

Senator Manchin's Actions Addressing Homelessness

February 5, 2019: Senator Manchin announced two funding allocations from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), each in excess of \$1 million to help at-risk youth finish high school or other equivalency programs in West Virginia. The funds will also go to workforce training programs and be used to help build housing for homeless youth and their families.

April 11, 2019: Senators Manchin and Capito announced \$13,523,370 for 30 public housing authorities throughout the state of West Virginia from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funding from HUD's Public Housing Capital Fund will help West Virginia public housing authorities develop, finance and modernize their facilities as well as their management operations.

August 12, 2019: Senators Manchin and Capito announced \$7 million to support homeless veterans under the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program.

September 17, 2019: Senator Manchin spoke with U.S. Department of Education (DOE) Secretary Betsy DeVos about the large increase in student homelessness in West Virginia. During the call, Senator Manchin and Secretary DeVos discussed innovative ways to address student homelessness. Manchin also outlined concerning statistics regarding child homelessness increases in West Virginia in the past year and asked her to come to West Virginia to see firsthand how it's impacting West Virginia children.

September 19, 2019: Senator Manchin included significant funding for West Virginia in the fiscal year (FY) 2020 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (THUD); Agriculture, Rural Development, and FDA; and Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) appropriations bills.

- \$2 billion for programs such as the Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program to support fighting homelessness.
- \$80 million specifically for combatting youth homelessness.
- The bill also directed HUD to incorporate more federal data on youth homelessness into its annual assessment report and implementation of continuum of care programs.

October 4, 2019: Senator Manchin spoke at the Emergency Shelter Providers Network Conference in Roanoke, West Virginia to discuss youth homelessness.

October 9, 2019: Senator Manchin wrote about youth homelessness and the responsibility we have to immediately address this issue in our state.

October 22, 2019: Senators Manchin and Capito announced \$3,363,003 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to combat children and youth homelessness and help families affected by the opioid crisis in West Virginia.

October 31, 2019: Senator Manchin secured funding to combat youth homelessness in the minibus spending package that was passed by the Senate.

- \$2 billion for programs to stop homelessness, including \$80 million specifically to stop youth homelessness and language directing HUD to assist homeless children with school enrollment and other critical services.

November 15, 2019: Senators Manchin and Collins introduced, and unanimously passed a resolution to recognize November as National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month.

December 19, 2019: Senator Manchin secured \$181.5 million to combat youth homelessness in the FY20 appropriations package.

- \$80 million specifically to stop youth homelessness through HUD.
- \$101.5 million through McKinney-Vento grants through DOE.

January 10, 2020: Senators Manchin and Capito announced \$8,601,585 from HUD for multiple entities fighting against homelessness in West Virginia.

February 21, 2020: Senators Manchin and Capito announced \$47,559,125 from HUD for various housing development programs across West Virginia, which will help provide permanent housing options for those experiencing homelessness.

March 5, 2020: Senator Manchin questioned ED Secretary Betsy DeVos on the Administration's proposal for a \$4.7 billion cut to education programs, eliminating essential support for our education programs like those supporting homeless children and youth. Among the education programs included was McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funding which provides resources for schools to assist homeless children and youth in their classrooms.

March 25, 2020: Senator Manchin secured \$13.5 billion the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* (CARES) for youth homelessness.

- \$13 billion has been set aside for schools serving K-12 students that will be issued to States based on their Title I formula. McKinney-Vento is an allowable use of those funds, but it will be up to the State Department of Education to make that determination.
- \$25 million was set aside for this program to go to existing grantees. This will directly benefit the Children's Home Society in Charleston and Youth Services System in Wheeling in their work to provide services to homeless children and youth.
- \$425 million for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to increase access to mental health services in our communities through Community Behavioral Health Clinics, suicide prevention programs, and emergency response spending that can target support where it is most needed, such as outreach to those experiencing homelessness.

April 2, 2020: Senators Manchin and Capito secured \$19 million for West Virginia for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs in the *CARES Act*.

- The CDBG program is a flexible program that provides communities and states with funding to provide a wide range of resources to address COVID-19, such as services for senior citizens, the homeless, and public services.

- The ESG program addresses the impact of COVID-19 among individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and supports additional homeless assistance, prevention, and eviction prevention assistance.

April 17, 2020: Senators Manchin and Capito announced \$400,000 from HHS for Westbrook Health Services to address children and youth homelessness and help families affected by the opioid epidemic in West Virginia.

May 7, 2020: Senator Manchin sent a letter to his Congressional colleagues urging them to invest in programs that provide critical services to children and youth experiencing homelessness in the next COVID-19 relief package.

May 18, 2020: Senator Manchin led 40 bipartisan Senators in pressing Congressional leadership to include significant funding for the Federal TRIO Programs (TRIO) which are integral to supporting vulnerable students and their families that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, in future COVID-19 relief packages.

May 19, 2020: Senators Manchin, Murkowski, Sullivan, and Sinema advocated for the Senate to provide support for children, youth, and families in crisis or experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic. The bipartisan group of Senators asked for dedicated funding to be included in future COVID-19 relief packages in order to meet the unique and complex needs of homeless youth and families through the programs and systems that are best positioned to help them immediately.

May 27, 2020: Senator Manchin led a bipartisan group of Senators calling on HUD Secretary Ben Carson to take action and work quickly to allocate all remaining CDBG and ESG funding from the *CARES Act* and publish comprehensive guidance for use of those funds, including for previously announced funding.

June 9, 2020: Senator Manchin, along with a group of bipartisan Senators, introduced *S. 3923 – the Emergency Family Stabilization Act* that would establish a \$800 million fund to assist families with children and youth currently experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness.

July 21, 2020: Senator Manchin calls on Congress to pass his bipartisan *Emergency Family Stabilization Act* after the West Virginia Department of Education announces that more than 10,300 students experienced homelessness during the 2019-2020.

August 5, 2020: Senators Manchin and Capito announced \$3,778,006 for housing authorities across West Virginia through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Housing Choice Voucher.

August 10, 2020: Senators Manchin and Capito announced \$7,262,424 for non-profits organizations in West Virginia to assist combat veterans that are experiencing homelessness.

September 15, 2020: Senators Manchin and Murkowski led a letter to the Administration for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services requesting information on how COVID-19 has impacted homeless families, children, and youth.

September 16, 2020: Senators Manchin and Capito secured \$452,459 through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Housing Choice Voucher program for the Charleston/Kanawha Housing Authority.

September 17, 2020: Senators Manchin and Capito secured \$185,185 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Housing Preservation Grant program for three locations in West Virginia.

October 5, 2020: Senator Manchin issues a press release highlighting the need for dedicated funding for children and youth experiencing homelessness, which is why he introduced the *Emergency Family Stabilization Act*.

October 23, 2020: Senator Manchin highlights a report released by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago that highlights the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness in rural areas. This report highlights the need for Senator Manchin's *Emergency Family Stabilization Act*.

November 20, 2020: Senators Manchin and Collins led 19 bipartisan Senators in introducing a resolution to designate November 2020 as "National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month". This resolution honors and applauds the volunteers, businesses, governments, educators, and organizations working to assist children and youth experiencing homelessness.