴘʟᴀʏ "ᴏᴛʜᴇʀ" ᴛᴇxᴛ ғʀᴏᴍ Q3]

3b. How many additional staff (including contracted consultants) have been hired to work in your LEA from all ARP-HCY funding? (Include both Homeless I and Homeless II funding, if applicable.)

District Employee FTE _____.___

Contracted Consultant FTE _____.___

Answer "0" if no additional internal staff hours have been added or allocated to a supporting role.

[
Examples of 1.0 FTE (full-time equivalent) are the addition of a 40-hour-a-week staff person or the addition of two part-time staff who each work 20 hours a week. Examples of 0.50 FTE include the addition of two part-time staff each working 10 hours a week, or a full-time staff who splits their time 50 percent for ARP-HCY activities and 50 percent for other activities."
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4. In response to receiving an ARP Homeless I or II grant, have you conducted a needs assessment to uncover short- term (in 1 year) or long-term (in 1 to 3 years) gaps in your LEA's capacity to address the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness?

☐ Yes, short-term (in 1 year) needs assessment
☐ Yes, long-term (in 1 to 3 years) needs assessment

☐ Both short-term and long-term needs assessment
☐ Did not conduct a needs assessment

[IF Q4 INDICATES THAT A NEEDS ASSESSMENT WAS CONDUCTED ASK QUESTIONS Q4A THROUGH Q4D]

4a. Who conducted the needs assessment?
☐ Conducted using exclusively LEA staff
☐ Conducted using an external consultant (with assistance from LEA staff as needed)

4b. Arrange your top three needs in order as identified by the needs assessment by dragging your first need to the top, followed by your next two needs, in order. **[RANDOMIZE THE DISPLAY OF CATEGORIES]**

Liaison capacity
Grant administration and report writing
Collaborating with other agencies
Coordinating services
Providing academic support services
Training needs for homeless liaison or other staff
Provisioning needed school supplies or other personal items
Identifying children experiencing homelessness
Participation in early childhood education programs among children experiencing homelessness
Participation in research-based activities linked to positive educational outcomes for children and youth experiencing homelessness
Mental health service accessibility for children and youth experiencing homelessness
Positive educational outcomes among children and youth experiencing homelessness
Increased attendance rates among children and youth experiencing homelessness
Other _____

4c. Did you share your LEA's needs assessment with any community-based organizations (CBOs) to gain their perspectives on solutions?

☐ Yes
☐ No

4d. Did you identify any gaps in serving children and youth experiencing homelessness that are not addressed by ARP-HCY funding?
☐ Yes
☐ No
[IF YES, ASK] Please explain. [   ]

Use of Funds

5. Review the expense categories below that describe ways that LEAs are able to use ARP-HCY funding. Check the boxes that apply to your LEA's use of ARP-HCY funding. For your reference, these activities come from the section on "Authorized Activities" in Section 723(d) of the McKinney-Vento Act, but the language has been paraphrased or modified in some places to include recent guidance from the US Department of Education on uses of funds under ARP-HCY.

Expense Category	HOVER-OVER DEFINITIONS	Used funds in this category
Administration		
a. Services and assistance to identify, find, enroll, and retain children and youths experiencing homelessness, including outreach	. . .particularly children and youths experiencing homelessness who are not enrolled in school	☐
b. Coordination of services	...development of coordination between schools and agencies providing services to children and youths experiencing homelessness.	☐
c. The payment of fees and other costs associated with tracking, obtaining, and transferring records necessary to enroll in school	. . .including birth certificates, immunization or other required health records, academic records, guardianship records, and evaluations for special programs or services	☐
Training		
d. Professional development and other activities for educators and specialized support staff	. . .that are designed to heighten the understanding and sensitivity of such personnel to the needs of children and youths experiencing homelessness, the rights of such children and youths under this subtitle, and the specific educational needs of such children and youths	☐
e. Education and training to the parents and guardians of children and youths experiencing homelessness	. . .about the rights of, and resources available to, such children and youths, and other activities designed to increase the meaningful involvement of parents and guardians of children and youths experiencing homelessness in their education.	☐
Academic Supports		
f. Expedited evaluations of the strengths and needs of children and youths experiencing homelessness, including needs and eligibility for programs and services	. . .such as educational programs for gifted and talented students, children with disabilities, and English learners, services provided under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 or similar state or local programs, programs in career and technical education, and school nutrition programs	☐
g. Tutoring, supplemental instruction, and educational enrichment services	. . .in which a teacher or other qualified individual provides tutoring, homework assistance, and supervision of educational activities	☐
h. Developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs	. . .not otherwise provided through federal, state, or local funding, for preschool-aged children experiencing homelessness	☐
i. The provision of before- and after-school, weekend, holiday or summer tutoring, mentoring or educational enrichment programs	. . .in which a teacher or other qualified individual provides tutoring, homework assistance, and supervision of educational enrichment activities before and after school, on weekends, holidays and breaks or in the summer	☐
j. The provision of specialized instructional support services	. . .including violence prevention counseling and referrals for such services	☐
Supplies and Goods		
k. Purchasing cell phones or other technological devices	. . .for unaccompanied children and youths experiencing homelessness to enable them to attend school and fully	☐

Expense Category	HOVER-OVER DEFINITIONS	Used funds in this category
	participate in school activities	
l. Providing access to reliable, high-speed internet	. . .for students through the purchase of internet-connected devices/equipment, mobile hotspots, wireless service plans, or installation of Community Wi-Fi Hotspots (e.g., at homeless shelters)	☐
m. The provision of school supplies, hygiene supplies and food when not available through other district and community sources	. . .including those supplies to be distributed at shelters or temporary housing facilities, or other appropriate locations	☐
n. Providing store cards/prepaid debit cards	. . .to purchase materials necessary for students to participate fully in school activities	☐
o. The adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any non-school facilities made available		☐
Student Services/Assistance		
p. Providing wrap-around services	. . .in collaboration with and/or through contracts with community-based organizations, and could include academic supports, trauma-informed care, social-emotional support, and mental health services	☐
q. Providing transportation	. . . including gas cards, contractual transportation, paying for additional transportation staff, purchasing or repairing vehicles, etc., as allowed by the State or local education agency to enable children and youth experiencing homelessness to attend school and participate fully in school activities	☐
r. Providing referral services for medical, dental, mental, and other health services	. . . including immunizations and sports physicals	☐
s. Activities to address the particular needs that may arise from domestic violence and parental/guardian mental health or substance abuse problems		☐
t. Paying for short-term, temporary housing	. . . (e.g., a few days in a motel) when such emergency housing is the only reasonable option for COVID-safe temporary housing and when necessary to enable the children and youth experiencing homelessness to attend school and participate fully in school activities (including summer school)	☐
u. Providing other extraordinary or emergency assistance	. . .needed to enable children and youths experiencing homelessness to attend school and participate fully in school activities	☐
Other		
Other 1 [Specify]		☐
Ot[_____]		☐
[_____]		

6. From your answers to question 5 displayed below, estimate, as best you can, the 5 categories having the highest budgeted dollar amounts. Arrange those categories in order of funding amounts with the highest dollar item at the top followed by the other categories in descending order of funding amounts. [ONLY DISPLAY EXPENSE CATEGORIES SELECTED IN Q5; USE HOVER-OVER DEFINITIONS FROM Q5]

Expense Category	Used funds in this category ranked 1 – 5
a. Services and assistance to identify, find, enroll, and retain children and youths experiencing homelessness, including outreach	
b. Coordination of services	
c. The payment of fees and other costs associated with tracking, obtaining, and transferring records necessary to enroll in school	
d. Professional development and other activities for educators and specialized support staff	
e. Education and training to the parents and guardians of children and youths experiencing homelessness	
f. Expedited evaluations of the strengths and needs of children and youths experiencing homelessness, including needs and eligibility for programs and services	
g. Tutoring, supplemental instruction, and educational enrichment services	
h. Developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs	
i. The provision of before- and after-school, weekend, holiday or summer tutoring, mentoring, or academic enrichment programs	
j. The provision of specialized instructional support services	
k. Purchasing cell phones or other technological devices	
l. Providing access to reliable, high-speed internet	
m. The provision of school supplies, hygiene supplies or food if not available from other district and community sources	
n. Providing store cards/prepaid debit cards	
o. The adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any non-school facilities made available	
p. Providing wrap-around services	
q. Providing transportation	
r. Providing referral services for medical, dental, mental, and other health services	
s. Activities to address the particular needs that may arise from domestic violence and parental/guardian mental health or substance abuse problems	
t. Paying for short-term, temporary housing	
v. Providing other extraordinary or emergency assistance	
Other 1 [DISPLAY CATEGORY SPECIFIED IN Q5]	
Other 2 [DISPLAY CATEGORY SPECIFIED IN Q5]	

7. In the table below, indicate which methods your LEA has used to accomplish the services listed. Did your LEA provide them using LEA staff, partner with regional education agencies, partner with community-based agencies (CBOs), or contract with CBOs in a fee-for-service type arrangement? *Check all that apply.*

[ONLY DISPLAY EXPENSE CATEGORIES SELECTED IN Q5; PROGRAM HOVER-OVER DEFINITIONS FROM Q5]

Expense Category	Provided using LEA Staff	Partnered with Regional Education Agencies	Partnered with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)	Contracted with CBOs, fee for service
Administration				
a. Services and assistance to identify, find, enroll, and retain children and youths experiencing homelessness, including outreach	☐	☐	☐	☐
b. Coordination of services	☐	☐	☐	☐
c. The payment of fees and other costs associated with tracking, obtaining, and transferring records necessary to enroll in school	☐	☐	☐	☐
Training				
d. Professional development and other activities for educators and specialized support staff	☐	☐	☐	☐
e. The provision of education and training to the parents and guardians of children and youths experiencing homelessness	☐	☐	☐	☐
Academic Supports				
f. Expedited evaluations of the strengths and needs of children and youths experiencing homelessness, including needs and eligibility for programs and services	☐	☐	☐	☐
g. The provision of tutoring, supplemental instruction, and educational enrichment services	☐	☐	☐	☐
h. The provision of developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs	☐	☐	☐	☐
i. The provision of before- and after-school, weekend, holiday, and summer tutoring mentoring and educational enrichment programs	☐	☐	☐	☐
j. The provision of specialized instructional support services	☐	☐	☐	☐

Expense Category	Provided using LEA Staff	Partnered with Regional Education Agencies	Partnered with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)	Contracted with CBOs, fee for service
Supplies and Goods				
k. Purchasing cell phones or other technological devices	☐	☐	☐	☐
l. Providing access to reliable, high-speed internet	☐	☐	☐	☐
m. The provision of school supplies	☐	☐	☐	☐
n. Providing store cards/prepaid debit cards	☐	☐	☐	☐
o. The adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any non-school facilities made available	☐	☐	☐	☐
Student Services/Assistance				
p. Providing wrap-around services	☐	☐	☐	☐
q. Providing transportation	☐	☐	☐	☐
r. Providing referral services for medical, dental, mental, and other health services	☐	☐	☐	☐
s. Activities to address the particular needs that may arise from domestic violence and parental/guardian mental health or substance abuse problems.	☐	☐	☐	☐
t. Paying for short-term, temporary housing	☐	☐	☐	☐
u. Providing other extraordinary or emergency assistance	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other 1 [DISPLAY CATEGORY SPECIFIED IN Q5]	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other 2 [DISPLAY CATEGORY SPECIFIED IN Q5]	☐	☐	☐	☐

8a. Do you use ARP-HCY funding to engage in any postsecondary planning support activities such as those listed below or others?

Increasing and enhancing academic counseling services
Credit accrual programs and systems to streamline the award of partial course **credits**
graduation coaches for all unaccompanied and/or homeless students
Increase capacity for school counseling staff to support postsecondary planning
Provide opportunities to do college and career visits
Hire a FAFSA mentor to support unaccompanied youth
Assist students with postsecondary transitions

O Yes

O No

8b. Check any of the postsecondary planning support activities below that are provided using ARP-HCY funding, and explain any others not listed here.

Academic Supports	Provided using LEA Staff	Partnered with Regional Education Agencies	Partnered with Community-Based Agencies (CBOs)	Contracted with CBOs, fee for service	Not Applicable
a. Increasing and enhancing academic counseling services	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
b. Credit accrual programs and systems to streamline the award of partial credits	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
c. Graduation coaches	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
d. Increase capacity for school counseling staff to support postsecondary planning	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
e. Provide opportunities to do college and career visits	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
f. Hire a FAFSA mentor to support unaccompanied youth	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
g. Assist students with postsecondary transitions	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
h. Other	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Explain:					

Q8c. If you consider any of these academic supports using ARP-HCY funding as particularly effective, innovative, or interesting, please explain in the space provided. Otherwise, hit the "next" button to continue.

Identification

9. Which of the following methods does your LEA use to identify students experiencing homelessness?

☐ Student intake

☐ Review of attendance or chronic absenteeism data

☐ Referrals from local shelters that serve families or youth

☐ School staff referrals

☐ Inquiry with CBOs that may have knowledge of students experiencing homelessness

☐ Student/guardian referral (family or self-identification)

☐ Referrals from other LEAs

☐ Other,, Explain:

Community-Based Organizations

10. In the space provided below, please provide the **actual names** of the top three CBOs with whom you most frequently work to help identify and/or serve children and youth experiencing homelessness.

Names of the three CBOs you work with most frequently

| |
| |
| |

11. Which of the following types of CBOs do you actively engage in collaboration to help identify and/or serve children and youth experiencing homelessness? (Check all that apply).

☐ Counseling services or other mental health care

☐ CBOs providing medical or dental care

☐ Faith-based organizations (e.g., houses of worship, churches, mosques, synagogues, etc.)

☐ CBOs providing translation services

☐ CBOs serving English language learners

☐ CBOs serving rural children and youth

☐ CBOs serving students of color

☐ CBOs serving students identifying as LGBTQ+

☐ CBOs serving students who are pregnant, parenting, or caregiving

☐ CBOs serving children and youth with disabilities

☐ CBOs providing financial and basic need resources, such as food pantries

☐ Other governmental agencies that may be giving referrals such as police departments or social services.

☐ Other CBOs meeting the needs of families and youth experiencing homelessness

Outreach efforts

12. Which of the following outreach efforts have you implemented to promote the availability of ARP-HCY-funded services that could help children and youth experiencing homelessness? Also, if you consider any of your outreach efforts using ARP-HCY funding as particularly effective, innovative, or interesting, please explain in the space provided in the "other" field.

☐ Posting flyers at food pantries

☐ Posting flyers in laundromats

☐ Posting flyers in public buildings such as post offices, libraries, Women, Infants, and Children or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program offices, etc.

☐ Posting flyers in faith-based organizations (e.g., houses of worship, churches, mosques, synagogues, etc.)

☐ Posting flyers at district-level schools or school sites

☐ Renting billboard advertising

☐ Utilizing social media

☐ Outreach events

☐ Other 1 _____

☐ Other 2 _____

Transportation

13. Have you used ARP-HCY funds for any of the following transportation-related uses for children or youth experiencing homelessness? *Check all that apply.*

☐ Purchasing and supporting the operation of vehicles to transport students experiencing homelessness

☐ Hiring a transportation coordinator to help facilitate timely and efficient transportation services for students experiencing homelessness.

☐ Paying for car repairs for a vehicle that a family or youth is using for school transportation

☐ Covering the cost of driver's education classes for driving-age students experiencing homelessness

☐ Transportation to academic supports such as tutoring and academic programs

☐ Providing transportation to extra-curricular activities

☐ Gas cards and reimbursement of school related transportation cards

☐ Student's transportation to and from a job as part of the student's educational program

☐ Other, Explain:

Outcomes

14. Can you describe any uses of ARP-HCY funds, not previously mentioned, that you consider having been particularly effective, innovative, or interesting?

15. What challenges have you encountered in your effort to utilize ARP-HCY funding?

16. Do you have any recommendations on how to better serve children and youth experiencing homelessness through your LEA?

17. Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, to what extent have the following large-scale events in your LEA increased the number of children and youth needing services addressed by ARP-HCY?

	No Increase	Some Increase	Significant Increase
Weather events (e.g., flooding, hurricanes, tornados)	☐	☐	☐
Wildfires and other nonweather-related disasters	☐	☐	☐
Population events (e.g., influx of evacuees, refugees, asylum seekers)	☐	☐	☐
Closure of local employers in the service industry (e.g., hotel, restaurant, entertainment venues)	☐	☐	☐
Closure of other large local employers/industries	☐	☐	☐
Other economic pressures (e.g., a sudden decrease in affordable housing) (Please specify.) _____	☐	☐	☐
Other (Please specify.)_____	☐	☐	☐

Sustainability

18. Considering the expanded FTE levels that you explained toward the beginning of the survey how do you plan to continue funding your expanded FTE levels after drawdown of ARP-HCY funding ends on January 30, 2025? *Check all that apply.*

O$_a$ Through Title I funds
O$_b$ Through McKinney-Vento EHCY funding
O$_c$ Through local funding
O$_d$ Will likely discontinue expanded FTE levels
O$_e$ Other, Explain:

19. Arrange the following funding sources in order of your anticipated reliance to fund the homeless liaison position after ARP-HCY funding ends.

Through Title I funds
Through McKinney-Vento EHCY funding
Through other federal funds (e.g., Title IV)
Through local funding

Thank you for participating in this survey. The results will help the Department of Education better understand how this funding has assisted children and youth experiencing homelessness to pursue their education.

Please provide the best contact information where we can reach you if we have any clarification questions.

Email Address:

Phone Number:

If you have any questions or comments about this survey, please contact the 2M Research survey team at 1-800-xxx-xxxx or at ARP-HCYsurvey@2MResearch.com.