



THE UNION TOWNSHIP MCKINNEY VENTO PROGRAM  
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR SPRING CELEBRATION  
OF FAMILY!

APRIL 30 - June 11th

SATURDAY STRETCH FOR FAMILIES

JEFFERSON SCHOOL 10:00-11:30 AM

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCirexhWjLDx2deiEgoRMirmo4cThq3lgXUPdoYno3BXI3pQ/viewform>

A NIGHT FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO VISIONCAST FOR  
THE FUTURE

MAY 19th 6:30 PM at UHS Room D244

Financial, Social, Resilience & Special College Programs

Refreshments Served

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScBW3WNTnMdkkCt5VIYCLYTaqqINnydyuRNcq\\_oolApxzUQoQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScBW3WNTnMdkkCt5VIYCLYTaqqINnydyuRNcq_oolApxzUQoQ/viewform)

THANKFULNESS DINNER: FELLOWSHIP & FUN  
END THIS CHALLENGING YEAR WITH CONNECTION

JUNE 11th

4:00-6:00 PM

UHS CAFETERIA & PRACTICE FIELD

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf4Xgqw4tXzoEhNfnA\\_bhRihYbnaozYp2zmiBrISw4VeROePEg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf4Xgqw4tXzoEhNfnA_bhRihYbnaozYp2zmiBrISw4VeROePEg/viewform)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS

## Board of Education Presentation

### Proposed Spring Awakening McKinney Vento Program Activities

The McKinney Vento Program is a Program that services our homeless families with resources such as backpacks, school supplies, emergent transportation and other necessities that add to the family connection to the district that covers them educationally.

The Program is now expanding to offer Emergent Counseling Services that will assist in building family and community connections; as well as add activities to enhance and strengthen family connect.

The following activities are presented to the Board for consideration and approval:

1. Saturday Morning Stretch for Families
2. College Readiness: The Social Emotional Connection
3. Thankfulness Dinner

1. The MV Families will be invited to Saturday Stretch and Mindfulness Programs. These classes will run each Saturday for 6 weeks between April and June. Classes are proposed to be conducted at the Jefferson School Gymnasium. With the April Board Meeting Approval, the dates, times would be as follows:

April 30 May 7,14,21 June 4, 11

Jefferson Gymnasium - Time: 10 - 11:30 weekly

Registration would be required. Light Refreshments offered: .  
Resources from the Vauxhall Library and Union Recreational Center would be made available regarding the Vauxhall Library

Summer series - Reading groups and Parent Classes, and the Union Rec Center Summer Camps.

2. The Night of Vision Program would invite MV families to come to the High School for an evening of college information, financial aid, Financial Management and Stability Session, Mentoring Programs. Light dinner would be served for those families that participate.

3. The Thankfulness Dinner is an opportunity for an in-person gathering of families and for continued socialization and appreciation of coming through a challenging season. Peer Ambassadors would be present to welcome families and facilitate activities for all children that attend. Parents would have the opportunity to meet with resources for potential summer activities for their children. The Fire Department will be asked to attend and give sessions on fire safety, and the Police Department will be asked to attend for community contact, safety discussions and possible fingerprinting service for children.

As the participating families leave the event, they will receive the prepared family gifts from the McKinney Vento Program.

It is hoped that these events will continue during the next academic year, among those new initiatives that will be promoted for Board approval.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Patricia Bridges  
MV Consulting Counselor

2022-2023  
Township of Union Public Schools  
Emergent Counseling Services for Students and Families  
McKinney Vento Homeless Initiative  
Proposal Draft: Patricia Bridges

With the long term mental health effects of Covid-19 pandemic continuing to be realized and experienced by the families in our community, the possibilities of even more intensified traumatic experiences. Homeless students and their families have already experienced the grief of loss of their previous home that once served as a place of safety and a place where memories are made. There are also associated changes in financial stability, which places stress at the center of daily living. The effects of global change in isolation, distancing, remote learning and the interruption in childhood and adolescent development; are being realized in greater measure and felt by the world. These traumatic and post-traumatic elements need specific attention. Therefore, the following would be created to serve on a district-wide basis:

I) The MV ECounselor would serve as an added contact for every student and family in the McKinney Vento Program. The ECounseling position would work closely and in concert with the School Counselor from the students' assigned schools. Program communication would come directly from the Counseling Liaison to all students and families within the McKinney Vento Homeless Initiative.

II) The MV ECounselor will design virtual and in-person workshops for students and families within the program that experience feeling overwhelmed, and stressed over the events that have led to their current situations; as well as the post-traumatic events of the pandemic. These workshops will offer strategies for enrichment and resilience, empowering families to seek out resources for continued support and to strengthen and build our community.

III) The MV ECounselor will serve as a liaison that supports the respective School Counselors in each building with knowledge and interventions, specific to the needs of the students and families in the program, that reach students of all ages throughout the district and speak to the support of the family.

IV) The MV ECounselor would also reach out to the community leaders for the implementation of network support and resources that could be offered to the district for the strengthening of our families through community connection. The Counselor would also collaborate with School Counselors, and outside agencies who are involved for the benefit of the students and their families.

V) The MV ECounselor would also work with the Homeless Liaison for the district to provide emergency services in response to the traumatic events that led to their current state of mental wellness and homelessness. This level of anchoring will give students and families specialized webinars filled with interventions that will purposely and intentionally build a sense of resilience and perseverance. The planning of relevant and timely implementation will be key to the success of district wide provisions, academic support, ongoing added counseling support; while leading families to focus on future hope and success.

VI) This position of MV ECounselor would implement evening and weekend programming that would provide support through the NJ Competencies of Social Emotional Learning to support and enrich family activities, and workshops to enhance family connection. Each academic level would receive age appropriate and relevant support and developmentally relevant activities to continue to maintain families connection and support the family unit as a whole.

VII) The consultant fee for the ECounseling Position would be: \$5000.00 for annual creation, implementation and facilitation of activities, interventions, accessibility to families, facilitation of listed activities, and continued research for the enhancement of services offered to our McKinney Vento community.

The Budget for programming would be as follows:

1). Mindfulness and Stretch Movement Saturday gatherings - to assist students and their families in helping to facilitate emotional unrest. Allocated amount: 150.00

2). Specialized Financial Aid Workshop for students in the McKinney Vento Program for juniors and seniors in high school.\$200.00 for guest Speakers in Financial Aid and Money Management.

4). Thankfulness & Grateful Dinner to bring families together for facilitation of making friends and gifting families with the support needed on every level. Allocated amount: \$750.00 (depending on the attendance - price increase)

5). Renewed and Restored: Program for parents/families to present resources that assist with sharing resources, restoration through knowledge of financial literacy, careers and new opportunities, while elementary students enjoy field and relevant education and recreational activities. Allocated amount: \$500.00 for materials and decoration for the resources in attendance

6). Allocated amount needed to fund the above activities: \$2000.00

PCB: Revised and Submitted 3/21/2022

Academic Year 2022-2023