



## 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR IMPACT

The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Student Services and Programs Division's **Homeless Education Program (HEP)** helps to ensure that students experiencing homelessness are enrolled, attend school, and thrive during their academic experience. LACOE HEP provides support and resources to the 80 school districts in the county, Juvenile Court, Community Schools, and 371 county-wide charter schools to implement the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. This brief summarizes the impacts of LACOE's work to support homeless education services in local education agencies (LEAs) across Los Angeles County during the 2023-24 school year.

According to a survey of Los Angeles County Homeless Education Liaisons, the **top needs of students experiencing homelessness** are:

**Housing  
support  
(82%)**

**Transportation  
(60%)**

**Mental health  
services  
(46%)**

LEA Homeless Education Liaison survey respondents reported an increase in anxiety, trauma, and social-emotional needs among youth experiencing homelessness since the pandemic, as well as issues with mental health service access at the county level.

"We don't have anywhere for families to go to if they need a charging station, if they need a shower, or somewhere to sleep in for those who do not have a car."  
– LEA HEP Liaison

LACOE HEP provides **professional development, technical assistance (TA), and training** to LEA Homeless Education Liaisons and other staff and community partners who are involved in working with youth and families experiencing homelessness.

LACOE HEP provided **754** TA consultations

to homeless education liaisons and other education and community partners during the 2023-24 school year. Topics most frequently asked about during TA contacts were:

- ♡ McKinney-Vento family consultations about housing and academic support and services
- ♡ Attendance concerns, including barriers to attendance and strategies/resources to improve attendance
- ♡ Case management support for individual students and families

"I appreciate [the LACOE team] making yourselves available to us all for support. I appreciate you sharing the recent data as well as letting us know about the changes in law/policy. Thank you!" - LEA HEP Liaison



# 33

Professional development and training events provided to LEA Liaisons and other staff

Training	# of Attendees
Homeless Education and Foster Youth 101	698
Liaison Meetings	395
Trauma and Homelessness	89
Data	58
Other topics	245

Total attendees: **1,508**

Participants rated the training events:

# 4.6 out of 5

for **effectiveness/helpfulness** on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).

"Fantastic work. So excited about the additional capacity this program has now. You can feel the difference in support and information that's provided to us. Thank you!" - LEA HEP Liaison

LEA Homeless Education Liaisons and community partners shared feedback on the **effectiveness of the support provided by LACOE HEP**.

"Dr. Kottke is amazing. I can't tell you. I've called her so many times. She walks me through things. She's so patient. If I email her, she'll get right back. If I call her, she answers." - LEA HEP Liaison

"I think LACOE has done a really good job of putting out a lot of information, which is super helpful." - LEA HEP Liaison

LEA Homeless Education Liaisons and community partners expressed strong appreciation for LACOE HEP's:

**responsiveness, expertise, and dedication**  
**&**  
**effective information sharing and resource provision**

to support those working with students experiencing homelessness.

LEA Homeless Education Liaisons and community partners stressed the need for:

## more support and staff

to help manage the workload and enhance LACOE's ability to serve students experiencing homelessness effectively

**&**

## accessible, practical resources

to help staff working with students experiencing homelessness

