

# Resource Guide for Underserved Student Populations

Created by Emerging Leaders 2016 Team A

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## What is the Need?

Many underserved students in the United States have limited access to academic resources and are at a higher risk of not graduating high school, not being functionally literate, and not becoming productive members of society.

Underserved students often leave schools without basic lifelong learning skills or knowing how to use a library.

Librarians can help impart the desire for information, as well as provide access and guidance to locate information. The school library and its resources offer students a life-choice that they may not experience in the classroom or at home.

## Who is Underserved?

The Resource Guide focuses on five student populations considered underserved by the AASL:

**Children in Foster Care**

**Homeless Children**

**Children of Incarcerated Parents**

**Children of Migrant Workers**

**Children in Non-traditional Families**

## What is in this Resource Guide?

**Background Information** on each of the five underserved populations and **Practical Tips** for school librarians serving them

Links to **Resources** and **Further Readings**, such as the Sesame Street toolkit, *Little Children, Big Challenges: Incarceration*

**Lesson Plans** and **Programming Ideas** such as *Project Horizons*, which brings library services to many of the homeless shelters in DeKalb County, Georgia

**Collection Development** advice including book lists, such as those created for Non-Traditional Families

**...sitting down and having a conversation about what can be done and what needs to be done, I think it is very important in doing the research and seeing what other places are doing that we can implement here.**

Carolyn Hillman, Director of the Salvation Army Emergency Shelter in Buffalo, NY on the best strategies for libraries to partner with community services

# Want to Learn More?

Visit the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) website to access the free e-book, **Resource Guide for Underserved Student Populations**, to view the complete list of resources and references for each population:

[www.ala.org/aasl](http://www.ala.org/aasl)

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