



YOUTH HOMELESSNESS
DEMONSTRATION
PROJECT

HI-SET

ĀISS□OŌMMOŌTSIIYŌ•□

Parent Community Outreach Program

HI-SET/ Adult Basic Education/Kinship~

HiSET

HI SET

I currently have 6 people enrolled in HI SET 2 of which are online
We are getting the word out that we have moved to BES and are again up and running. I have had a lot of inquiries this past week. I hope they follow through.

Grandparents Raising Grandkids/Kinship (a program within āisspoōmmoōtsiiyō•p)

Kinship Program

We are working on the pink sheets that parents filled out in the admission paperwork. I am updating my numbers and have identified more families and children than we had last year which was 173 Kinship parents and 531 Kinship children. Now that we are moved and getting settled, I will have monthly meetings with Kinship parents to offer advice, help with paperwork if needed, register with Montana Kinship and give out new and upcoming information.

Aging Mastery Program

I have been reaching out to elders in our community to check on their well-being, offer help filling out medical applications, wills, and an assortment of other services that might be hindering them.

āiss□oōmmoötsiiyō•□ ~

McKinney Vento Data update:

We identified #326 students as experiencing homelessness for academic year 2021-2022.

McKinney Vento-

Robin continues to identify students experiencing homelessness and new students/families that have identified their situations and ensuring they are enrolled in school. Along with that, she has been checking in with the students to make sure they're needs are covered while at school and outside of school. All staff have been working diligently to full-fill the clothing requests, coordinating with counselors and other school staff regarding showering procedures, and providing students with basic needs. We are still receiving the Student Residency Questionnaire that will continue to help us identify students who are having hardships or experiencing homelessness. We plan to have all of the forms processed and students (thus far into the school year) identified and connected to supportive services, by October 21st. Since our last report, we have identified around 150 students that are eligible for McKinney-Vento services we are still collecting the residency questionnaire forms and will continue to make contact with families to gather further information before making a determination. We will be sending out letters to families/students who qualify by October 27th, 2022.

Training Opportunities coming up:

October 18 & 19- Some of our staff will be attending the MT OPI- Community of Practice Conference in Great Falls where we will be meeting with other school staff as well as homeless service providers who are also focused on ending homelessness throughout the state of Montana. We will get to tour group homes, JDS, alternative school, and meet with their Foster Care Liaisons to gain valuable insights.

On October 29-November 2, 2022, Robin and I will be attending the 2022 National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEH CY)

We look forward to being able to share the information we receive from both the state and national conference with each of you.

School-based Clothing Closets

Our clothing closets continue to receive donations and we are gearing up to locate all fall/winter coats, hats, and gloves to make them visible and available at each building for students to “grab and go” as the weather begins to get cooler. We have observed, some BHS students have taken the opportunity to help organize the clothing closet as well as receive community service hours in doing so. We are also requesting Halloween Costume Donations of all sizes so, please help us help those

who aren't able to gain other access to these clothing items. If there is anything we need to pick up, please give us a call. I will list our phone number below.

School-based Food Pantry

In addition to the Montana Food Bank Network program, we are currently working to offer more varieties of snack food items as we've been able to identify that when students arrive late or decide to skip meal times, they are requesting snack items which are readily available at the food pantries. We are also planning to offer other food choices such as hamburger, bread, milk, and eggs from our local stores and/or producers.

BPS YHDP

#18 unaccompanied homeless youth

We are still advertising for the YHDP Case Manager Position. UHY are aware of our department transitions and that we are still able to provide support but, not able to provide as intense case management as before when I was the Case Manager. This has significantly decreased their reluctance to participate in our YHDP program. We continue to encourage our UHY to still pursue their personal goals; assist them with enrolling into educational programs, locating employment, and offer them self-advocating opportunities to increase their independence. I will begin blocking specific days to offer meeting times and space for our UHY to meet with me to complete interim updates and align them with appropriate supports within the community.

In our last report, we had planned to offer our monthly activities in October but, it seemed to be a busy month for both students and service providers so, the request was to plan for the beginning of November.

Outreach Activity-

I was not able to secure a meeting with the Family Services/Foster Care program as they were also busy relocating and attempting to continue to serve our community. However, I will continue to check-in and request intentional conversations of how we can partner to provide the best supports to our students and families experiencing homelessness.

I was able to meet with CPS staff and we will continue to meet monthly to identify students who are receiving support from both programs and/or who may need increase support to eliminate barriers and promote their overall success. We agreed it is unnecessary to duplicate services and so these conversations are important to make sure our students are moving towards progress and out of their

negatively, impactful situations. Our priority is to continue to build relationships and promote harm reduction!

Lastly, we are FINALLY moved to our new offices located below the Main office at Browning Elementary! Stop by and say Oki to our staff or check out our new setting!

