



YOUTH  
HOMELESSNESS  
DEMONSTRATION  
PROJECT

HI-SET

ĀISSPOŌMMOŌTSIIYŌ•P  
“WE HELP EACH OTHER”

# Parent Community Outreach Program

## HI-SET/ Adult Basic Education/Kinship~

### Hi-SET

Katie is doing an amazing job at transitioning into the HiSet Tutor Position. She’s been making contact with previous students who did not complete the HiSet Program or their HiSet Test. Her re-engagement efforts have brought back two previous students and she has recruited five others. Bringing her total HiSet count to (7) current HiSet clients.

Katie continues to utilize her resources and support from other HiSet Programs and Ed Ready program staff to increase her knowledge and has gained further understanding for what works best for those programs.

### Grandparents Raising Grandkids/Kinship (a program within āisspoōmmoōtsiiyō•p) Kinship Program & Aging Mastery Program-

There were a total of 12 Kinship families who are also a part of our McKinney Vento Program who received Easter Dinner boxes, which also included an egg coloring kit, back in March. We plan to reach out to our kinship families at least once a month (if we do not hear from them first) just to maintain engagement and provide any new information or resources we may identify.

## āisspoōmmoōtsiiyō•p ~

*McKinney Vento Data update 2023-2024: 207*

*We identified #224 students experiencing homelessness for the academic year 2022-2023.*

### McKinney Vento (MV)

Tamara Guardipee is now doing weekly visits to each building and meeting with students to check in on them. Spring time and warm weather seems to bring improvements to some of our McKinney

Vento Students' attendance, which we are very excited for. Tam has been working eagerly to provide them with their basic needs such as hygiene items, clothing, and regular access to food.

Our main goals with our McKinney Vento students are to ensure they each have access to transportation to school and they have their basic needs met to be able to focus while at school.

In the near future, Tam will be receiving training in regards to making transportation more easily accessible to students and McKinney Vento Families. We hope to use this information to hopefully improve our transportation process and options.

\*Interesting Fact:

### **Foster Care:**

This SY, we've identified over 28 students who are currently transitioning through or who have been a part of the Foster Care System. Many of which are not receiving support through the state foster care system. The types of supports that are usually requested are all related to financial support.

A Resource for children in foster care or transitioning out of foster care:

**Kairos Youth Services**

**(406)727-0076**

**Montana Chafee Foster Care Independence Program Region 2**

- **Dan McFadyean, Rural and Tribal Coordinator**

I've been able to meet with some of their Case Managers and have made it a point to meet with a few of them at least once a month. I've also met with the Director of Child & Family Services, Wilma Mad Plume, to identify some of the barriers we're experiencing and discussed ways we can possibly collaborate more efficiently.

### **Teen Parents:**

Currently, we've identified 12 Pregnant/Parenting Teen Parents and are continuing to meet with our partners at the Blackfeet Man Power, Teen Parent program.

We have the baby pantry stocked with diapers, wipes, clothing, shoes, wraps, and hygiene items. We have a few transitioning into the HiSet program as their personal needs and responsibilities have changed within their little families. I am very proud of our Teen Parents as they've been working tirelessly to complete their schooling as well as some, are also holding down steady jobs.

Interesting Facts: "The risks for unaccompanied youth also extend to many infants and toddlers, as research indicates that [44% percent of young women experiencing homelessness, ages 18 to 25, are pregnant or parenting](#). In fact, unmarried [parenting youth have a 200% higher risk of homelessness](#) than youth without children. Providing appropriate services to

keep unaccompanied youth safe and secure permanent housing for them requires inter-agency collaboration and strategies that recognize the unique developmental needs and strengths of young people.” – School House Connection.org

### **School-based Clothing Closets**

Our clothing closets are always a “work-in-progress”. We are currently only accepting the following sizes:

Youth: 6T, 7T, 8,9,10/12, 12/14, and 14/16

Shoe sizes: 12,1,2,3,4, and 5

If donating underwear or socks, they need to be in packaging (new).

### **BPS YHDP**

***Currently, 11 enrolled UHY.***

***25 UHY have been identified this 23/24 SY. Five of those students have declined support.***

We are currently without a YHDP Case Manager and will be advertising this position soon. I will be providing support to these students and working extensively with our Seniors to ensure they're prepared for graduation and beyond.

We will also be focusing on applying for Financial Aid, Visiting BCC, and some are ready to fly-away from Browning, eager to partake in new beginnings where there is more housing opportunities.

### **PROM Event Success:**

With the help from our volunteers, we were able to provided support to 31 Students!!! They and their families were very grateful for this service and requested we continue to offer it.

### **UPCOMING Outreach Events for April:**

- We are looking toward offering Senior Sunday's where we offer scholarship application support, FASFA information, and Beading. I have asked a few

advisors to have the discussions with their students to see if they'd be interested or if there were better dates/times.

- We may also partner with Ms. Shaylea Tatsey to teach families how to bead and sew ribbons onto student caps and gowns. Dates TBD

### **Donations Received:**

We received a total of 24 new prom dresses and 4 Suits, which we displayed for any student who may have needed them for Prom.

## **Current Positions available within the Parent Community Outreach Program:**

- YHDP Case Manager
- FIT System Navigator

Thank you for reading our board report & Happy Spring!