



# TEHCY Program Summit

August 3rd & 5th, 2021





## TEHCY Program Summit

August 3rd & 5th, 2021

Dear attendees,

On behalf of the Texas Education Agency (TEA), I would like to personally welcome each of you to the 2021 Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth (TEHCY) Program Summit! Due to the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, TEA, in partnership with the Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS), will once again host this year's summit on a virtual platform.

Led by this year's theme, *The Road to Impact*, the compelling keynote speakers, presenters, and sessions will inspire us to draw from our educational journey to forge new partnerships that will support a solution-based culture to drive innovation and continuous improvement of our work. Together, we will travel The Road to Impact and accomplish the goal of removing barriers, promoting equitable access, and opportunities to support academic success for all Texas students experiencing homelessness.

Over the next two days, you will have the opportunity for peer-to-peer learning, explore best practices, acquire innovative strategies and resources for serving students experiencing homelessness. Throughout this summit, we ask you to be reflective and open to new ideas that will positively impact the lives of our students and families during these unprecedented times.

We are in this together, and I hope that our virtual summit experience will leave you feeling recharged and empowered to meet the unique needs of Texas students experiencing homelessness! Thank you for being part of our 2021 TEHCY Summit.



Sincerely,

**Cal Lopez**

*Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program, State Coordinator*





# FEATURED SPEAKERS



**Tuesday**  
**August 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**9:00 am**

## **Deja Foxx**

*Founder of GenZ Girl Gang*

Deja Foxx is a 21 year old activist, feminist, strategist, and influencer leading thought at the intersection of social justice and social media. She is the founder of GenZ Girl Gang, a student at Columbia University, and a Digital Creator with Ford Models. At just 19, she was the youngest staffer across the 2020 Presidential campaigns while working for Kamala Harris as Influencer and Surrogate Strategist. She has gone on to build innovative digital strategies for nonprofits and serves as the Social Media Director at Acronym, an organization building digital infrastructure for the modern progressive movement.

From homelessness in high school to the forefront of the digital organizing movement, Deja is changing the world at 21 years old. She's been named a Teen Vogue 21 under 21 and has joined the Dazed 100.



**Thursday**  
**August 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**1:00 pm**

## **Dr. C. Nicole Mason**

*President and Chief Executive Officer of the  
Institute for Women's Policy Research*

Dr. C. Nicole Mason is the president and chief executive officer of the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR), a leading voice on pay equity, economic policies, and research impacting women. Dr. Mason is the youngest person currently leading one of the major inside-the-Beltway think tanks in Washington, D.C., and one of the few women of color to do so.

Dr. Mason is the author of *Born Bright: A Young Girl's Journey from Nothing to Something in America* (St. Martin's Press), and has written hundreds of articles on community development, women, poverty, and economic security. Her writing and commentary have been featured in the New York Times, MSNBC, CNN, NBC, CBS, Real Clear Politics, Nation, Washington Post, Marie Claire, the Progressive, ESSENCE, Bustle, BIG THINK, Miami Herald, Democracy Now, and numerous NPR affiliates, among others.



# Event Schedule

General Session Workshop



## Tuesday, August 3rd

9:00 - 10:15 am

Welcome + Keynote: **Deja Foxx**

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Serving Students During A Natural Disaster: A Discussion with McKinney-Vento Liaisons

Adopting Effective Re-Engagement Strategies for Opportunity Youth

Child Sex Trafficking: What Educators Need to Know

Centering Youth Voice within Your Trauma Approach

Supporting Seniors with Post-Secondary Planning & Access

Foster Care and Student Success: Federal and State Requirements for Supporting Students

Exploring the Intersectionalities of Youth Homelessness

12:00 - 1:00 pm

Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 pm

Effective Coordination and Collaboration: A Plan of Action

Empowering Students for a Better Future

Serving the Unique Needs of Gifted/Talented Students Experiencing Homelessness

Beyond Bullying: Bullying, Harassment, and Technology Safety for Staff and Students

Bridging the Gap: This is How We Do It!

Help! I Need a Birth Certificate and ID

Engaging Young Adults Through Consumer Education

2:15 - 3:15 pm

**Networking Event**

3:30 - 4:45 pm

McKinney-Vento 101

College Resources for Foster Care Alumni

School-Based Responses to Human Trafficking

ACEs & Trauma Informed Practices to Support Youth

Dropout Recovery & Student Re-Engagement: Practical Solutions to Return Students to an Educational Setting

Unpacking Commissioner Rules to Support School Transitions for Students: Part 1

TX Disasters and Emergencies: Impacts on Children, Youth, and Families

## Thursday, August 5th

9:00 - 10:30 am

McKinney-Vento 201

SOAR to Success: A Collaborative Model for Change

Child Abuse Prevention: A Deeper Dive into Human Trafficking and TEA Efforts to Address It

Comprehensive School Mental Health

McKinney-Vento Implementation to Support Equitable Outcomes for Students

Federal Grants in Texas and ESSER Program Updates

Re-Engagement in a Post-COVID World

10:45 am - 12:00 pm

Providing Post-Secondary Transition Assistance in Rural Schools

Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office Overview

Creating Supportive Learning Environments for LGBTQIA+ Students

The Harlandale Vision: Creating Wrap Around Services for All Students

Resources for Implementing McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act & Other Laws

Unpacking Commissioner Rules to Support School Transitions for Students: Part 2

Leading Up: How to Develop a Leadership Conference for Youth in Your Community

12:00 - 1:00 pm

Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 pm

Keynote: **Dr. C. Nicole Mason**

2:00 - 2:30 pm

**Mike Morath, Commissioner of Education, Texas Education Agency**

2:45 - 3:45 pm

Nuts and Bolts of McKinney-Vento School or Origin and Transportation Services

Community Coordination of Services with Limited Resources

Breaking the Barriers of Time and Place: Using the Texas Virtual School Network & Online Learning to Support Students

Creative Solutions Learned in the Midst of a Pandemic

Supporting Homeless Students and Parents in a Title I, Part A Program

Recap of Texas' 87th Legislative Session

Resilience in Action: Building Authentic Youth-Adult Partnerships

4:00 - 4:45 pm

Closing Remarks: **Cal Lopez and Fedora Galasso**

**9:00 am - 10:15 am / Welcome + Keynote: Deja Foxx**

## Homelessness to Higher Education

Having experienced what it was like to be independent and live without a home of her own at just 15, Deja has beaten the odds in becoming the first person in her family to attend college. Hear the inspirational story of how Deja's community invested in her and how she has reinvested in her community by empowering youth in similar situations to take control of their health and their future, and went on to help found the first ever special interest community for First Generation and Low-Income Students in Columbia University's history.

**10:30 am – 12:00 pm / Workshops**



### **Serving Staff, Students, and Families During A Natural Disaster: A Discussion with McKinney-Vento Liaisons** *Cal Lopez, TEA TEHCY State Coordinator; Deon Quinn, ESC Region 10; Bobbie Jones, Cypress Fairbanks ISD*

Join us for an interactive panel discussion with McKinney-Vento Liaisons and TEA TEHCY State Coordinator to discuss resources and support for staff, students, and families experiencing homelessness from a local, regional, and state perspective. You'll learn about how to implement or enhance your disaster preparedness plan and strategies to support outreach, identification, and program support to serve staff, students, and families experiencing homelessness during a natural disaster.



### **Adopting Effective Re-Engagement Strategies for Opportunity Youth** *Antonia Rangel-Caril, National League of Cities, Institute for Youth, Education and Families*

School districts across Texas have an opportunity to re-enroll students who became disengaged during the pandemic. San Antonio shows one of the many great examples of what communities are doing to reach out and support youth who have become disengaged from school. Join NLC Institute for Youth, Education, and Families to learn about the Texas Opportunity Network, NXT LEVEL's re-engagement model, and other in-district strategies to get opportunity youth back into school or in other post-secondary options.



### **Child Sex Trafficking: What Educators Need to Know** *Andrea Sparks, Office of the Texas Governor's Child Sex Trafficking Team*

In this workshop, participants will learn about the dynamics of child sex trafficking (CST) in all its forms (pimp, gang, familial, survival, online exploitation), the challenges to preventing, identifying, and recovering victims of CST, and the strategies schools and communities are implementing to successfully address CST and support survivors' healing and safety. This workshop will share information on specialized training opportunities, community resources, and services available to educators to strengthen their CST prevention and response. Finally, the workshop will cover new requirements for schools and educators on prevention education and reporting and responding to exploitation.



### **Centering Youth Voice within Your Trauma Approach** *Dana Hill and Kennedy Quintanilla, Texas Network of Youth Services*

In this workshop, participants will learn a cross-systems approach to addressing and responding to complex trauma, including the impacts of trauma and how it manifests in behaviors. Participants will leave the workshop with strategies to effectively identify and respond to trauma behaviors, create healthy youth-adult relationships, avoid retraumatization, and help youth develop healthy coping skills.



### **Supporting Seniors and Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness with Post-Secondary Planning & Access** *Martha Gonzales and Jana Ramchander, ESC Region 13 TEHCY Support Center*

Students experiencing homelessness often feel overwhelmed and unaware of resources and services available to support their post-secondary goals. In this workshop, participants will learn about tools and resources available to assist high school seniors and unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness with navigating the financial aid process. Strategies and tools for supporting high school seniors experiencing homelessness will also be shared.



### **Foster Care and Student Success: Federal and State Requirements for Supporting Students in Foster Care**

**Kelly Kravitz**, *Texas Education Agency Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student Programs*, and

**LaTrenda Watson**, *Texas Education Agency Highly Mobile and At-Risk State Coordinator*

Are you familiar with the various laws and requirements that support students in foster care and their academic success? This workshop provides an overview of state and federal mandates, new outcome data, and resources available. Participants will gain knowledge and strategies to support implementation and coordinate with cross-system partners.



### **Exploring the Intersectionalities of Youth Homelessness**

**Sally Amara Uzomba, Jorge Leyva, Zane Ocon, Shaylynn Wylie, and Kedrick Spivey**, *TNOYS YALC Members*

In this workshop, participants will discuss the factors of youth homelessness and what we can do to prevent and assist youth experiencing homelessness through facts, statistics, and stories. You will hear from Young Adult Leadership Council (YALC) members as they highlight the various intersectionalities of youth homelessness and its systematic roots.

**12:00 pm - 1:00 pm / Lunch Break**

**1:00 pm - 2:00 pm / Workshops**



### **Effective Coordination and Collaboration: A Plan of Action**

**Idalia R. Ibanez and Nez Paniagua**, *Texas Education Agency Migrant Education Program*

This session will give participants the opportunity to understand the purpose, objectives and activities for the Migrant Education Program as a way to identify opportunities for coordination and collaboration with McKinney-Vento. They will become familiar with best practices for coordination and collaboration. Participants will have the opportunity for hands-on activities such as scenarios.



### **Empowering Students for a Better Future**

**Elizabeth Meza and Jeannette Lara**, *Workforce Solutions Lower Rio Grande* and **Lorena "Lori" Knight**, *Texas Workforce Commission*

Utilizing a holistic approach, Workforce Solutions supports local communities and assists individuals seeking employment and career development opportunities. The Education Relations team specializes in empowering all students in grades 6th – 12th, their parents, and faculty and staff from local school districts by presenting resources and tools for career exploration, post-secondary options, local labor market data, and job readiness skills. Attendees will become familiar with all the available free Workforce Solutions services and how to access and request these services in their area.



### **Serving the Unique Needs of Gifted/Talented Students Experiencing Homelessness**

**Monica Brewer**, *Texas Education Agency*

In this session, speakers will review the legal responsibilities for Gifted/Talented (G/T) services as outlined in the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students. Participants will learn how to advocate for homeless students to ensure that G/T students experiencing homelessness receive the G/T services offered by the local education agencies.



### **Beyond Bullying: Bullying, Harassment, and Technology Safety for Staff and Students**

**Rod Pruitt**, *Title IV, Part A School Safety State Initiative*

Bullying, Harassment, and Technology Safety are all topics that schools must address with students and staff. These issues may appear similar, but each requires unique responses for prevention and to protect students. In addition, homeless students can be especially vulnerable to these issues and may require unique help. This workshop will explore the district definitions, policies, and prevention strategies required for each subject.



### **Bridging the Gap: This is How We Do It!**

**Bobbie Jones and Gwendolyn Wiley, Cypress Fairbanks ISD**

Are you feeling overwhelmed in your role as the homeless liaison? Staff from Cypress Fairbanks ISD will share best practices to bridge the gap between you, campus support staff, and students. This presentation will provide an overview of the Cypress Fairbanks ISD's Families in Transition Program's organizational structure. It will detail how the district has found success in using temporary workers/retired counselors to monitor and support students' academics, social and emotional needs, address attendance issues, provide truancy interventions, support college/career/military readiness, and coordinate special projects.



### **Help! I Need a Birth Certificate and ID**

**Mary Christine Reed, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid Texas Foster Youth Justice Project**

Many of those who experience homelessness may be without birth certificates, Texas ID cards or licenses, and/or social security cards, face numerous barriers to obtaining them, and therefore lose access to many crucial services and supports on the road to self-sufficiency. Education professionals working with these students and families are routinely called upon to assist in obtaining these critical documents. In this session, participants will become familiar with the requirements to obtain Texas birth certificates, ID cards and driver licenses, learn how to assist youth and families in obtaining this documentation, and connect with resources to help students and families overcome barriers to receiving them.



### **Engaging Young Adults Through Consumer Education**

**Aurora Harris and Elizabeth Kufour, Young Invincibles**

Young Invincibles (YI) creates successful advocacy campaigns through engaging young activists, developing policy solutions, and elevating young adult voices to policymakers and the media. We also ensure that young people have the knowledge to make personal financial decisions through information and consumer tools. Learn how YI has educated tens of thousands of young adults about their financial options and achieved numerous policy victories along the way.

## **2:15 pm - 3:15 pm / Networking Event**

Mark your calendars for networking at the program summit! Join us to have fun and build valuable connections with youth-serving professionals from across Texas. The event will take place within the virtual platform. We hope to see you there!

## **3:30 pm - 4:45 pm / Workshops**



### **McKinney-Vento 101**

**Mary Anne Hettenhaus and Jana Ramchander, ESC Region 13 TEHCY Support Center**

Are you new to working with students and families experiencing homelessness? Has it been a while since you had McKinney-Vento training? During this session, presenters will discuss the key requirements of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Attendees will learn more about identification, enrollment, dispute resolution, and the roles and responsibilities of local education agencies (LEAs) and McKinney-Vento liaisons to support students experiencing homelessness. TEHCY Program resources and sample forms will be provided.



### **College Resources for Foster Care Alumni**

**Brandi Purswell and Drew Melton, BCFS - Texas Education and Training Voucher Program**

This workshop will help attendees understand the unique challenges that face youth who age out of foster care as they traverse through the post-secondary education process. The presentation will underscore the importance of aftercare service providers and post-secondary institutions creating partnerships to assist youth aging out of foster care realize their educational goals. In addition, the presentation will highlight the resources available to current and former foster youth as they pursue post-secondary education. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss the potential barriers that prevent current and former foster youth from pursuing post-secondary education, the available resources, and possible solutions.





### **School-Based Responses to Human Trafficking**

**Debbie Solcher**, Office of the Texas Governor's Child Sex Trafficking Team  
**Becky Austen**, Allies Against Slavery

Texas law requires schools to implement policies to prevent, identify, and respond to instances of abuse and trafficking. Additionally, research indicates that homeless youth are a vulnerable population for human trafficking. This workshop will provide an overview of anti-trafficking strategies being implemented in Texas and how these connect with a school-based approach, particularly with homeless youth. The workshop will also focus on key indicators of sexual exploitation and explore the value of screening tools.



### **ACEs & Trauma Informed Practices to Support Youth**

**Carrie Edmond**, North East ISD

This presentation will discuss the impact of trauma on early development as well as the potential long-term effects. Participants will gain insight and practical steps to cultivate trauma informed practices that will benefit the youth they serve.



### **Dropout Recovery & Student Re-Engagement: Practical Solutions to Return Students to an Educational Setting**

**Tyler Shoesmith**, North East ISD

Within large metropolitan school districts, dropout recovery is a full scale, all-hands-on-deck process that includes multiple facets of the community. Once students and their families are located, systems and supports need to be created and reinforced to ensure that students re-engage and graduate. While this a daunting task, this workshop will discuss practices and catchments that audience members will be able to implement in their own districts. Now, more than ever, education professionals must aggressively locate these students, provide wrap-around support, and ensure their future success.



### **Unpacking Commissioner Rules to Support School Transitions for Students Experiencing Homelessness or in Substitute Care: Part 1**

**Kelly Kravitz**, Texas Education Agency Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student Programs,  
**Cal Lopez**, Texas Education Agency TEHCY State Coordinator, **Jordan Brown**, Texas Education Agency,  
and **LaTrenda Watson** Texas Education Agency Highly Mobile and At-Risk State Coordinator

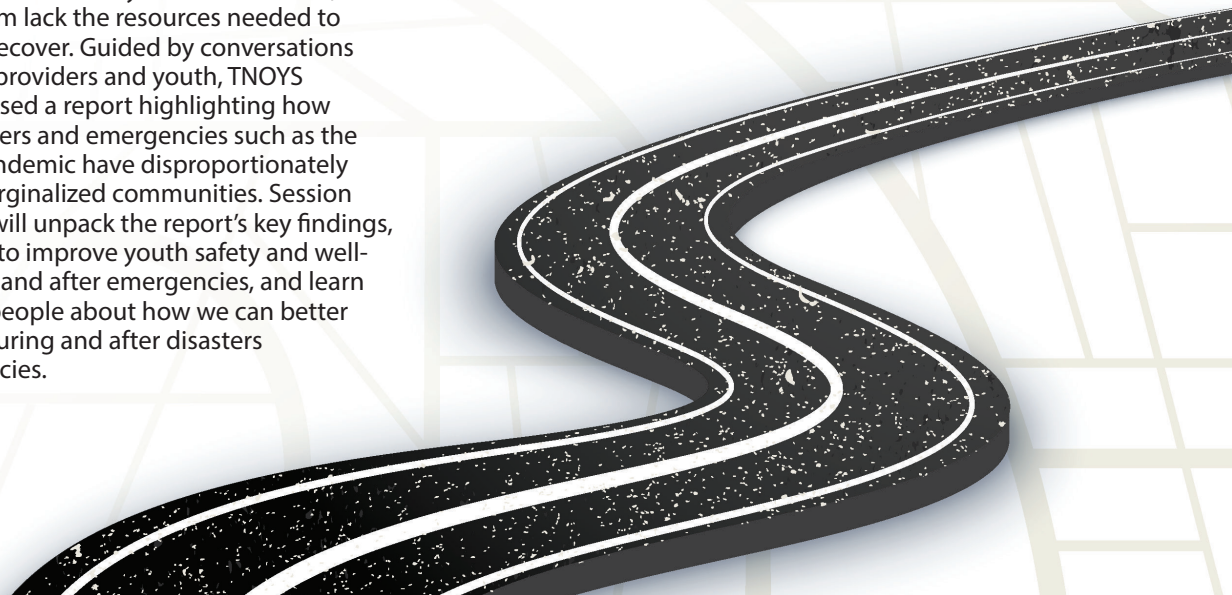
This two-part session will equip LEAs with understanding requirements in 19 TAC Chapter 89, for serving highly mobile students who are homeless or in substitute care. This interactive session will provide LEAs with tools and resources to assess their current processes and identify strategies for alignment with these requirements. We will discuss effective school transitions to mitigate barriers for students who are homeless or in substitute care in the event of a school move. Specifically, we will review best practices and strategies to support implementation of enrollment conferences, welcome packets, students' introductions and more.



### **Texas Disasters and Emergencies: Impacts on Children, Youth, and Families**

**Ann-Charlotte Proffitt** and **Sedoo Ijir**, Texas Network of Youth Services

Texas has declared more major disasters than any other state in the U.S. Such events can cause long-term harm to vulnerable youth and families, many of whom lack the resources needed to successfully recover. Guided by conversations with over 50 providers and youth, TNOYS recently released a report highlighting how natural disasters and emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic have disproportionately impacted marginalized communities. Session participants will unpack the report's key findings, discuss ways to improve youth safety and well-being during and after emergencies, and learn from young people about how we can better serve them during and after disasters and emergencies.





## 9:00 am - 10:30 am / Workshops



### **McKinney-Vento 201**

**Lisette Castaneda and Jana Ramchander, ESC Region 13 TEHCY Support Center**

Would you like more in-depth training on the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act? This session will take a deeper dive into McKinney-Vento enrollment, identification, and dispute resolution process. Attendees will learn strategies to mitigate challenges or barriers to school enrollment and identification of students experiencing homelessness throughout the school year. TEHCY Program resources and sample forms will be provided.



### **SOAR to Success: A Collaborative Model for Change**

**Marina Dewberry, Tamar Ambers, and Libby Woolverton, Our Friends Place**

Through collaboration with local high schools, colleges and universities, after-school programs and other agencies, Our Friends Place's SOAR to Success's mentorship, outreach, and prevention program is built directly into the community of the young people and adults we serve. SOAR focuses on leveraging personal Strengths, Opportunities, building Allies and resources, and developing Resiliency through four research informed program components. Participants will learn about the importance of intentional interagency collaboration in developing youth and adult programming, how to engage with and integrate youth voice into facilitation, and tangible ways to build similar connections in their own communities.



### **Child Abuse Prevention: A Deeper Dive into Human Trafficking and TEA Efforts to Address It**

**Monica Brewer and Kelly Kravitz, Texas Education Agency**

Human Trafficking is a heinous crime impacting every community in Texas. Schools are a safe haven for students and play a critical role in identifying and reporting this crime. Educators have mandated training and reporting requirements. This session will discuss the ways in which TEA is working with a variety of state leaders and stakeholders to increase awareness and develop tools and resources to support educators with understanding and meeting these requirements.



### **Comprehensive School Mental Health**

**Julie Wayman, Texas Education Agency**

In this workshop, participants will explore new TEA resources that launched Summer of 2021 to support comprehensive school mental health. Participants will learn about the essential elements of comprehensive school mental health. The session will also address grief and trauma informed practices, related policies, guidance materials, and will include a needs assessment and feedback discussion with stakeholders who work with children and youth experiencing homelessness.



### **McKinney-Vento Implementation to Support Equitable Outcomes for Students Experiencing Homelessness**

**Cal Lopez, Texas Education Agency**

During this session, participants will be provided resources and strategies to implement a multi-tiered level of McKinney-Vento Program services and supports to promote equitable opportunities and outcomes for students experiencing homelessness. Presenters will discuss systemic processes and procedures to increase awareness and develop staff capacity and observable academic outcomes for students experiencing homelessness.



### **Federal Grants in Texas and ESSER Program Updates**

**Matt Lashlee and Natalie Coffey, Texas Education Agency**

In this session, we will provide an overview and updates of the CARES, CRRSA, and ARP Acts, along with the sources of funding that impact schools and the broader communities of Texas. Participants will increase their knowledge of the various federal funds and grant programs as well as be able to identify the purpose, activities, supportive guidance and resources to help manage these funds. Participants will also be able to build connections between grant programs and TEHCY initiatives.



## Re-Engagement in a Post-COVID World

**Sally Amara Uzomba, Jorge Leyva, Zane Ocon, Shaylynn Wyllie, and Kedrick Spivey, TNOYS YALC Members and Prince Hayward, Texas Network of Youth Services**

In this panel discussion, participants will hear from young adults with lived experience with homelessness and the child welfare system as they discuss strategies and best practices for effectively re-engaging students in school (or services) after they have dropped out or lost contact. Participants will discuss what resources youth would have found helpful for their re-engagement, the challenges and barriers that youth might face in re-engaging in school or services, and strategies education professionals can use to ensure students feel supported and hopeful in their journey.

## 10:45 am – 12:00 pm / Workshops



### Providing Post-Secondary Transition Assistance in Rural Schools

**Tina Haywood, ESC Region 14; Sherity Meek, Anson High School; Jennifer Wilson, Clyde Intermediate School; Amanda Elston, Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas; Shaylynn Wyllie, TNOYS YALC Member**

Working in rural settings can present benefits and challenges in providing post-secondary transition assistance to high school students. This session will look at the unique approaches to addressing this requirement. Participants will understand: the strategies used by rural schools to provide transition assistance; the collaboration efforts between Youth Success Advisors, high school counselors, and the Education Service Center to successfully provide assistance from high school to a post-secondary pathway; and the availability and utilization of the local workforce development board for students and families to help make the post-secondary transition easier.



### Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office Overview

**Alferma Giles, Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office**

Have you ever wondered what a Head Start Collaboration office (HSSCO) is, its purpose, or why section 642(b) exists in Head Start Act 2007? This workshop will provide an overview of the history and function of HSSCO's and how the Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office (THSSCO) supports the needs of Head Start/Early Head Start Programs in Texas.



### Creating Supportive Learning Environments for LGBTQIA+ Students

**Frederick Heather and Ryn Gonzales, Out Youth**

Despite only making up about 7% of the total youth population, LGBTQ+ youth account for nearly 40% of the homeless youth population, according to True Colors United. Participants in this workshop will get a sneak peek at some of the learning objectives and key takeaways from Level 1 of the Be a Beacon training, which covers LGBTQIA+ 101 and How to Intervene in Bullying & Harassment, and is intended for all school personnel. Participants will also preview part of Level 2: Supporting a Student Who Comes Out to You, and will have ample time to engage in conversation about how to bring Be a Beacon to their campuses and peers.



### The Harlandale Vision: Creating Wrap Around Services for All Students

**Brian Jaklich, Harlandale ISD**

This presentation will examine the mental health needs of students and briefly review ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) before flowing into Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) and the ways in which PCEs can reverse the effects of ACEs. Participants will learn about the innovative Harlandale ISD student support program and strategies for implementing similar programs in your own districts. Presenters will discuss how Harlandale ISD places a social worker on every school campus and the process of developing the Harlandale Care (counseling) Center, including the step-by-step planning and challenges faced along the way.



### Resources for Implementing McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and Other Laws

**Jasmine Wightman, Texas Association of School Boards**

In this workshop, participants will learn the basics of McKinney-Vento, including identification, eligibility, enrollment, and transportation. Participants will also discuss allowable uses of McKinney-Vento and American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds. Participants will leave this session able to identify and understand TASB Legal and Local Policies as they relate to students experiencing homelessness, as well as TASB resources available to assist with compliance. Participants will walk away with a web-based handout that provides access to the list of TASB policies and resources and other outside links and resources mentioned during the presentation.



## Unpacking Commissioner Rules to Support School Transitions for Students Experiencing Homelessness or in Substitute Care: Part 2

**Kelly Kravitz**, Texas Education Agency Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student Programs, **Cal Lopez**, TEA TEHCY State Coordinator, and **Jordan Brown**, Texas Education Agency, and **LaTrenda Watson** Texas Education Agency Highly Mobile and At-Risk State Coordinator

This two-part session will equip LEAs with understanding requirements in 19 TAC Chapter 89, for serving highly mobile students who are homeless or in substitute care. This interactive session will provide LEAs with tools and resources to assess their current processes and identify strategies for alignment with these requirements. We will discuss effective school transitions to mitigate barriers for students who are homeless or in substitute care in the event of a school move. Specifically, we will review best practices and strategies to support implementation of enrollment conferences, welcome packets, students' introductions and more.



## Leading Up: How to Develop a Leadership Conference for Youth Experiencing Homelessness in Your Community

**Tori Sisk and Anna Lee**, Arlington ISD

Those who work with students experiencing homelessness know just how much collaborations outside of the school district allow education professionals to help families with vital resources, but could they be considered for something more? In this session, participants will learn how Arlington ISD created a Leadership Conference for homeless youth through community collaboration. Sixty-nine high school students attended a one-day conference focused on the power of resiliency and how having faith in one's own leadership capacity can impact the trajectory of one's future. Participants will leave with a framework for creating a youth leadership conference and understand why it worked.

**12:00 pm - 1:00 pm / Lunch Break**

**1:30 pm - 2:30 pm / Keynote: Dr. C. Nicole Mason + Commissioner Mike Morath**

**Dr. C. Nicole Mason**

Join us as Keynote Speaker Dr. C. Nicole Mason shares her knowledge of pay equity, economic policies, and research impacting women. Dr. Mason authored *Born Bright: A Young Girl's Journey from Nothing to Something in America* (St. Martin's Press), and has written hundreds of articles on community development, women, poverty, and economic security.

**Mike Morath**, Commissioner of Education, Texas Education Agency

**2:45 pm – 3:45 pm / Workshops**



## Nuts and Bolts of McKinney-Vento School of Origin and Transportation Services

**Jerretta Jimmerson Davenport and Jana Ramchander**, ESC Region 13 TEHCY Support Center

McKinney-Vento School of Origin transportation is a unique right and protection for students experiencing homelessness. Attendees will learn about local education agency (LEA) responsibilities for ensuring school of origin transportation and strategies to implement and support School of Origin transportation services. TEHCY Program resources and sample forms will be provided.



## Community Coordination of Services with Limited Resources

**Terry Ortiz and Yvette Munoz**, ESC Region 20

In this session, presenters will share the ways they addressed the challenges migrant education faced when the program was cut by 38% and they were no longer able to supply families with items such as clothing, school supplies, etc. Out of need they had to innovate and find ways to meet the basic needs of their families even with limited financial resources. Presenters will share the different ways they were able to shift the mindset of their staff and their families, create community partnerships, research available resources, and develop a system to track the efforts to maximize student success.





## Breaking the Barriers of Time and Place: Using the Texas Virtual School Network & Online Learning to Support Students

**Kate Loughrey**, *Texas Education Agency*

Join this session to learn how you can leverage our state's unique online learning initiative, the Texas Virtual School Network (TXVSN), and use its supplemental and full-time online learning options to support students experiencing homelessness in Texas.



## Creative Solutions Learned in the Midst of a Pandemic

**Kathy Wigtil, Kat Strasburger, and Cecilia Padgett**, *Waco ISD*

In his workshop speakers will present collaborative solutions used to meet the increased and broad needs of students and families experiencing homelessness this year, especially those who were impacted by both the pandemic and the winter storm. Participants will learn creative ways to meet the increased and diverse needs of students and families experiencing homelessness, engage in problem solving discussions surrounding their needs, and understand how to continue providing them with creative support.



## Supporting Homeless Students and Parents in a Title I, Part A Program

**Jaime Huerta**, *Texas Education Agency*

This session will provide an overview of how LEAs can support homeless students and parents as part of their Title I, Part A program. Participants will learn about: the process for Title I, Part A use of funds as it relates to supporting homeless students and parents; comprehensive needs assessment requirements; campus improvement plan requirements; program coordination; allowable activities to support homeless students and parents; and requirements associated with the Title I, Part A Services to Homeless Students LEA Reservation.



## Recap of Texas' 87th Legislative Session

**Lauren Rose and Prince Hayward**, *Texas Network of Youth Services*

Join this session for a discussion of policy changes made during the 87th Texas Legislative Session and how they will impact Texas' youth, families, and professionals who serve them. Lauren Rose will highlight major legislation and budgetary decisions relevant to youth services and Justin Hayward will discuss his experience advocating for policies during the session.



## Resilience in Action: Building Authentic Youth-Adult Partnerships

**Josue Rodriguez and Alex Polk**, *Texas Network of Youth Services*

This interactive workshop will provide strategies on how to engage authentically with youth and create a mutually respectful, safe environment to build youth-adult partnerships. Hear directly from youth and young adults as they share their lived experiences and learn how to provide support to meet the unique needs of a young person. Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with their peers to apply what they've learned.

**4:00 pm - 4:45 pm**  
**TEHCY State Coordinator Closing**

Closing remarks from Cal Lopez, TEA TEHCY State Coordinator,  
joined by Fedora Galasso, TNOYS Executive Director



*Thank You*  
**FOR ATTENDING**

This year's summit was hosted in partnership with Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS), a statewide network of organizations and advocates. In collaboration with their members and partners, TNOYS works to strengthen services and support for Texas youth and families to help them overcome challenges and achieve healthy development.



## **TEHCY Program Summit**

August 3rd & 5th, 2021

**GROW YOUR  
IMPACT** *with*

**TNOYS**  
TEXAS NETWORK OF  
YOUTH SERVICES

### **Interested in joining TNOYS' systems-change work?**

**Here are three ways to grow your impact with TNOYS after the TEHCY Program Summit:**

**1. Sign up for TNOYS' newsletters and follow them on social media:**

Twitter: @TNOYS

Facebook: @TNOYS1

Youtube: youtube.com/user/TNOYS

LinkedIn: <http://us.linkedin.com/company/texas-network-of-youth-services>

**2. Check out TNOYS' upcoming events and trainings page.**

TNOYS offers opportunities throughout the year to expand your knowledge in cutting-edge topics such as trauma-informed care, Youth Thrive™, youth-adult partnership, and much more. Learn more at [tnoys.org/events](https://tnoys.org/events)

**3. Learn more about TNOYS' membership program and become an individual or organizational member!**

The member network is comprised of over 100 youth-serving organizations and advocates from across Texas. Members enjoy benefits such as free or discounted professional development opportunities, access to networking events, and free CEU certificates for trainings.

**Visit [www.tnoys.org](https://www.tnoys.org) to learn more about TNOYS' work and how you can get involved.**