



The Crisis: Homeless Students At Risk

27,390¹

Homeless students have been identified in Washington State public schools. We estimate the true number is closer to 37,000.²

96%¹

Increase in student homelessness since the 2005-06 school year.

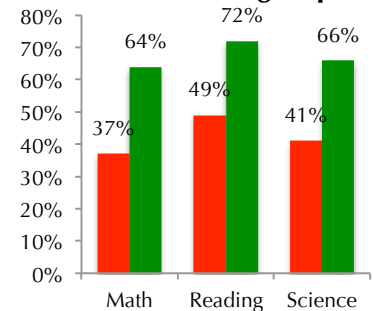
4-6 months³

Of learning progress lost each time a student changes schools, widening the learning gap.

\$3.4 billion⁴

Cost to taxpayers if homeless students not proficient in math fail to graduate.

The Learning Gap:



■ Proportion of homeless students proficient

■ Proportion of housed students proficient

Time to Act: Support for Homeless Kids in Schools

The Homeless Children Education Act would improve outcomes for homeless children in schools by supporting efforts to:

Identify Homeless Students

- Improve school staff training through existing professional development
- Increase accessibility of data on homeless student educational outcome to the public

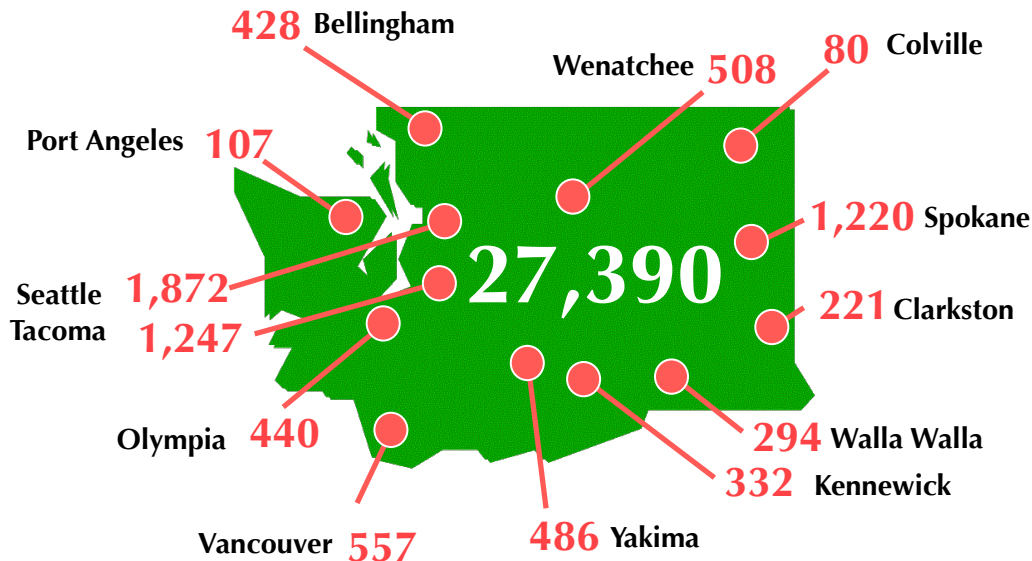
Provide Support & Stability

- Invest in services and staff that support homeless students
- Adopt national best practices that keep kids engaged in school
- Fund a pilot project to keep families in stable housing.

(1) OSPI (2011-12 Data); (2) Columbia Legal Services Children & Youth Project; (3) National Center for Homeless Education; (4) Estimate includes higher tax contributions and lower social services spending over the lifetime of each student. Calculation based on OSPI and Alliance for Excellent Education data

A Statewide Problem: Homeless students occupy all corners of the state and 32% are in rural areas.⁵

Number of homeless students in school districts across the state



Source: OSPI (2011-12 Data)
(5) SchoolHouseWA.org, Rural Counties Analysis

"I Believe These Reforms Will Change Lives."



"I know firsthand when schools know a kid is homeless and act to give that kid stability and support, it can make the difference between graduating and dropping out. It did for me
- I was one of the lucky ones"

Brandy Sincyr
Seattle Pacific University
Class of 2013

When Brandy's school found out she was experiencing homelessness, they gave her a coat, school supplies, free breakfast and lunch, and put her in touch with people in the community who could help. Brandy credits the support she received at school with getting her through high school. She recently graduated from SPU.

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