



# FIT (Families In Transition) Program

## 2023-2024

Mollie Cressey, Nassau County School District's Homeless Liaison  
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### The McKinney-Vento Act

#### Who is eligible to receive help under the McKinney-Vento (MV) Act?

Public school students who have lost housing and now live in a shelter, motel, vehicle, campground, or temporary trailer; on the street; doubled-up with family or friends; or in another type of temporary or inadequate housing because of loss of housing are eligible.

#### What rights do MV eligible students have?

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, children and youth in homeless situations have the right to:

- 1) go to school (no matter where they live or how long they have lived there),
- 2) attend either the zoned school or the former school/School of Origin (if this is in their best interest) and receive transportation comparable to housed students,
- 3) enroll in school immediately (even if they are missing records or other documents normally required for enrollment),

4) attend classes and participate fully in all school activities while the school gathers records, and

5) have access to the same programs and services that are available to other students. MV students who obtain housing in another school zone are allowed to stay in their school to finish the year if that is in the child's best interest, and may even be provided with transportation.

### Nassau County's Additional Services

Call or email Mollie Cressey with issues pertaining to **attendance, academics & other school-related needs.** **NOTE- non-required resources may be suspended due to irregular school attendance., including required minutes per day.**

#### **FREE CLOTHES-**

FIT students, their families, & host families are welcome to come to the Clothes Closet for free clothes. It is open on Mondays (except for major holidays) from noon until 5:30pm. It is located at 850935 US Hwy 17, Yulee (across the street from the Pine Forest Motel). You may also request to have items sent to your student at school by emailing size and preference information. Your family may shop each month for outfits and toiletries. Shoes, socks, and underwear are also available (limits apply).

#### **FOOD SERVICE-**

Upon confirmation of eligibility and enrollment in the FIT program, students receive free breakfast and lunch without completing additional applications. *Make sure your child arrives at school in time for breakfast and takes advantage of this meal. There is a minimum and maximum number of items required to count as the free meal. If less items or additional items*

*are chosen, they are not free. Your child may be allowed to save a packaged, non-perishable item from the breakfast tray to eat during snack time and/or from lunch to take for an afternoon snack.*

#### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES-**

FIT students will be provided with available school supplies upon request by parents or teachers. They can be sent to the school.

**AR (Accelerated Reader) Library-** The most important "homework" that your child can do to ensure success in school is to read. Becoming a better reader requires daily practice at your child's independent reading level. You may choose books for your child from the AR library at the Clothes Closet. These books do NOT need to be returned.

#### **SCHOOL FEE PAYMENTS-**

Grants and community donations are used for payment of school-related needs (as funds are available) for field trips (\$50 limit per year), high

school senior expenses, and other academic needs.

**TUTORING-** students identified by teachers as falling behind may be eligible for transportation home from after school tutoring.

#### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES-**

Funds are currently available to help with fees, equipment, uniforms, transportation, etc. Call to discuss your need. Fulfilling these requests may take several weeks. Don't delay in calling.

#### **CHRISTMAS GIFTS-**

If "yes" was marked on your FIT enrollment form, allowing the liaison to give out your contact information, then a representative from one of our Christmas programs will contact you to discuss gifts for your student. You may only be on one list or future Christmas help will be canceled.

**Students are enrolled in the FIT program for one school year. Re-enrollment is required for the new school year and is based on the student's living status at that time. Call to re-enroll after August 1st, if eligible.**

### Contact Information

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**FIT/ Homeless Program of Nassau County**



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