

THE INSIDER

Phone: 617-635-8037

Issue 2, 2010



IN THIS ISSUE

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

This newsletter will provide general information about our services and will highlight some enhancements made to the program.

MISSION

To provide a comprehensive program for students who are temporarily without homes so that they may continue to have stable educational experiences.

HERN COMMUNITY COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEMBERS

Mary M. William
Director of Homeless Education Resource Network, BPS

Donna Casali
HERN Service Coordinator

Bernadette Moitt
Social Worker, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Program, BPHC

Cassandra Villari
Teacher, BPS

Chevanese Van Dyke
Parent

Cyntoria Grant
Dean, Parent University, BPS

Gwendolyn Clark
Former Assistant Director, Special Education and Related Services

Maxi Hudson
Outreach Pastor, Jubilee Christian Church

Monica Roberts,
Executive Director, Peace First

Renee Suchy
Executive Director, Dennis McLaughlin House of Charlestown

Ruby Brown
Case Manager, Sojourner House



TARGET POPULATION

In this school year 2009-2010, the BPS served approximately 1400 students who were temporarily without homes. The most frequently requested services were transportation, assistance with enrollment and referrals to other community resources. Due to the city's definition of student homeless status, it is believed that there are at least 3000 students in the BPS who are experiencing homelessness.

After nearly 20 years, what used to be the Homeless Student Initiative is now the Homeless Education Resource Network. The School Department felt that HERN had "outgrown" its old name. We have adopted this new name because it reflects the growth of the program and the network of educational and social resources and services we provide.

A NEW LOOK AND FEEL

We have revamped the look and feel of the Homeless Education Resource Network. Everything from our stationary, brochures, and posters has been enhanced to increase our credibility and visibility in hopes to reach more people. We hope you like our new appearance. As always, please send us your feedback.

OUR SERVICES

- Assistance with enrollment, attendance, & assignment
- Customized transportation to & from school
- Crisis intervention & advocacy
- School supplies
- Coordination of Screening and Assessment Services
- Mentoring and summer programs
- Training & consultation services around issues of homelessness for school personnel
- Collaboration with other school districts, shelters, and community agencies
- HERN CCC provides assistance to service providers
- *BrownBagLunches*

DESIGNED BY BRYAN LEYVA

NEWS FROM HSI TO HERN

BETTER COMMUNICATION

We have developed this newsletter to keep you in touch with the happenings of HERN. "The Insider" aims to increase awareness about the needs of students who are homeless and keep you informed of upcoming events and programs.

Another means for increased communication is via the Internet. Now more than ever people are using Internet technology to access resources and acquire information. HERN is keeping up with current trends and is about to launch its web site very soon.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Q: Children who are homeless, where are their parents?

A: Most of the children we serve live in family shelters, almost always with a single mother or legal guardian. Unaccompanied youth/runaways generally do not live in homeless shelters with their parents.

CONTACT US

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