



FIT (Families In Transition) Program

2024-2025

Mollie Cressey, Nassau County School District's Homeless Liaison
86207 Felmor Road, Yulee, FL 32097 (904) 277-9021, cresseymo1@nassau.k12.fl.us

The McKinney-Vento Act

Who is eligible to receive help under the McKinney-Vento (MV) Act?

Public school students who have lost housing and now live in a shelter, motel, vehicle, campground, or temporary trailer; on the street; doubled-up with family or friends; or in another type of temporary or inadequate housing because of loss of housing are eligible.

What rights do MV eligible students have?

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, children and youth in homeless situations have the right to:

- 1) go to school (no matter where they live or how long they have lived there),
- 2) attend either the zoned school or the former school/School of Origin (if this is in their best interest) and receive transportation comparable to housed students,
- 3) enroll in school immediately (even if they are missing records or other documents normally required for enrollment),

4) attend classes and participate fully in all school activities while the school gathers records, and

5) have access to the same programs and services that are available to other students. MV students who obtain housing in another school zone are allowed to stay in their school to finish the year if that is in the child's best interest, and may even be provided with transportation.

Nassau County's Additional Services

Call or email Mollie Cressey with issues pertaining to **attendance, academics & other school-related needs**. **NOTE– non-required resources may be suspended due to irregular school attendance including required minutes per day.**

FREE CLOTHING-

FIT students, their families, & host families are welcome to come to the Clothes Closet for free clothing. It is open on Mondays (except for major holidays) from noon until 5:30pm. It is located at 850935 US Hwy 17, Yulee (across the street from the Pine Forest Motel). Your family may shop each month for outfits, toiletries, shoes, socks, and underwear (limits apply). You may request to have clothing sent to your student at school by emailing or sending a Remind message with needed sizes.

FOOD SERVICE-

Upon confirmation of eligibility and enrollment in the FIT program, students receive free breakfast and lunch without completing additional applications. *Make sure your child arrives at school in time for breakfast and takes advantage of this meal. There is a minimum and maximum number of items required to count as the free meal. If less items or additional items*

are chosen, they are not free. Your child may be allowed to save a packaged, non-perishable item from the breakfast tray to eat during snack time and/or from lunch to take for an afternoon snack.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES-

FIT students will be provided with school supplies upon request by parents or teachers. They can be picked up at the Clothes Closet, my office, or sent to the school.

AR (Accelerated Reader) Books- The most important "homework" that your child can do to ensure success in school is to read. Becoming a better reader requires daily practice at your child's independent reading level. You may choose books for your child from the book section at the Clothes Closet. These books do NOT need to be returned.

SCHOOL FEE PAYMENTS-

Grants and community donations are used for payment of school-related needs such as field

trips, high school senior expenses, library fees and other academic needs.

TUTORING- students identified by teachers as falling behind may be eligible for after school tutoring and transportation home.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES-

Funds are currently available to help with fees, equipment, uniforms, transportation, etc. Call to discuss your need. Fulfilling these requests may take several weeks. Don't delay in calling.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS-

If "yes" was marked on your FIT enrollment form, allowing the liaison to give out your contact information, then a representative from one of our Christmas programs (Joy to the Children, Homeless Children Ministries, Inc. etc.) will contact you to discuss gifts for your student(s). You may only be on one list or future Christmas help will be canceled.

Students are enrolled in the FIT program for one school year. Re-enrollment is required for the new school year and is based on the student's living status at that time. Call to re-enroll after August 1st, if eligible.

Contact Information

Mollie Cressey, Nassau County School District's Homeless Liaison/ 86207 Felmor Road, Yulee, FL 32097

Office: (904) 277-9021 FIT Cell: (904) 576-0393 Email: cresseymo1@nassau.k12.fl.us



FIT/ Homeless Program of Nassau County



www.remind.com/join/fit2425

2025 Senior? The FIT program can help you with various senior expenses and needs, such as: FAFSA homeless documentation for free college tuition, college application fees, Senior Prom, Senior Dues and fees, etc. **Call Mollie Cressey at 277-9021** or email cresseymo1@nassau.k12.fl.us to discuss your needs.

Class of 2025



Every Junior and Senior should have a FL ID or Driver's License. They are needed for jobs, college, etc. See attached K2I Flyer or Contact Mollie Cressey for help with the fee.

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY)?

(UHY=not living with a parent or legal guardian)

Florida House Bill (HB) 1577 was approved by Governor DeSantis on April 6, 2022, with an effective date of July 1, 2022. This bill enacts the following:

- Revises the definition of homeless youth for the purposes of Florida tuition exemption.
- Requires school districts to provide information cards to certified homeless unaccompanied youth (16 and older), which include the youth's rights as well as certification information (contact Mollie Cressey).
- Requires school districts and postsecondary institutions to provide postsecondary transition counseling to homeless students identified through McKinney-Vento.

Certified Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Card	
Student Information	
Full Name: _____ Name	Date Certified: _____ DC
Date of Birth: _____ DOB	
Qualifying Circumstances: The youth is 16 years of age or older and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, including a youth who has run away from home, forced to leave his or her home, or whose parents have left the area and left the youth behind, and lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The youth is living in a McKinney-Vento defined nighttime residence listed below. Please check one.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Doubled-up (e.g., living with another family) <input type="checkbox"/> Hotels/Motels <input type="checkbox"/> Shelters, transitional housing <input type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered (e.g., cars, parks, campgrounds, temporary trailer, or abandoned building)	
COPY	
Certifying Individual - School District's Designated Homeless Liaison	
Full Name: _____ Mollie Cressey	Title: _____ NCSD Homeless Liaison
Signature: _____	Date: _____
Email: Cresseymo1@nassau.k12.fl.us	Telephone Number: 904-277-9021

Section (s.) 743.067, Florida Statutes (F.S.), provides that this certified unaccompanied homeless youth may consent to medical care; dental care; behavioral health care services, including psychological counseling and treatment; psychiatric treatment; and substance abuse prevention and treatment services; and surgical diagnosis and treatment, including preventative care and care by a facility licensed under chapter 394, chapter 395, or chapter 397 and any forensic medical examination for the purpose of investigating any felony offense under chapter 784, chapter 787, chapter 794, chapter 800, or chapter 827, for himself or herself or his or her child, if the certified youth is unmarried, is the parent of the child, and has actual custody of the child.

A certified unaccompanied homeless youth may use the Department of Children and Families Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Certificate form, to apply at no charge for an Identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles pursuant to s. 322.051(9), F.S. and/or receive a certified copy of his or her birth certificate at no charge under s. 382.0255, F.S.

A certified unaccompanied homeless youth may petition the circuit court to have the disabilities of nonage removed under s. 743.015, F.S. The youth shall qualify as a person not required to prepay costs and fees as provided in s. 57.081. The court shall advance the cause on the calendar.

Certified through June 30, 2023



Ask your middle school staff about this great opportunity. Transportation may be possible through the FIT program.

School or Sports Physical Needed?

Call or email Mollie Cressey to receive a free physical from Care Spot in Yulee if needed.

Care Spot
URGENT CARE



Shots Needed?

Call for an appointment (904) 875-6110
Nassau County Health Dept.
Callahan- 45377 Mickler St.
Yulee- 86014 Page's Dairy Road



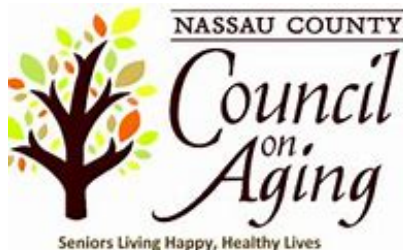
Take Stock in Children, Inc. Take Stock in Children is a scholarship and mentoring program that offers academically promising Nassau County students from low-income families the opportunity to earn tuition scholarships to college or vocational school upon graduation. TSIC uses the same guidelines as the Federal Free/Reduced program. Students sign an agreement pledging to maintain at least a 2.5 GPA, stay drug- and crime-free, exhibit good behavior in school, and have good school attendance. Each student is matched with a volunteer mentor who meets with the student once a week at school, serving as an adult friend and role model.

Take Stock staff includes College Success Coaches, who meet with their students periodically, monitor their grades, attendance, behavior and provide assistance to the students and their families should the need arise.

516 South 10th St. Ste 119
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

Phone: 904-432-8584

Program-manager@tsicnassau.org
or contact your child's school Guidance
Counselor.



The Council on Aging is the "go-to" source for help with bills, legal matters, etc. for those who are at least 60 years old.



Need a job?

careersourcenortheastflorida.com
904-432-0009



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida's mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. As the nation's largest donor- and volunteer-supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles"), ages 5 through young adulthood in communities across the country. We develop positive relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.

Contact them to speak to one of their Enrollment Match Specialists:
261-9500 or www.bbbsnefl.org.



School Readiness Program

(Daycare and after-school care up to age 9.)

- All adults in the home (18 or older) must be in school or working at least 20 hours per week or documented disability.
- You must meet income limits. For example, total household income for a family of 4 must be below \$41,625 per year.
- Teen parent living with family? Teen Parent Program: (904) 726-1500 ext. 2246

Go to ecs4kids.org and apply or call (904) 432-0009 Ext. 2626 and speak to Mary Catherine Quigley.



Florida **VPK**

Participation is free for all eligible 4-year-olds.

To be eligible, a child must:

- Reside in Florida, AND
- Be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1st.

Go to www.ecs4kids.org or call (800) 238-3463 or 904-726-1500 for more information.

Do you have a 3- 5-year-old at home? He/she may qualify for the school system's Special Education preschool program. Call (904)346-4601 for a Child Find appointment. The program is whole day, and the school system provides a bus ride and meals. (The Special Education Department includes Gifted students as well.) "You never know until you try." The process takes several months, so don't delay.



Head Start is a federal program that focuses on promoting the school readiness of children from birth to age five who come from low-income families.

Nassau County's Head Start programs are located in Callahan at 45089 3rd Avenue and in Fernandina Beach at 516 South 10th Street. You can enroll at <https://www.headstartprogram.us/city/fl> or call (904)726-1500 Ext.2.



A free book will be mailed to your preschool child each month after registration!

The Nassau County Library has online resources for your family:
<https://nassaureads.com/children/learningresources/>



<https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/topics/family-homelessness/> has videos and other resources that may help your children during this transitional time.

Nassau County Schools' Food Support Resource List

Hunger Free Hotline: (866) 348-6479 or (877) 842-6273

Fernandina Beach

Updated: May 2024 by Nassau County Schools' FIT Program

10am - Noon Tuesday through Friday	Barnabas Center - 1303 Jasmine St., Suite 101 Drive-through only	261-7000
M, T, Th, F 5-6 pm-Take-out only	Interfaith Dinner Network - at Hope House Corner of Date & 9th St., 410 S. 9th (excludes holidays)	321-0435
Pantry/Clothing M,F 1:30pm - 3:30pm	Salvation Army Hope House Corner of Date and 9th Streets, 410 S. 9th St.	321-0435
Monday- Saturday 9 am - 11am	F.B. Church of Christ- 1005 South 14th St. (breakfast & bag lunch)	755-2528
Meal Delivery by appt., Wed. pm-Hot Meals	Sharing Hope & Reaching People (First Baptist Church) 1600 South 8th St. on 2nd Saturday of each month-3:30 groceries	868-8615

Yulee

Tuesday 9am-1pm & 5 pm-7pm Drive Through	The Journey Church Food Ministry 95707 Amelia Concourse	261-8310
Dinner 4:30-6:00pm M, T, Th, and F	Gracie's Kitchen/ Interfaith Dinner Network (behind the "old Yulee middle school") 6 Koenig Ln	(412) 977-0683
Wed. 10am - noon	Yulee United Methodist Church 701 N 86003 Christian Way. (Pick up every other week.) Bring ID	225-5381
Mondays 1-4pm Live in Nassau Co. Major Holidays not open	Yulee Baptist Church food pantry/Bring ID 85971 Harts Road, across from Yulee Post Office on A1A 2nd and 4th Monday 1 pm - 3 pm Clothes Closet	225-5128
2nd Saturday of month 9am - 10:30 am	Mercy Hill Church- 85520 Miner Road/Bring ID	225-0777
Meals: 4th Thursday, (3rd week if holiday) 5pm - 6:30pm	Springhill Baptist Church , 941017 Old Nassauville Rd. Food pantry by appt. M-F./Bring ID. 904-261-4741, extension 111 for meal reservation 2nd Monday 9:30-10:30-Barnabas Food Distribution in parking lot	261-4741

Hilliard

Thursday 6:30am - 8:30am Live in Nassau Co.	Buford Grove Baptist Church- Mike Pruitte 553274 US 1 Bring ID/Call for emergency pick-up needs. Use the address for pickup	509-8899
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Callahan

2nd & 4th Monday 9:30 - 2:30	1st Baptist Church of Gray Gables- 54031 Church Rd (corner of US1 & Church Rd.) Bring ID	879-2986
1st & 3rd Th. 1st-10am-noon (Drive Thru) 3rd 4:30-6:30pm (Drive Thru)	The Storehouse of NE Florida- 45103 Green Ave.	879-2172
M-Th 9am to 1 pm Call 1st	Callahan Methodist Church - 449644 US 301	879-3877
Wednesdays 5pm - 6 pm	Community Dinner @Callahan Methodist Church(449644 US 301) Food Pantry Monday and Tuesday 9:00-1:00 by appointment	879-3877
3rd Mondays 9:30am - 10:30am	Barnabas West Nassau- Callahan Fairgrounds First come, first served while supplies last	261-7000

NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOLS' FIT HOUSING RESOURCE LIST

Emergency Shelter		Housing Assistance (bills, rent,etc.)	
Micah's Place (domestic abuse victims)		Barnabas Center	261-7000
Crisis hotline	225-9979	United Way of NE Florida (Hotline 211)	390-3200
Admin office	491-6364	NE FL Community Action Agency	261-0801
Hubbard House- Jax -24-hr.Hotline:	354-3114	Fernandina Housing Authority	261-5051
Hubbard House- Jax -24-hr.text line:	210-3698	Nassau Habitat for Humanity	277-0600
Trinity Rescue Mission- Jacksonville	355-1205	Jax Housing Authority	630-3810
FL Baptist Children's Home	721-2711	HUD/FHA Resource Center	232-1777
City Rescue Mission	421-5161	Council on Aging (Seniors)	261-0701 and 845-3331
Nassau Co. currently has no homeless shelters.		Salvation Army/Hope House-Fern.Bch.	321-0435
Best Option: Staying with friends and family.		FL Community Prevention Center	321-4097
<i>(Be a great guest!)</i>		Jewish Family & Comm. Services	448-1933
Low Cost/Low Rent Housing			
Countryside Apts. (Fernandina)	277-2103	Yulee Villas (Yulee)	225-5810
Buccaneer Villas (Fernandina)	277-0000	Green Acres (Yulee)	225-0168
Post Oaks Apts. (Fernandina)	277-7817	Pine Forest Motel (Yulee)	225-5767
Murray Hill Apts. (Fernandina)	261-2937	Nassau Holiday Motel (Yulee)	225-2397
Heritage Villas (Callahan)	879-3270	Tropic Motel (Yulee)	225-6677
Pine Terrace Apts. (Callahan)	879-1488	Pine Tree Apts. (Hilliard)	845-3873
Ship Inn Motel (Callahan)	732-986-8596	Holiday Terrace Motel (Hilliard)	845-4881
Royal Inn (Callahan)	879-1600	Dixie Motel (Hilliard)	845-4103
Eastwood Oak Appts (Hilliard)	845-2922	Cantebury Apartments (Hilliard)	845-4496
Enclave on Woodbridge (Nassauville)	849-6527	(62 yrs. or disabled-primary)	
Need help obtaining documents? Call Mollie with FIT 904-277-9021. We may be able to help with the document fees.			
Typically required for housing applications: Birth Certificates and Soc. Sec. cards for each family member.			
Picture ID for all adults and Proof of Income.			

MHRC Quest - (904) 358-2411 for "literally homeless" (living in a car, shelter or camp space or motel bill is being paid by an agency or church). www.mhrcflorida.com

NE FL Community Action - helps with electric deposits, Youth summer program, self-sufficiency program (employment) and can coordinate a 20% discount for child care at certain facilities. 261-0801.
M,T,Th,F - 10am-noon and 1pm-4pm.

Salvation Army - helps with back rent, rapid-rehousing, FPL bills, gas, and emergency travel expenses. 321-0435

Barnabas Center - provides some of the same services as NE FL Community Action and Salvation Army, and many other services as well, such as dental and medical clinics. 261-7000

Habitat for Humanity- helps families purchase their own home. 904-277-0600 (Mon. and Thurs. 10-2)

There are waiting lists, so go ahead and apply as soon as possible.

Financial, Health, and Dental Information



Barnabas Center offers help for Crisis Assistance: rent, and other bills, food, clothing & household items, bicycles for job transportation, case management and budgeting, help with applying for government benefits, referrals & information for other services. [1303 Jasmine St. Fernandina, and satellite offices in Callahan and Hilliard. Call (904) 261-7000 or (888) 885-6498 (ext.128 Se habla Espanol)]

Barnabas' **Empowerment Program for Men and Women** is designed to aid a person who wants to reach a higher level of self-sufficiency. Activities include finance classes, referrals and assistance with loan debt, access to resources for a GED and/or enrolling in a college or tech school course, temporary financial assistance for childcare, and more.

Health care for adults: chronic disease management, dental, counseling, vision screening, hearing screening, etc. Medical fees are based on income.



Community Mental Health Providers

Florida Psychological Associates
(904) 277-0027

1903 Island Walkway, Fernandina Beach

Starting Point Behavioral Health
(904) 225-8280

463142 State Road 200, Yulee

Community Health Providers receive government funding to provide free or reduced cost services.

The Child Advocate Rapid Response Team (C.A.R.R.T.) is a school-based program that provides counseling for children who are victims of or witnesses to a crime or violence (including bullying). Call 904-277-9063 for more information. Their brochure may be seen at <https://www.nassau.k12.fl.us/Page/774>.

Free or nearly free to low-income families: School Physicals, Eye Exams & Glasses, Primary health care, lab work, flu shots, etc.

Call for more information: 904-308-7911



Nassau County Health Department (Dental)

86207 Felmor Road, Yulee.

Call (904) 875-6090 for more information. They accept some Medicaid plans: DentaQuest, Magellan, Dental Health & Wellness, Argus, Liberty, United HealthCare, CMS-Medicaid, MCNA, and straight Medicaid for adult emergencies only. Fees are determined by income.



Barnabas Center (Dental)- Adults only. Reduced rates for exams, fillings, cleanings, and extractions. Call 904-261-7000 for eligibility & appointments.

Economy Dentistry-1680 Dunn Ave. Suite 31, Jacksonville, 32218. **Reduced cost** dental care for qualified children age 20 and under. Mon.-Fri. 8am-5pm Sat. 8am-2pm 904-574-5088.

Nassau Community Resource Guide: Nassau.floridahealth.gov. Go to “popular Programs and Services.”

Services: Confidential HIV and STD testing, Healthy Start, vaccinations, birth and death certificates, etc. Sliding fee scale. No one denied for inability to pay.

Callahan: 45377 Mickler St.- 904-320-6010

Fernandina Beach: 1620 Nectarine St.-904-875-6100 Option 6

Yulee: 86014 Page's Dairy Road- 904-875-6110

nassau.floridahealth.gov



Who can qualify for WIC?

*Pregnant, postpartum, or breastfeeding women

*Infants and children up to age 5

*Families receiving benefits:

Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF

*Families with a moderately low income (Visit www.floridawic.org for income guides.)

WIC food packages include fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, cheese, yogurt, eggs, peanut butter, beans, whole grains, cereal, and infant foods.

904-548-1890

FLORIDA
WIC

Good Nutrition for
Women, Infants & Children



Has your family enrolled in an insurance program? Call (888) 540-5437 to enroll with FL KidCare.

floridakidcare.org or healthykids.org If you are interested in applying for Florida KidCare coverage for your child(ren), use their simple cost calculator to estimate what your monthly premium payment would be. Most families pay nothing at all, and many pay as little as just \$15 or \$20 a month for all children in the household.

The **Florida RX Card** is a free statewide prescription assistance program. The card can offer significant savings on brand and generic medications and is accepted at most pharmacies across Florida. Print a free, pre-activated card at www.FloridaRxCard.com, or download app.



This card benefits the uninsured and underinsured the most, but it also benefits those people on Medicaid and Medicare. It can help save money on the medications that those services do not reimburse. Call 888-311-6224 (Ext. 115) for more information.



Healthy Start- Healthy Start is a voluntary educational and supportive program that serves pregnant women and families with children under age 3. Services include parenting education, childbirth classes, breastfeeding support, smoking cessation, women's health services, developmental screenings, case management, and discounted car seats. Health Care Coordinator, at 904-557-9125.



Have you updated your MyAccess information?

Notices are sent via email, so make sure they have your current email address.

(850) 300-4323

www.myflorida.com/accessflorida

Need insurance or had Medicaid in another state?

Immediately begin working to obtain FL Medicaid. Also, keep the name and number of your former Case Worker. Students do not have to reside with a parent or guardian to qualify. Mark “unaccompanied homeless youth” on the application. For more information, other resources, or to apply visit www.medicaid.gov. You may also call 877-711-3662.

Community Resources

Partner Name	Address	Zip Code	City	Telephone
America's Youth, Inc.	907 S. 11th Street	32034	Fernandina	310-6377
Barnabas Center	1303 Jasmine St.	32034	Fernandina	261-7000
Career Source	96042 Lofton Sq Court	32097	Yulee	432-0009
Child Abuse Hotline				1-800-962-2873
Coalition for the Homeless	chnassau@gmail.com	32034	Fernandina	849-5331
Hope House	410 S. 9th	32034	Fernandina	321-0435
Day Drop in Center	1005 S 14 th St.	32034	Fernandina	780-1437
Fernandina Beach Church of Christ	1005 S. 14 th Street	32034	Fernandina	277-2517
Family Support Services/ FSS	96016 Lofton Sq Court	32097	Yulee	225-5347
Northeast Florida Community Action	1303 Jasmine St.	32034	Fernandina	261-0801