Meeting the Educational Needs of Highly Mobile Students: The Education Rights of Homeless Children and Youth and Those in the Child Welfare System

Friday, February 7, 2014 • 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM
Grand Suite 3, Gold Level, East Tower • Hyatt Regency Chicago • Chicago, IL

Strong advocacy is needed to ensure highly mobile children are able to access and succeed in education. Children and youth experiencing homelessness, and in foster care, share many similar obstacles to meeting their educational needs. This session will focus on these populations and highlight the McKinney-Vento Act and other child welfare laws that support school continuity and stability for children, and provide advice for legal advocates, educators, and policymakers for using these important laws to benefit highly mobile children and youth. Each participant will receive a free ABA book entitled “Educating Children Without Housing: A Primer on Legal Requirements and Implementation Strategies for Educators, Advocates and Policymakers.” It addresses federal educational mandates related to homeless students under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The manual provides innovative strategies for educators and school administrators, state coordinators and policymakers, and advocates and attorneys to play a role in ensuring the education rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness. This revised edition includes additional strategies designed to assist communities to exceed compliance and move toward greater commitment— to embody not only the letter but also the spirit of the law. Additions include new sections on: homeless students with disabilities; students involved in the child welfare system; application of the Act in response to disasters; as well as expanded sections on definitions, preschool children, and unaccompanied youth. The book also includes an updated directory of resources.

Panelists:
Ashley Frethold
Staff Attorney, LAF, Chicago, IL

Laurene Heybach
Director, The Law Project of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, Chicago, IL

Kristin Kelly
Staff Attorney, ABA Center on Children and the Law, Washington, DC

This is a complimentary CLE program.*

Please RSVP to ensure sufficient handouts are available on site. Lawyers, non-lawyer advocates, providers, students, etc. are encouraged to attend. For more information about the ABA Midyear Meeting and other programming, please visit http://www.ambar.org/midyear. For more information about this program or to RSVP, please contact Kara Gillespie at (202) 662-1691 or kara.gillespie@americanbar.org.

*The ABA directly applies for and ordinarily receives CLE credit for ABA programs in AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, GU, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MN, MS, MO, MT, NM, NV, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, VI, WA, WI, and WV. These states sometimes do not approve a program for credit before the program occurs. This course is expected to qualify for 1.5 CLE credit hours in 60-minute states, and 1.8 credit hours in 50-minute states. This transitional program is approved for both newly admitted and experienced attorneys in NY. Attorneys may be eligible to receive CLE credit through reciprocity or attorney self-submission in other states. For more information about CLE accreditation in your state, visit http://ambar.org/homeless

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