



## **HOMELESS and HIGHLY MOBILE STUDENTS**

### **Minneapolis Public Schools**

#### **During 2006-07:**

- 4,441 children and youth in Minneapolis were identified as homeless and highly mobile
  - 78% were current Minneapolis residents or were recent St. Paul or suburban residents; 22% were new to the city and region
  - 63% were African American; 7.3% Native American; 5.5% White; 2.8% Hispanic American; 6.4% Asian American, 15% unknown
- There was a daily average of more than 1,000 children and youth identified as homeless in Minneapolis
- Of all stays in shelters, 35% were at Mary's Place; 35% at People Serving People; 17% at St. Joseph's; 5% at domestic violence shelters; 1% and less at all other Minneapolis and metro area shelters
- School age children and youth current school: 78% Minneapolis Public Schools, 9% suburban districts; 5% St. Paul Public Schools; 4% charters; 5% other

#### **Grade levels of students identified in Minneapolis as homeless and highly mobile:**

- Preschool 1,205 (28.4%)
- Kindergarten 225 ( 5.1%)
- Grades 1-5 students: 1,267 (28.5%)
- Grades 6-8 students: 605 (14.6%)
- Grades 9-12 students: 937 (21.1%)
- 18 – 21 years 202 ( 4.5%)
  - 10.6% who were MPS students were English Language Learners (22.8% district average)
  - 23.5% who were MPS students had an existing IEP for Special Education services (16.4% district average)

#### **STRATEGIES:**

- information throughout school district to improve identification and services for homeless and highly mobile students, per McKinney Vento law
- immediate school registration, transportation, school records, school supplies per McKinney Vento law
- early childhood screening, ECFE classes at shelters, school transition activities with families staying in shelters and schools
- high school support teams at all MPS schools, including alternatives, for homeless and highly mobile students
- support to increase school attendance at K-5 and K-8 schools
- Building Bridges – a school social work demonstration project to develop a model of practice to support homeless and highly mobile students
- Research projects with U of MN Institute of Child Development and advocacy work with City of Minneapolis/Hennepin County/State of Minnesota