

## **“Who is the RSU 16 McKinney Vento Coordinator?”**

### **A Staff Resource**

If you answered, “McKinney WHAT??”, maybe you would better recognize it as the Homeless Liaison. If you answered, “Jenny Rose,” you would be correct. Read on for more information on why we have a Homeless Liaison and what everyone’s responsibilities are with regard to homeless situations within our district!

#### **What’s “McKinney Vento”?**

McKinney Vento is a Federal Act which requires school districts to designate a Homeless Liaison/Coordinator to assist with students who are experiencing homelessness. This person’s responsibility is to ensure that families are informed of, and receiving, the rights afforded to them through McKinney Vento.

The term *homeless children and youths* means individuals who lack a FIXED, REGULAR, and ADEQUATE nighttime residence. Can the student go to the SAME PLACE, EVERY NIGHT, to sleep in a SAFE & SUFFICIENT SPACE?

If you suspect that a student:

- has spent the night in a shelter;
- has spent the night in a vehicle or public place not designed for regular sleeping accommodation due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- is sharing the housing of other persons due to economic hardship as a result of disaster, eviction, or unstable home circumstances for instance; or
- is living in a substandard housing situation (code, health, safety concerns), please bring this to the attention of your building Principal or Assistant Principal.

There are lots of factors to take into consideration when determining homelessness, but working together we can make this process as smooth as possible for our students and their families!