

SEE THE SIGNS OF CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

EVERY CHILD DESERVES A SAFE, WARM HOME EVERY NIGHT OF THE YEAR.



Families are forced to call a friend's couch, a shelter or even their family car home for the night. This is an uncomfortable reality for young children experiencing homelessness.

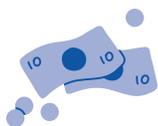
When we think of homelessness, we don't think of babies and young children. But across an entire lifetime, infancy is when someone is most likely to experience homelessness. It's astonishing how many young children face homelessness.

Approximately 1.3 million children under age 6 experience homelessness each year in the United States.



YOU can help connect families with the services they need to find a safe, secure home. Know these signs of homelessness:

PARENT BEHAVIOR



- Difficulty paying for services
- Anger or embarrassment when asked about the current address
- Mention of staying with grandparents, other relatives, friends or in a motel
- Say things like: "We've been moving around a lot." "We're staying with relatives until we get settled." "We're going through a bad time right now."

CHILD BEHAVIOR



- Chronic hunger—may hoard food
- Fatigue—may fall asleep often
- Poor/short attention span
- Poor self-esteem or extreme shyness
- Difficulty trusting people
- Aggression
- Clinging behavior and fear of abandonment

POOR HEALTH

- Lack of immunizations and/or immunization records
- Unmet medical and dental needs
- Increased vulnerability to colds, flu & respiratory problems
- Skin rashes



APPEARANCE

- Wearing the same clothes for several days
- Inconsistent grooming—well-groomed one day & poorly groomed the next



Visit childcareservices.org to get connected to government services and nonprofit organizations that can help find a safe home for families in North Carolina.