



## EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH LACKING FIXED, REGULAR, AND ADEQUATE HOUSING

### Families should know:

- You do not need a permanent address to enroll your child in school.
- Your child cannot be denied school enrollment when school records or other enrollment documentation are not immediately available.
- Your child may be able to remain in the same school (school of origin) even if you move.
- When in your child's best interest, he or she has the right to transportation services to remain in the school of origin.
- Schools must provide you with a written explanation if a placement dispute occurs, and you may appeal the school's decision.
- Your child automatically qualifies to participate in free breakfast and lunch programs.
- Your child has the right to participate in extracurricular activities and all federal, state, or local programs for which he/she is eligible.

Unaccompanied youth lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing have these same rights.

## AT SCHOOL, ASK ABOUT THESE SPECIAL SERVICES

- Tutoring programs
- Programs to help children learn English
- Gifted or talented programs
- Summer school programs
- Preschool programs
- Before and after school programs
- Homeless assistance programs
- Mentoring programs
- Special education programs for students with disabilities, especially if the student has previously received special education services

*Schools give children and youth experiencing homelessness hope and a chance for a better future.*

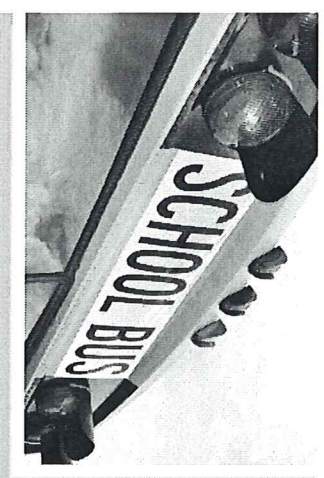
### SCHOOLS ALSO MAY PROVIDE:

- Quiet time or a personal space to allow your child to complete homework at school
- Basic school supplies
- Contact information for community agencies and helpful resources

**If you have questions, contact the school division's local homeless education liaison or Project HOPE-Virginia.**

## TIPS FOR FAMILIES WHO MOVE OFTEN

- Keep a copy of birth certificates and school records accessible.
- Safeguard all health and immunization records.
- Have a reliable person keep a second copy of the child's birth certificate, school records, and health information.
- Enroll children in school as soon as possible.



### WHAT YOU CAN DO BEFORE MOVING

- Tell your child's teacher and principal that your child is moving and give them the new address.
- Let school officials know if you want your child to stay in his/her school of origin while you are getting the family stabilized.
- Ask for a copy of your child's school records, including immunizations.