

Sesame Street in Communities: A Panel Presentation



Friday, January 17, 8AM \\ ICPH Beyond Housing 2020



**Kama Einhorn,
Sesame
Workshop**



**John Greenwood,
Homes for the
Homeless**



**Renée Wilson-
Simmons, DrPH,
ACE Awareness
Foundation**



**La Shawn Hye,
Project Hope
Alliance**




**Barbara Duffield,
SchoolHouse
Connection**



**Kama Einhorn,
Sesame
Workshop**



A family consisting of a woman, a man, and two young children are walking along a paved path in a wooded area. They are accompanied by a large, yellow, fluffy Muppet character wearing a blue and red striped tie and orange shoes with pink ruffles. The scene is bright and sunny, with many trees and green foliage in the background.

The Power of Media:

Offering help, hope, and healing to families in housing transition

SesameStreet*in*Communities.org

The screenshot shows the website interface for 'Sesame Street in Communities'. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Professional Development' and 'Topics' dropdown menus, and a search icon. The main content area features a large article titled 'Family Homelessness' with a sub-header 'Family Homelessness' and a video thumbnail showing a woman hugging two Muppet characters. Below the article is a 'Find an Activity' section with filters for 'Age', 'Time', and 'Type', and a 'Find' button. At the bottom, there are three smaller video thumbnails, each with a play button icon.

SESAME STREET *in* Communities

Professional Development Topics Search

Home » Family Homelessness

Family Homelessness

Family Homelessness

Losing one's home brings enormous challenges, yet families can be incredibly strong and determined to create a better future. Every family can build a sense of hope and learn ways to cope...and remember that no one is alone.

★ 📄 📺

Find an Activity

Discover printables, videos, and more on topics to help the families you work with.

Age Time Type Find





— *our mission is to help kids grow* —
smarter, stronger, and kinder



Goals

- Awareness
- Support

Messages (the 4 H's)

- Have hope.
- Ask for help.
- You can heal.
- Home is where the love is.



We Got
This!



Printables





Professional Development





123
SESAME STREET



Homelessness

1 in 30 children in the U.S. go to sleep without a home of their own each year



Foster Care

In 2017 alone, nearly 443,000 children spent time in foster care

And in 2016, over 40% of all children in foster care were under the age of 6



Parental Addiction



**The Power of Community:
Offering Help, Hope, and Healing** ¹

The trauma of parental addiction can impact children's mental and physical health over a lifetime.



Parental Addiction

5.7 million children in the U.S. live in households affected by a substance use disorder.

Last fall, *Sesame Street in Communities* released new resources to address this national crisis, reaching families with critical support and helping children cope with trauma, build resilience, and thrive





Keep in touch with us!

Email: communities@sesame.org

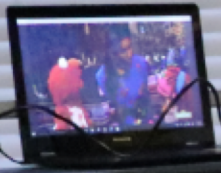
Facebook: [@SesameStreetinCommunities](#)

[@SesameStreetCommunityProviders](#)



**John
Greenwood,
Homes for the
Homeless**







HOME IS...





**Renée Wilson-
Simmons, DrPH,
ACE Awareness
Foundation**



Universal Parenting Places (UPPs)



Judgment-free zones where parents can:

Receive **professional counseling, information, and emotional support**

Participate in **stress-reduction exercises, parent-child bonding activities, and support groups**

Obtain **referrals** for family-related issues and concerns



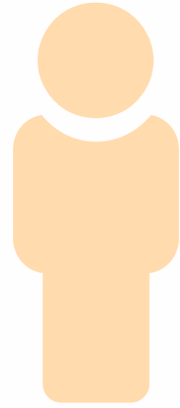
ACE Awareness Foundation-Sesame Street in Communities Partnership

December 2019 Launch in Memphis, Tennessee



ACE Awareness Foundation-Sesame Street in Communities Partnership





**La Shawn Hye,
Project Hope
Alliance**



**Barbara Duffield,
SchoolHouse
Connection**

About SchoolHouse Connection



SchoolHouse Connection works to overcome homelessness through education. We provide strategic advocacy and practical assistance in partnership with schools, early childhood programs, institutions of higher education, service providers, families, and youth.

- Website:
<http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org>
- Newsletter:
<https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/sign-up/>
- Federal and state policy advocacy
- Q&A from our inbox
- Webinars and implementation tools
- Youth leadership and scholarships

GUIDE TO USING SESAME STREET IN COMMUNITIES' RESOURCES ON FAMILY HOMELESSNESS: SUGGESTIONS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

*For the entire guide, visit:

<http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/guide-to-using>

More than one million American children under surprisingly, homelessness in early childhood is an emotional development, putting children at risk programs can change the trajectory of a child's life-long effects of homelessness on education, your early childhood program can use [Sesame Street](#) materials to help children and families experience

1. To help increase the identification of homelessness, information about the [Sesame Street homelessness](#) mailings, and other methods of communication, an invitation for parents who are experiencing homelessness. Avoid using the word "homeless" language (such as "in transition" or "in a transition" questions with discretion.
2. Give all families in your program an opportunity to understand the concept of "home." Make photocopies of the [Hugs Are coloring book](#) and create a space for families to display copies of the ["We Got This: A Together Poem"](#). You also may help staff identify children who are experiencing homelessness.
3. Young children understand the attachment to their families and families the [Special-Special Comfort video](#) with children. Be prepared to provide children with activities like stretching or breathing that can help them show the video or doing the activity with children experiencing homelessness who may be feeling sad.
4. Show children the [Rainbow Kind of Day video](#) and discuss their feelings." Help them understand that it's okay to feel sad, remember that, no matter where they live or how they feel. Similarly, show children the [Ribbons of Hope video](#) with the support of their friends and loved ones. Encourage talking about the healing power of supportive relationships.
5. Show children and parents the ["Home Is" video](#) and ask them to say about what home means to them, talk to

GUIDE TO USING SESAME STREET IN COMMUNITIES' RESOURCES ON FAMILY HOMELESSNESS: SUGGESTIONS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT HOMELESS LIAISONS

*For the entire guide, visit:

<http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/guide-to-using-sesame-street-in-communities-resources-on-family-homelessness>

More than one million American children under the age of six experience homelessness. Public schools have identified 1.3 million children experiencing homelessness. Homelessness is associated with delays in language, literacy, and school attendance, leading to later academic problems. Children and youth who are homeless are dropping out of high school than other low-income students.

Here, we provide some tips for how you as a school district homeless liaison can use [Communities homelessness resources](#) and other materials to help children and families experience homelessness.

1. Include information about the [Sesame Street in Communities](#) newsletters, website articles, mailings, or other communication materials and an invitation for parents to participate in outreach whenever possible. Use descriptive language (such as "housing situation") and ask any follow up questions. You may also share the ["Home Is" video](#), the ["We Got This: A Together Poem"](#), and the entire set of materials with appropriate district staff, including nurses, and preschool program personnel, who are working with children experiencing homelessness. Use this as an opportunity to discuss with community, the services you provide, and unmet needs.
2. Brainstorm with teachers and district staff ways to identify and support of families experiencing homelessness. Consider making the content available to all staff and community members to support the self-identification of homeless children. You may also use this as a prompt to help students and staff understand homelessness in public schools.
4. Distribute the articles [Supporting Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness](#) to school administrators and classroom teachers to help them

GUIDE TO USING SESAME STREET IN COMMUNITIES' RESOURCES ON FAMILY HOMELESSNESS: SUGGESTIONS FOR HOMELESS ASSISTANCE AND HOUSING PROVIDERS

*For the entire guide, visit:

<http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/guide-to-using-sesame-street-in-communities-resources-on-family-homelessness>

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Sesame Street Guides:
<http://bit.ly/SHC-SSGuide>

GUIDE TO USING SESAME STREET IN COMMUNITIES' RESOURCES ON FAMILY HOMELESSNESS: SUGGESTIONS FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

*For the entire guide, visit:

<http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/guide-to-using-sesame-street-in-communities-resources-on-family-homelessness>

More than one million American children under the age of six experience the trauma of homelessness, and public schools have identified 1.3 million children experiencing homelessness in grades K-12. As a compassionate member of the Sesame Street community, you may wonder what you can do to help children and their families.

The reality is that families in every community—rural, suburban, and urban—experience homelessness, and homelessness can look different for each family. Sesame Street's "Lily" stayed in "all different kinds of

SchoolHouse Connection Resources

- [Guide to Using Sesame Street in Communities' Resources on Family Homelessness](#)
- [Childproofing Checklist for Housing and Homeless Service Providers](#)
- [Early Care and Education Advocacy: A Tip Sheet for Housing and Homeless Assistance Providers](#)
- [Young Children Experiencing Homelessness: An Overview](#)
- [Preschool to Prevent Homelessness: Research, Rights, and Resources](#)





<http://bit.ly/SHCatICPH>

Resources . Handouts. Presentations.