



Resources on Homelessness Available Through the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) Library

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BOOKS:

The American Almanac of Family Homelessness (2013) Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness

"The Almanac provides policymakers, administrators, service providers, advocacy groups, researchers, and concerned citizens with a comprehensive resource that highlights what existing data reveal about homeless families and the programs that serve them -- and where gaps exist in knowledge and data collection. Within these pages, readers will find reports on the multitude of issues affecting homeless families and their children nationally; state-by-state statistics about those families and programs designed to help them; and snapshots of innovative funding strategies and model programs at the federal, state, and local levels that provide for the healthy development and educational success of homeless children." (p. v)

Beyond the Shelter Wall: Homeless Families Speak Out (2004) Ralph DaCosta Nunez

"*Beyond the Shelter Wall* gives readers a rare look at the other side of homelessness, the side that goes beyond need for housing. It includes the story of Rose, a 21-year-old mother of five; Anita, a product of over 20 foster homes and mental institutions; and Denise, a recovering addict. These mothers describe the confusion, challenges, and desperation that brought them to the shelter system. At a time when family homelessness has reached an all-time high, these first-hand accounts provide insight into the growing epidemic of America's poorest." From the Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness website

Moving Out, Moving Up: Families Beyond Shelter (2006) Ralph DaCosta Nunez

This book is the second book in a collection profiling homeless families. Unlike most books about homelessness relaying stories of discouragement and despair, it highlights the achievements of those who broke the cycle of family homelessness.

A Shelter is Not a Home ... or Is It? Revisited (2010) Ralph DaCosta Nunez

"An updated second edition of Dr. Ralph da Costa Nunez's much-lauded 2004 book that explores lessons learned and lessons forgotten on issues that drive family and child homelessness in New York City, and in other urban areas across the country. This revised work builds on the first edition in light of today's economic conditions, covering additional developments in city homelessness and housing policies

during the Bloomberg administration” From the Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness website

A Shelter is Not a Home ... or Is It? Lessons From Family Homelessness in New York City (2004) Ralph DaCosta Nunez

Ears Up, Ears Down / Ears Up, Ears Down Activity Book (2012) Ralph DaCosta Nunez

“When Jim’s Junkyard is closed, Ears Up, Ears Down is left without a home. He spends a night with a family living in their car before arriving at a tent city full of homeless families. Embark on a journey with the curious dog as he makes new friends, overcomes difficulties, and finally finds a place to call home.” From the Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness website

Mango’s Quest: The Story of a Home Lost and Found/ Mango’s Quest Activity Book (2008) Ralph DaCosta Nunez

“*Mango’s Quest* tells the tale of a young, orange-colored hamster who must leave his safe and warm cage in Room 222. Homeless and looking for a place to sleep, he ventures outside of his classroom to search for a new home and befriends many exciting characters on his journey. Together, they help him find his way back to Room 222 where he discovers a home of his own. *Mango’s Quest* is the fifth in [a] series of children’s books designed to introduce school-age children to issues surrounding family homelessness.” From the Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness website

Cooper’s Tale (2000) Ralph DaCosta Nunez

“When two fat cats take over the cheese shop, Cooper the pink mouse suddenly finds himself homeless. The friendship he develops with three homeless children changes all of their lives in ways they never expected.” From the Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness website

Voyage to Shelter Cove (2005) Ralph DaCosta Nunez

This book tells the story of how Serena, Herman, Pedro, and Penelope find friends, solace, and sea kelp at Shelter Cove after the destruction of their coral reef. *Voyage to Shelter Cove* is the fourth in [a] series of children’s books designed to introduce school-age children to issues surrounding family homelessness. – from the Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness website

**Runaway and Homeless Youth: Demographics and Programs by Adrienne L. Fernandes-Alcantara
Congressional Research Service, January 15, 2013**

Homeless and Special Education Administrative Collaboration: Recommendations (2008) Diana Bowman, Paula Burdette and Patricia Julianelle

**K-12 Education: Many Challenges Arise in Educating Students Who Change Schools Frequently (2010)
United State Government Accountability Office**

Present, Engaged, and Accounted For : The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades (2008) Hedy N. Chang and Mariajosé Romero

"This report seeks to raise awareness of the critical importance of chronic early absence, synthesize available data on the scope of the challenge, and share emerging insights about how schools and communities can use chronic early absence to identify and address challenges affecting the social, educational, and physical well-being of children and their families before problems become intractable. While parents are responsible for getting their children to school every day, schools and communities need to recognize and address the barriers and challenges that may inhibit them from doing so, especially when they are living in poverty. Large numbers of chronically absent students could indicate systemic problems that affect the quality of the educational experience and/or the healthy functioning of the entire community." (p. 4)

Hopes and Fears of Children Facing Living in a Box (2002) Sarri Gilman and Kim Miles

DVDs:

Home at Last: Stories for Children About Homelessness (2009)

A collection of animated videos on family homelessness and poverty for grades K-5, together on one DVD. Stories featured on this DVD include: Voyage to Shelter Cove, Sally's Journey, Cooper's Tale and Our Wish.

60 Minutes: Hard Times Generation (2011)

Scott Pelley talks with homeless children and their parents who live in budget motels.

Sixteen Forty-Nine (2010)

"Honest, candid interviews with three Beloit Memorial High School [Wisconsin] students, including heart-felt accounts of other unaccompanied youth in our area, reveal the struggle homeless students face at the high school level. Insight from both educational and community leaders sheds light on how we may be a part of the solution." – from official Sixteen Forty-Nine website

The Hidden Homeless: Youth on the Streets (2010)

"This half-hour documentary examines the "hidden homeless," the homeless children, who will go out of their way to fit in and try to look like everybody else, but are couch surfing, living in cars, sleeping in carwashes; one had been living in an abandoned bus, another living in a tent on an island in a river." – From Wisconsin Public Television website

America's Invisible Children: Homeless Education Crisis in America (2007)

Hosted by Joan Lunden, *America's Invisible Children* examines the dire state of homeless children and their struggle to receive a basic education. She introduces viewers to some remarkable children who

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lack permanent homes, as well as the educational resources needed to advance themselves in society. These children not only discuss challenges such as a lack of transportation, sleep and clean clothes that they face on a daily basis, but the circumstances that led to their current situations. Additionally, Lunden interviews several of the McKinney-Vento Homeless school liaisons who assist these children.

Montana FOCUS with Gene Brodeur: Homeless Schooling

"They're not as visible as the homeless populations in large metropolitan areas of the country, but the growing number of homeless families in Montana face the same daily challenges of finding food and shelter. More often than not, homeless kids don't have a place to study, or sleep. They show up for school hungry, and are expected to compete for higher grades with students who are much better off, financially. But, some are lucky enough to have counselors to help them get through the challenges that they face each day. Homeless liaisons, like Heather Denny at Bozeman High School, are offering academic guidance as well as improving their job skills and continuing their education. Denny, who speaks first-hand about being homeless, is the 'go to person' for everything from completing high school to going to the prom. *Montana Focus* follows homeless students from around the state, documenting their challenges, struggles, and successes. How prepared will they be to complete K through 12, get that high school diploma, and attend the university or college of their choice? You might be surprised" -- from back cover.

Homelessness and Education: Real Students, Real Schools (2012) Patricia Julianelle and the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth

In the first two sections, eight high school students talk about losing their homes, the impact of their homelessness on their education and how their respective schools helped them establish safe, stable and successful lives. These students also offer advice and encouragement for other young people facing similar circumstances. The final section consists of interviews with several school district McKinney-Vento liaisons, who discuss their work, challenges and successes. These liaisons help ensure that students experiencing homelessness can enroll and succeed in school.