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State Superintendent of Schools

September 7, 2021

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) American Rescue Plan Act Education for Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) State Plan is enclosed. Contact Melissa Surgeon, Coordinator, Homeless Education, Neglected, and Delinquent Programs, via email at melissa.surgeon@maryland.gov or telephone at 410-767-0300, regarding the MSDE ARP-HCY State Plan.

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i. For ARP Homeless I:

1. How the SEA has used or will use up to 25 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I for State-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the State and LEA levels, including support to LEAs to increase access to summer programming in 2021. This must include how the SEA has supported LEAs to plan for and provide wrap-around services, in collaboration with State and local agencies for immediate needs this spring 2021, and how it will support LEAs for the school year 2021-2022. This should include the extent to which the SEA has or plans to build capacity in LEAs that have not received an EHCY subgrant in the past in order to ensure that these LEAs are well-prepared to utilize the funds provided in ARP Homeless II.

RESPONSE TO PROMPT 1

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch has conducted State-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the State and LEA levels, including support to LEAs, to increase access to summer programming in 2021.

Spring Newsletter

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch disseminated a spring newsletter to support local educational agencies (LEAs) in implementing strategies, initiatives, and resources under the American Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) Act. The newsletter provided Program Managers, Pupil Personnel Workers (PPWs), and Homeless Liaisons with valuable information, updates, and touchpoints for engagement and connection with other stakeholders and community partners. The spring newsletter emphasized the many impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on PreK-12 education and provided resources on wrap-around services, data collection, equity, and college and career pathways for students in transition. LEAs received the April 23, 2021, US Department of Education letter, links to accelerated learning opportunities, and suggestions for high-intensity tutoring programs. Also included in the newsletter were federal reports and homeless student enrollment trend data from across the state. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch shared information on leveraging state, district, and school-level data summaries to maximize the impact of homeless education funds. Program

Managers were encouraged to consider how identification strategies might enhance their efforts in supporting students in transition. Embedded within the newsletter were resources, research articles, and national trend data to heighten awareness on student identification.

Technical Assistance Training Webinar

In late Spring 2021, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch held a technical assistance training webinar for the American Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) Funds I. The content of the webinar addressed the following objectives: (1) Provide an overview of the ARP-HCY Funds I legislation, (2) Discuss funding guidance (3) Share recommendations for using ARY-HCY funding at the district and school levels, and (4) Address questions regarding next steps and program planning. Program Managers, PPWs, and Homeless Liaisons throughout the 24 districts were invited to attend. Attendees included both 2020-2021 McKinney Vento Homeless Education subgrantees and non-subgrantees. The webinar theme “School is a Collection of Experiences” encouraged LEAs to think outside of the box and leverage resources to identify homeless children and youth, provide wrap-around services, and ensure students in transition could attend school and participate fully in school activities. Forty-three stakeholders across the state participated in the webinar.

Notice of Intent Form

Following the webinar, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch developed a per-pupil formula allocation based on student enrollment counts from the 2020-2021 school year and created a Notice of Intent Form. Each local education agency was notified of their ARP-HCY Funds I allocation and guided to leverage these funds to identify students experiencing homelessness, offer assistance to families in transition, and provide wraparound services. LEAs who indicated intent to accept ARP-HCY Funds I received a competitive grant application.

Competitive Grant Application

Next, LEAs were invited to participate in a competitive grant application. Applicants were asked to address the following components:

- describe the objectives, anticipated outcomes, and measurable indicators associated with the implementation of awarded funds

- describe how awarded funds will be used to engage homeless children & youth in current activities, summer activities, and fall activities
- address the potential learning loss that may have occurred as a result of the recent pandemic
- incorporate parent, youth, caregiver, and guardian voices into the planning of funded programs/strategies/activities
- address the needs of the following historically underserved populations: rural children, and youth, Tribal children and youth, students of color, children, and youth with disabilities, English learners, unaccompanied homeless youth, LGBTQ+ youth, pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness
- describe what data will be collected and reviewed to evaluate the success of funded interventions, strategies, and/or activities
- describe how the data collected and reviewed will be used to evaluate the success of funded interventions, strategies, and/or activities
- describe key personnel roles and responsibilities and provide timelines for planning to implement and monitoring program activities, strategies, goals, and milestones
- develop a budget narrative providing detailed descriptions of proposed expenditures; the budget narrative includes only ARP-HCY Funds I allowable expenditures.

Eighteen of twenty-four LEAs applied. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch provided technical assistance and capacity building through application feedback and revision. Support was also provided throughout the spring and summer via email, phone calls, and virtual meetings. The LEAs welcomed the engagement and opportunity to collaborate on promoting access to summer programming for students experiencing homelessness.

Youth REACH Maryland Unaccompanied Youth Identification Partnership

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch has partnered with Youth REACH Maryland to support the Youth REACH Maryland youth count since 2015. The Youth REACH Maryland youth count is a biennial survey and census of unaccompanied youth within the state. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch supports the Youth REACH Maryland Youth Count in identifying the number, characteristics, and unique needs of youth and young adults experiencing housing instability in the state. LEA Program Managers, PPWs, and Homeless Liaisons across the state assist in the survey and identification process. The purpose of the count is to ensure that funding and resources are

focused where youth need them most. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch and Youth REACH Maryland meet bi-monthly to plan how to effectively execute the 2021-2022 Youth Count and share resources. Youth REACH Maryland is a community-based organization partner committed to identifying unaccompanied children and youth experiencing homelessness. Youth REACH Maryland recognizes that reliable data about unaccompanied homeless youth is necessary to develop effective interventions, appropriately allocate resources, and track progress toward reducing and ultimately ending youth homelessness.

2021-2022 School Year State Plan

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch has outlined the following plan for the 2021-2022 school year:

- **Conduct a statewide comprehensive needs assessment (CNA)** - This fall, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch will engage in a review of data and activities to ensure state initiatives, programs, and endeavors are meeting the needs of homeless children and youth at the state and local levels. The CNA process will identify where to focus efforts to meet the critical needs of students. Based on the outcomes of the CNA, the Branch will prioritize areas of need focused on student identification, enrollment, retention, and wrap-around services.
- **Provide LEAs with technical assistance and support via Branch hours**- Periodically throughout the 2021-2022 school year, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will offer time to meet and discuss local and school-level program implementation with Program Managers, PPWs, and Homeless Liaisons. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will customize each Branch hour to support LEAs in identifying and supporting the needs of homeless children and youth.
- **Host a Summit**- Program Managers, PPWs, and Homeless Liaisons will convene to discuss common goals, programming needs, and barriers to providing support and wrap-around services to students in transition. The summit's purpose is to offer an opportunity for LEAs, school-based personnel, and community-based organizations to network, collaborate and build relationships to support students in transition. At this time, stakeholders from across the state will be invited to discuss common issues and seek solutions. The forum will allow for best practices sharing and facilitate dialogue and heighten awareness about children and youth experiencing homelessness.

Representation from the following state agencies will be requested; Family Engagement, Student Services, Early Childhood, Special Education Services, Title I, Title II, and Title III.

- **Launch a Homeless Education Awareness Campaign and publish Newsletters and Tip Sheets throughout the 2021-2022 school year-** The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch will collaborate within the state agency to raise awareness of the growing needs of children and youth experiencing housing insecurity. The goal of the Homeless Education Awareness Campaign will be to organize content related to homeless children and youth strategically. Cross-divisional resources and collaboration will support the needs of homeless children and youth throughout the state. The newsletter and tip sheets are devices to share resources efficiently, engage stakeholders and community partners, and boost the conversation regarding the needs of homeless children and youth.

Building capacity of LEAs that have not received an EHCY subgrant in the past

Spring 2021, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch disseminated the spring newsletter to LEAs that had not received an EHCY subgrant in the past. LEAs were invited to participate in the American Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) Funds I technical assistance webinar and received notification of their ARP-HCY Funds I allocation via the Notice of Intent Form. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch followed up with each LEA via email and/or telephone communication and shared ARP-HCY Funds II would soon be available. LEAs that have not received an EHCY subgrant in the past will be invited to participate in the technical assistance and support Branch hours and attend the summit. The Homeless Education Awareness Campaign, newsletter, and tip sheets will include LEAs that have not received an EHCY subgrant in the past.

2. How the SEA has used or will use their funds for State-level activities to provide support to LEAs to increase access to summer programming and plan for and provide wraparound services for summer 2021, in collaboration with State and local agencies and other community-based organizations; and

RESPONSE TO PROMPT 2

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch has and will provide the following support to LEAs to increase access to summer programming and wraparound services.

Access to Summer Programming

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch included a section within the ARP-HCY Funds I application for LEAs to explain how awarded funds will engage homeless children and youth in summer activities and fall activities. Each application was reviewed using an application feedback tool. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch provided written feedback, including clarifying questions and requested revisions. Also, the Branch provided technical assistance and support regarding special programs, district-level initiatives, and activities throughout the spring and summer via email, phone calls, and virtual meetings. These collaborations fostered an increase in summer programming for students experiencing homelessness. The following summer programming was implemented:

- Hired of Academic Support Tutors, Bi-lingual Outreach Specialists, Mental Health Consultants, Social Workers, Service Navigators, and Teacher Mentors
- Provided mental health supports through social and emotional learning (SEL) activities, programs, and restorative practice teacher training
- Supported summer transportation to ensure students in transition could attend and participate fully in summer school activities
- Purchased electronic platforms for credit recovery programs

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch engaged in several state agency networking and collaboration meetings in order to increase the level of awareness regarding students and families in transition. The goal of each meeting was to share information regarding the ARP-HCY funds, garner support in completing a comprehensive needs assessment and share data and resources. The data and resources compiled will be used to inform the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch.

Plan for Wraparound Services

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch 2021-2022 state plan outline includes opportunities for LEAs and community-based organizations to come together and network, collaborate, and partner to share resources regarding wraparound services. This spring, homeless education Program Managers and Coordinators provided input on current needs, challenges, and priorities facing underserved children and youth undergoing

housing instability. They were asked to rank the following priorities by need: academic, social-emotional, and mental health. Program Managers and Liaisons from LEAs provided narrative justifications that included quantitative and qualitative data. Based on the data and input for the LEAs, high priorities for the state include increasing academic achievement and providing mental health services. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch will conduct a statewide comprehensive needs assessment, provide technical assistance through Branch hours, give opportunities for training and professional development during the summit, and assemble resources and materials in the form of newsletters and tip sheets throughout the 2021-2022 school year as support to LEAs.

3. How the SEA has used or will use at least 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I for distribution to LEAs in accordance with all requirements of EHCY. This must include the extent to which the SEA has or will use funds to supplement existing EHCY subgrants to allow for more rapid fund distribution to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness, and the extent to which the SEA analyzed and reviewed where there are significant concentrations of students and families experiencing homelessness across the State (including in LEAs that are not existing EHCY subgrantees), and how it has or will ensure that supports from ARP Homeless I can urgently reach them.

RESPONSE TO PROMPT 3

ARP-HCY Funds I Distribution to LEAs

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch created a notice of intent form derived from a per-pupil formula based on student enrollment counts from the 2021-2022 school year. Each local education agency was notified of their ARP-HCY Funds I allocation and those who indicated intent to accept ARP-HCY Funds I received a competitive grant application. The application included all requirements of Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY). The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch included a narrative response section. LEAs were required to respond to the following prompts addressing the needs of students experiencing homelessness:

- Describe how the LEA will incorporate parent, youth, caregiver, and guardian voice into the successful planning of funded programs/strategies/activities.
- Describe how the LEA will incorporate supports into funded programs/resources that will address the needs of historically underserved populations, such as rural children and youth, Tribal children and youth, students of color, children, and youth with disabilities,

English learners, migratory students, unaccompanied homeless youth, LGBTQ+ youth, and pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness.

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch received 18 applications and noted where there were significant concentrations of students and families experiencing homelessness across the state. LEAs were provided with technical assistance and capacity building through feedback and an application revision process. To ensure that support from ARP Homeless I would urgently reach students and families experiencing homelessness across the state, applications were reviewed, and timely feedback was provided. To allow for the rapid distribution of funds, LEAs received ARP-HCY Funds I feedback forms indicating their application approval status and next steps to be taken by the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch and the LEA.

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch reached out via email and telephone to LEAs that were not existing EHCY subgrantees. Two of the eight LEAs elected to participate in the ARP-HCY Funds I competitive grant application process.

Technical Assistance Training Webinar

In late Spring 2021, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch held a technical assistance training webinar for the American Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) Funds I. The content of the webinar addressed the following objectives: (1) Provided an overview of the ARP-HCY Funds I legislation, (2) Discussed funding guidance (3) Shared recommendations for using ARY-HCY funding at the district and school levels, and (4) Addressed questions regarding next steps and program planning. LEAs were given access to the competitive grant application and provided the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch with feedback regarding the grant application process.

ii. For ARP Homeless II:

1. How the SEA will use up to 25 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless II for State-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the State and LEA levels, including support to LEAs to plan for and provide wrap-around services, in collaboration with State and local agencies, for school year 2021-2022; and

RESPONSE TO PROMPT 1

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch will distribute 100% of the ARP Homeless II funds to LEAs and has allocated 0% for State-level activities.

2. How the SEA will use at least 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless II for distribution to LEAs in accordance with the final requirements. This must include a description of how the SEA will distribute funds in accordance with the required formula to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness and the extent to which the SEA has encouraged or will encourage the creation of consortia for those LEAs that may not meet the required minimum formula amount.

RESPONSE TO PROMPT 2

Notice of Intent Form

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will disseminate a Notice of Intent form using the ARP Homeless II formula. Each local education agency will be notified of their ARP Homeless II funds allocation and guided to leverage these funds to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness in accordance with the final requirements of ARP Homeless II. LEAs who indicate intent to accept ARP Homeless II funds will receive a non-competitive grant application.

Non-competitive Grant Process

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will create a non-competitive grant process that includes the following components:

- How the LEA will use funds to meet the urgent needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness—including academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs.
- How the LEA will use funds to increase capacity by hiring staff, dedicating resources, and planning partnerships with community-based organizations.
- How the LEA will use funds to provide wraparound services in collaboration with community-based organizations and state-level activities.
- How the LEA will use funds to address the needs of the following historically underserved populations: rural children, and youth, Tribal children and youth, students of color, children and youth with disabilities, English learners, unaccompanied homeless youth, LGBTQ+ youth, pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness.
- How the LEA will use funds to collect, review, and evaluate the success of interventions, strategies, and/or activities.
- How the LEA will use funds to provide timelines for planning, implementing, and monitoring program activities, strategies, goals, and milestones.

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch will receive applications and provide technical assistance and capacity building through feedback and an application revision process. LEAs will receive an ARP Homeless II feedback form indicating their application approval status and next steps to be taken by the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch and the LEA.

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch will send the Notice of Intent Form and an invitational email to LEAs that are not existing EHCY subgrantees notifying them of the opportunity to participate in the non-competitive grant process.

LEAs with ARP Homeless II fund allocations below \$5,000.00 will be encouraged to create a consortium. Community-based organizations throughout the state will be provided with an opportunity to collaborate, partner, and contract with these LEAs in support of students experiencing homelessness within their districts.

For both ARP Homeless I and ARP Homeless II:

1. How the SEA will ensure that ARP-HCY supplements the support and services provided with ARP ESSER funds and does not replace the use of ARP ESSER funds to support the needs of students experiencing homelessness;

RESPONSE TO PROMPT 1

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will ensure that ARP-HCY supplements the support and services provided with ARP ESSER funds and does not replace the use of ARP ESSER funds to support the needs of students experiencing homelessness. By including state agency representation by those supporting the ARP ESSER funded initiatives and programs in the following 2021-2022 School Year State Plan:

- **Conduct a statewide comprehensive needs assessment (CNA)** - This fall, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch will engage in a review of data and activities to ensure state initiatives, programs, and endeavors are meeting the needs of homeless children and youth at the state and local levels. The CNA process will identify where to focus efforts to meet the critical needs of students. Based on the outcomes of the CNA, the Branch will prioritize areas of need focused on student identification, enrollment, retention, and wrap-around services.

- **Provide LEAs with technical assistance and support via Branch hours-** Periodically throughout the 2021-2022 school year, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch will offer time to meet and discuss local and school-level program implementation with Program Managers, PPWs, and Homeless Liaisons. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will customize each Branch hour to support LEAs in identifying and supporting the needs of homeless children and youth.
- **Host a Summit-** Program Managers, PPWs, and Homeless Liaisons will convene to discuss common goals, programming needs, and barriers to providing support and wrap-around services to students in transition. The summit's purpose is to offer an opportunity for LEAs, school-based personnel, and community-based organizations to network, collaborate and build relationships to support students in transition. At this time, stakeholders from across the state will be invited to discuss common issues and seek solutions. The forum will allow for best practices sharing and facilitate dialogue and heighten awareness about children and youth experiencing homelessness. Representation from the following state agencies will be requested; Family Engagement, Student Services, Early Childhood, Special Education Services, Title I, Title II, and Title III.
- **Launch a Homeless Education Awareness Campaign and publish Newsletters and Tip Sheets throughout the 2021-2022 school year-** The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch will collaborate within the state agency to raise awareness of the growing needs of children and youth experiencing housing insecurity. The goal of the Homeless Education Awareness Campaign will be to organize content related to homeless children and youth strategically. Cross-divisional resources and collaboration will support the needs of homeless children and youth throughout the state. The newsletter and tip sheets are devices to share resources efficiently, engage stakeholders and community partners, and boost the conversation regarding the needs of homeless children and youth.

2. The extent to which the SEA will use its State-level activities funds to award subgrants or contracts to community-based organizations that are well-positioned to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations such as rural children and youth, Tribal children and youth, students of color, children, and youth with disabilities, English learners, LGBTQ+ youth, and pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness, and connect them to educationally-related support and wraparound services; and

RESPONSE TO PROMPT 2

The MSDE has reserved 0% of the ARP Homeless II to State-level activities. 100% of the ARP Homeless II will be distributed to the LEAs via an application process. Through technical assistance and support, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch will support LEAs to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations such as rural children and youth, Tribal children and youth, students of color, children and youth with disabilities, English learners, LGBTQ+ youth, and pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness.

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch 2021-2022 state plan activities provide opportunities for outreach, collaboration, and partnership with community-based organizations that are well-positioned to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations.

3. How the SEA will encourage LEAs to award contracts to community-based organizations to help identify and support historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness.

RESPONSE TO PROMPT 3

The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Programs Branch will encourage LEAs to award contracts to community-based organizations to help identify and support historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness through the following state plan activities:

- **Conduct a statewide comprehensive needs assessment (CNA)** - This fall, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent and At-risk Branch will engage in a review of data and activities to ensure state initiatives, programs, and endeavors are meeting the needs of homeless children and youth at the state and local levels. The CNA process will identify where to focus efforts to meet the critical needs of students. Based on the outcomes of the CNA, the Branch will prioritize areas of need focused on student identification, enrollment, retention, and wrap-around services. Community-based organizations throughout the state will be invited to participate. As a result of this collaboration, the MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will provide networking opportunities between LEAs and community-based organizations throughout the state, resulting in contracted services and partnerships supporting historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness.

- **Provide LEAs with technical assistance and support via Branch hours-** Periodically throughout the 2021-2022 school year. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will offer time to meet and discuss local and school-level program implementation with Program Managers, PPWs, and Homeless Liaisons. The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will customize each Branch hour to support LEAs in identifying and supporting the needs of homeless children and youth. Community-based organizations will be invited to participate and offer assistance directly to LEAs during Branch hours.
- **Host a Summit-** Programs Managers, PPWs, and Homeless Liaisons will convene to discuss common goals, programming needs, and barriers to providing support and wrap-around services to students in transition. The summit's purpose is to offer an opportunity for LEAs, school-based personnel, and community-based organizations to network, collaborate and build relationships. At this time, stakeholders from across the state will be invited to discuss common issues and seek solutions. The forum will allow for best practices sharing and facilitate dialogue and heighten awareness about children and youth experiencing homelessness. Representation from the following state agencies will be requested; Family Engagement, Student Services, Early Childhood, Special Education Services, Title I, Title II, and Title III.
- **Launch a Homeless Education Awareness Campaign and publish Newsletters and Tip Sheets throughout the 2021-2022 school year.** The MSDE Homeless Education, Neglected, Delinquent, and At-risk Branch will collaborate within the state agency to raise awareness of the growing needs of children and youth experiencing housing insecurity. The goal of the Homeless Education Awareness Campaign will be to organize content related to homeless children and youth strategically. Cross-divisional resources and collaboration will support the needs of homeless children and youth throughout the state. The newsletter and tip sheets are devices to share resources efficiently, engage stakeholders and community partners, and boost the conversation regarding the needs of homeless children and youth. Community-based organizations will be a part of the conversation and will be encouraged to provide resources, materials, and contracted services to LEAs via the newsletter and tip sheets.