

# THE HOPE TOOLKIT

## Partnering with Your Local School, District, or LEA

### Tips for City & Community Leaders



#### Why Partner?

Whether city or community leaders are working to address education, violence prevention, homelessness, or any number of other community issues, schools are often a valuable partner as they provide touch points with families in the community and serve as valuable connection points in disseminating information and providing services in the community.

As Jason Urbanski, Outreach Pastor at Verve City Church says, "We want to be great community partners. We want to walk alongside families in our community, for they are the heartbeat of our city, our future leaders. The schools are where those families are. We want to play a part in the good work the district is doing in our community."

**"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."  
- Henry Ford**

#### Partnership Opportunities

- **Support Services Staff** typically assist students with non-academic needs, including food insecurity, housing instability, transportation, or other needs. These staff can be a valuable connection point for reaching families for special events, recreational programming, or broader community outreach.
- **McKinney-Vento Liaisons** at each LEA address the needs of students experiencing homelessness or housing instability. Sharing information about rent or utility assistance programs, food pantries, and other social services can be valuable resources for them in meeting student needs. Often they can become valuable referral sources for your programs.
- **Afterschool Programs** are another way to collaborate with local schools. Partners who can provide quality afterschool programming on-site, or with transportation provided, ensures convenient access to enriching activities and academic support for students.

#### About Us

Chino Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) offers a unique approach to supporting McKinney-Vento students and families through the HOPE Program. This program is made possible by extensive and integrated city and community partnerships. This alliance-based model has been crucial to serving the needs of our students and families.

Through this toolkit, we want to offer what we have learned to other Local Education Agencies (LEAs) looking to enhance support for their McKinney-Vento students. We have pulled together tools, resources, and advice that we wish we had when we were starting out.

For more information on HOPE partnerships or to access the full HOPE Toolkit, please visit our website: <https://www.chino.k12.ca.us/Page/54175> or scan the QR code.



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# HOPE PROGRAM



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#### The HOPE Partnership

##### Focus on Youth Collaborative

Many HOPE partnerships have arisen out of the Focus on Youth Collaborative. The Focus on Youth (FOY) Collaborative meets monthly and is committed to 1) annually assess community needs and 2) seek out funding to implement, sustain and/or scale youth services. Since its inception in 2000, FOY has generated more than 25 million in grant funding to serve youth.

FOY provides an umbrella of accountability for HOPE, McKinney-Vento CARE and other youth programs. Committee members represent various agencies including CVUSD, YMCA, prison facilities, police departments, community and faith-based organizations, service clubs, neighboring counties and LEAs, and the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, and Ontario.

#### HOPE In Action

##### Outreach & Special Events

The HOPE team hosts tables at citywide special events and festivals. This city outreach helps ensure residents know what services and programs are available through the schools and allows the community to donate items to support the program.

##### Donation & Collection Drives

Many community organizations partner with HOPE by sponsoring collection drives to support the community CARE closet that allows students to shop for clothing, receive toiletry and hygiene items, and school supplies at no cost. These resources would not be possible without ongoing community support and donations.



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