



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

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November 1, 2011
Bulletin # P-14064-SCLE/SIS

Contact Person:
Judith McInnes, PX 76979

ACTION BY:
For Information Only

TO: All Principals

FROM: Judith Klinek, Chief Academic Officer 

SUBJECT: NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK, NOVEMBER 12-20, 2011

The week prior to Thanksgiving, November 12-20, 2011, is National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. The School District has designated the month of November as Homelessness Youth Awareness Month. Student Intervention Services, which coordinates services for homeless children as required by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, supports efforts to increase awareness and sensitivity to homelessness in our school community. The Homeless Education Assistance Resource Team (HEART) is available to assist homeless students and families across the district. A contact list is attached. During 2010-2011, over 1440 students were identified as homeless. More than half of our student body lives in poverty.

There are several meaningful strategies to help acknowledge this week and focus attention on homelessness as it impacts children and youth in our community. High school *Students for the Poor Clubs* are conducting a toiletries drive for We Care kits for homeless students. The Faces of Homelessness Speakers Bureau from the Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County has speakers to talk to students and provide activities. Books related to homelessness may be read or shared with students. Details and more information, including an Activities Report, are attached.

Please ensure that the *Information for Parents* poster is posted at your school. The poster delineates the definition of homelessness and children's rights to attend school. Florida Homeless Education flyers should be available in the front office of the school.

Thank you for making the National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week a success at your school.

WFM:JK:KO:KCW:mk

Attachments: HEART Contact List, *Students for the Poor We Care Kits* flyer, Faces of Homelessness Speakers Bureau, Hunger and Homelessness Bookshelf, Activities Report

Approved: 
William F. Malone, Superintendent

Faces of Homelessness Speakers Bureau

The Faces of Homelessness Speakers Bureau of the Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County is an ongoing project established to create awareness and educate the community about the true nature of homelessness in Palm Beach County. The speakers consist of a diverse group of people who have volunteered to speak out and share their personal experience with homelessness. Presentations are tailored to the age group.

- Presentations for children ages 3-7 include the reading aloud of a children's book about homelessness, a brief activity session where children share their thoughts and feelings about homelessness, ending with a positive message about people who experience homelessness.
- Presentations for children aged 8-12 consist of a short video about homelessness and a verbal presentation from one of our speakers (content will be appropriate for audience age). After the story, students will have a question and answer session for the speaker and the moderator.
- Children ages 12 and up will listen to the stories of two speakers, with a question and answer session afterwards.

The speakers help dispel common myths and untruths about homelessness. The speakers and presentations will touch our students' hearts and generate compassion toward others in this unfortunate situation.

The group hopes to give at least two presentations per day at local Palm Beach County Schools during the week of November 12-20, 2011 in honor of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week.

Contact Yolanda Kennedy at The Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County at 561-355-HOME (4663) or Beth Lefler at beth.lefler@palmbeachschools.org 738-2954/PX 22954 to schedule a presentation.

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week
November 12-20, 2011
Hunger and Homelessness Bookshelf
Recommended Books, Movies, and Websites

BOOKS		
Non-Fiction	Grades	Author
<i>Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine</i>	6-10	Susan Campbell Bartoletti
<i>Changing Places: A Kid's View of Shelter Living</i>	4-8	Margie Chalofsky
<i>Feed the Children First: Irish Memories of the Great Hunger</i>	4-12	Mary E. Lyons
<i>Home is Where We Live: Life at a Shelter through a Young Girl's Eyes</i>	4-8	Bonnie Lee Groth
<i>Homeless Children</i>	4-8	Eleanor H. Ayer
<i>Homelessness</i>	7-12	Sara Dixon Criswell
<i>Homelessness: Can We Solve the Problem?</i>	4-6	Laurie Rozakis
<i>Homelessness: Whose Problem Is It?</i>	Young Adult	Ted Gottfried
<i>The Lost Boys of Natinga: A School for Sudan's Young Refugees</i>	5-8	Judy Walgren
<i>Orphan Train Rider: One Boy's True Story</i>	4-8	Andrea Warren
<i>The Other America: Homeless Teens</i>	Young Adult	Gail B. Stewart
Fiction	Grades	Author
<i>Asphalt Angels</i> (mature themes)	10-12	Ineke Holtwijk
<i>Darnell Rock Reporting</i>	4-7	Walter Dean Myers
<i>Dew Drop Dead</i>	4-7	James Howe
<i>The Hundred Dresses</i>	3-7	Eleanor Estes
<i>The King of Dragons</i>	4-8	Carol Fenner
<i>Money Hungry</i>	5-8	Sharon G. Flake
<i>Rodzina</i>	4-7	Karen Cushman
<i>Soul Moon Soup</i>	7-10	Lindsay Lee Johnson
<i>Where I'd Like to Be</i>	4-7	Frances O'Roark Dowell
Picture Books (can be used successfully by all grades)		Author
<i>The Adventurous Chef: Alexis Soyer</i>		Ann Arnold
<i>The Can-Do Thanksgiving</i>		Marion Hess Pomeranc
<i>A Castle on Viola Street</i>		Dyanne DiSalvo-Ryan
<i>Fly Away Home</i>		Eve Bunting
<i>The Long March: The Choctaw's Gift to Irish Famine Relief</i>		Marie Louise Fitzpatrick

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

<i>Potato: A Tale from the Great Depression</i>	Kate Lied
<i>Sally's Journey</i>	Ralph da Costa Nunez
<i>Sam and the Lucky Money</i>	Karen Chinn
<i>The Teddy Bear</i>	David McPhail
<i>A Train to Somewhere</i>	Eve Bunting
<i>Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen</i>	Dyanne DiSalvo-Ryan
MOVIES	
<p>"Easy Street," 2006.</p> <p>"Homeless to Harvard: The Liz Murray Story," 2006.</p> <p>"Pursuit of Happiness," 2006.</p>	
WEBSITES	
General	
www.nationalhomeless.org	www.endhomelessness.org
www.naehcy.org	www.secondharvest.org
www.bread.org	www.oxfam.org
Curriculum and Lesson Plans	
Elementary, K – 2nd Grade	
http://learningtogive.org/lessons/unit103/lesson5.html	Hunger and Homelessness
http://learningtogive.org/lessons/unit103/lesson6.html	Homelessness
Elementary, 3rd – 5th Grade	
http://learningtogive.org/lessons/unit449/lesson1.html	Hunger
Middle School, 6th – 8th Grade	
www.miamisci.org/tec/mssindex.html	"Homeless" by Anna Quindlen
A unit on homelessness prepared by Anna Quindlen and appropriate for middle school students.	
High School, 9th – 12th Grade	
Homeless Education Planning Resource Guide, Chicago Public Schools	
www.oism.cps.k12.il.us/pdf/curriculum/appendix_e_bibliography.pdf	
Additional K-12 Curriculum and Lesson Plans	
http://learningtogive.org/lessons/search/#subject	

For more information, contact Beth Lefler, HEART Coordinator, Student Intervention Services
Telephone: 561.738.2954, PX 22954 FAX: 561.738.2969
Email: Beth.Lefler@palmbeachschools.org



Homeless Education Assistance Resource Team

NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK Activities Report

The week prior to Thanksgiving, November 12-20, 2011, is National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week. The School District has designated the month of November as Homelessness Youth Awareness Month. These events promote education, action, and awareness about hunger and homelessness around the country and in our own backyard. Last year, the School District's Homeless Assistance Education Resource Team (HEART) identified and served over 1,440 homeless children.

**Please tell us about your activities during this time.
Suggested Activities (see Bulletin # P-14064-SCLE/SIS)**

- Food for the Poor Clubs Toiletries Drive for the We Care Kits
- Hunger and Homelessness Bookshelf (Thematic Readings and Discussion)
- Faces of Homelessness Speakers' Bureau Presentation
- Other:

Comments /Outcome:

Name of School:

Contact Person:

Telephone Number:

Email or fax this form to Judith McInnes: judith.mcinness@palmbeachschools.org of fax- 561-366-6940/PX 76940.

For more information about homeless children and youth, or if you know students who are homeless, please contact HEART at 366-6940 or go to http://www.palmbeachschools.org/sis/McKinney_Vento.asp



***WE CARE KITS FOR THE HOMELESS STUDENTS
IN PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOLS***

Students for the Poor Club members are invited to participate in a project that will have a direct impact on homeless students in our county. The HEART (Homeless Education Assistance Resource Team) in Student Intervention Services assists hundreds of homeless students each school year. This year, students are in need of basic hygiene items and we appreciate your willingness to help reach our goal of 1,400 We Care Kits.

This project is a wonderful way for members of the Students for the Poor Clubs to show their support for their fellow students and their community. It can be done over the course of the school year.

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is November 12 - 20, 2011.

This campaign is committed to ending hunger and homelessness in America by educating, engaging, and training students to directly meet individuals' immediate needs while advocating for long term systemic solutions. During this week, a number of schools, communities, and cities take part in a nationwide effort to bring greater awareness to the problems of hunger and homelessness.

Items needed for each kit: Each kit should include one of the following items: (***NO travel sizes please***)

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| liquid body wash | shampoo | band aids |
| toothbrush & holder | conditioner | socks (children, youth , teen) |
| toothpaste | hand sanitizers | body lotion |
| box of tissues | body sponge /mesh shower balls | deodorant |
| disposable razors | shaving gel | brush/comb set |
| chap stick | feminine hygiene products | |

Putting the kits together:

One of each item should be placed inside a gallon ziploc bag. Items that may be too large for the bag or gender specific such as tampons, shaving cream, etc., can be collected in a box. HEART will include these items in the kits prior to distribution.

Completed kits should be placed in boxes. Call the numbers below. **Ideally, we would like to pick up kits the week of November 7th.** Kits completed after that date will be distributed as needed throughout the school year.

Contacts for kit pickup:

HEART representatives:
Judith McInnes, West Area Field Coordinator 561-366-6984/ PX76984 or cell 561-352-5918
Judith.mcinnnes@palmbeachschools.org

Thyra Starr, North Area Field Coordinator 561-366-6983/ PX76983 or cell 561-644-6804
Thyra.starr@palmbeachschools.org

Susan Knight, Students for the Poor Club Coordinator 561-366-6945/ PX76945
knight@palmbeachschools.org

*****Club Advisors are asked to contact Susan Knight to confirm their club's participation. If you would like a HEART representative to speak at a club meeting, contact Susan Knight for additional information.***

HEART appreciates your support of the homeless students in Palm Beach County.