

Archived Information

STEWART B. MCKINNEY HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Goal: To ensure access of homeless children and youth to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as is provided to other children and youth.

Relationship of Program to Volume 1, Department-wide Objectives: This program is designed to increase homeless children and youths' access to public education and educational support services by requiring that states remove barriers to their participation. It addresses the Department's Objective 2.4 (that special populations participate in appropriate services and assessments consistent with high standards).

FY 2000—\$28,800,000

FY 2001—\$31,700,000 (Requested budget)

OBJECTIVE 1: HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH WILL HAVE GREATER ACCESS TO A FREE AND APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Indicator 1.1 Public schools: An increasing percentage of homeless children and youth will enroll in public schools and will attend school regularly.				
<i>Percentage of homeless children and youth enrolled in grades K-12, as reported by states</i>			<p>Status: There are no 1999 data available, but progress toward the target is likely.</p> <p>Explanation: We have not had consistent data on attendance in the past, making it difficult to judge progress. However, there has been a positive trend in enrollment since the inception of the program.</p>	<p>Source: Triennial State Data Collection Report, 1998. <i>Frequency:</i> Every 3 years. <i>Next Update:</i> 2001.</p> <p>Validation Procedures: Internal procedures were applied by telephone calls to State Educational Agencies (SEAs).</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: States' data are often incomplete and inconsistent. Reauthorization would shift the data collection requirements from the SEAs to the Secretary.</p>
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
1996-97:	78%			
1998-99:	No data available	No target set		
1999-00:		No target set		
2000-01:		82%		
<i>Percentage of homeless children and youth in grades K-12 attending school, as reported by states</i>				
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
1996-97:	55%			
1998-99:	No data available	No target set		
1999-00:		No target set		
2000-01:		59%		
Indicator 1.2 An increasing number of homeless children and youth will have access to all Federal programs and state-sponsored academic programs.				
Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<i>Number of states reporting increased access to Title I</i>			<p>Status: There are no 1999 data available, but progress toward the target is likely.</p> <p>Explanation: Prior data collections and evaluations show that there has been progress toward meeting this goal since the inception of the program. It is likely that this trend will continue in the future.</p>	<p>Source: Unpublished tabulations, followup to the National Evaluation, 1998. <i>Frequency:</i> Uncertain. <i>Next Update:</i> None planned.</p> <p>Validation Procedures: The contractor applied internal verification procedures.</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: Reauthorization would shift the data collection requirements from the SEAs to the Secretary. The Department plans to include all reporting requirements in one data collection activity.</p>
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
1997-98:	29			
1998-99:	No data available	No target set		
1999-00:		No target set		
2000-01:		31		
<i>Number of states reporting increased access to special education</i>				
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
1997-98:	14			
1998-99:	No data available	No target set		
1999-00:		No target set		
2000-01:		16		

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<i>Number of states reporting increased access to Head Start</i>				
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
1997-98:	16			
1998-99:	No data available	No target set		
1999-00:		No target set		
2000-01:		18		

Indicator 1.3 Eliminating barriers: Decreasing numbers of states will report transportation, immunization, and residency requirements as barriers to access to education.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<p>Status: There are no 1999 data available, but progress toward target is likely.</p> <p>Explanation: Prior data collections and evaluations show that there has been progress toward meeting this goal since the inception of the program. It is likely that this trend will continue in the future.</p>	<p>Source: Unpublished tabulations, follow-up to the National Evaluation, 1998. <i>Frequency:</i> Uncertain. <i>Next Update:</i> None planned.</p> <p>Validation Procedures: The contractor applied verification procedures.</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: Same as 1.2.</p>
1997-98:	In 1998, 6 states reported that immunization requirements still pose a barrier, 13 states reported that requirements for legal guardianship still pose a barrier, and 18 states reported that transportation still poses a barrier to the enrollment of homeless children and youth.			
1998-99:	No data available	No target set		
1999-00:	No data available	No target set		
2000-01:		4 states report immunization poses a barrier, 11 states report guardianship poses a barrier, 16 states report transportation poses a barrier.		

Indicator 1.4 Preschool-age children: An increasing percentage of preschool-age homeless children will enroll in preschool programs.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<p>Status: Progress toward target is likely.</p> <p>Explanation: 1998 was the first year that data were reported.</p>	<p>Source: Triennial State Data Collection Report, 1998. <i>Frequency:</i> Uncertain. <i>Next Update:</i> None planned.</p> <p>Validation Procedures: Internal procedures were applied by telephone calls to SEAs.</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: Same as Indicator 1.2.</p>
1997-98:	In 1998, states reported that 21% of homeless preschool age children are enrolled in preschool programs.			
1998-99:	No data available	No target set		
1999-00:	No data available	No target set		
2000-01:		25% of homeless preschool age children are enrolled in preschool programs.		

KEY STRATEGIES

Strategies Continued from 1999

- ❖ Promote state awareness of the need to improve access to education for homeless children by encouraging the Title I and homeless program coordinators to work together.
- ❖ Disseminate successful practices through national conferences, regional meetings, publications, and site visits.
- ❖ Disseminate information and guidance on the statutory requirement that preschool-age children have access to appropriate services.
- ❖ The Comprehensive Regional Assistance Centers (CCs) will provide technical assistance to states and districts in developing and implementing plans to increase the achievement of homeless children and youth.

New or Strengthened Strategies

- ❖ Require state homeless program coordinators to ensure that school districts have designated local homeless liaison personnel.

HOW THIS PROGRAM COORDINATES WITH OTHER FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Coordination activities occur through the Interagency Council on Homelessness and through working closely with the Title I program. The program disseminates copies of the Head Start booklets.

CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING PROGRAM GOAL

- ❖ Only a small portion of funds is made available as subgrants to LEAs, making it difficult to directly impact on the education of homeless children.
- ❖ Obtaining reliable data from states on homeless children continues to be a challenge since states are not required to report disaggregated data on homeless children.

INDICATOR CHANGES

From FY 1999 Annual Plan (two years old)

Adjusted

- ❖ Indicator 1.1: Performance measure on regular school attendance was added.
- ❖ Indicator 2.1: To clarify the measure of performance, “increasing numbers of LEAs report collecting achievement data” was changed to “increasing numbers of states report on effective school district activities to help homeless children and youth meet challenging standards.”
- ❖ Indicator 3.1: To clarify the measure of performance, “increasing numbers of states report on useful coordination to encourage Federal, state, and local policy makers and administrators to improve homeless services” was changed to “increasing numbers of states report on coordination among state agencies.”

Dropped

- ❖ Indicator 2.2 (increasing numbers of LEAs report that performance of homeless children and youth is improving) was dropped because state systems are unable to disaggregate this data.

From FY 2000 Annual Plan (last year’s)

Adjusted—None.

Dropped

- ❖ Indicator 2.1 (increase in numbers of states reporting effective school district activities to help homeless children and youth meet challenging standards) has been dropped because state systems are unable to disaggregate this data.
- ❖ Indicator 3.1 (increasing numbers of states report on coordination among state agencies) has been dropped because it is not an outcome measure of the program.

New—None.