

PCOP



YOUTH HOMELESSNESS
DEMONSTRATION
PROJECT

HI-SET

ĀISS□OŌMMOŌTSIIYŌ•□

Parent Community Outreach Program

HI-SET/ Adult Basic Education/Kinship~

Hi-SET

We still have four students working remotely and two in person. BCC has rearranged their testing dates for Tuesday's, Wednesday's, and Thursdays from 4-7pm rather than having students take all tests on Fridays. This is a great modification for those students who aren't able to take all test together, one after the other.

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

Kinship Program

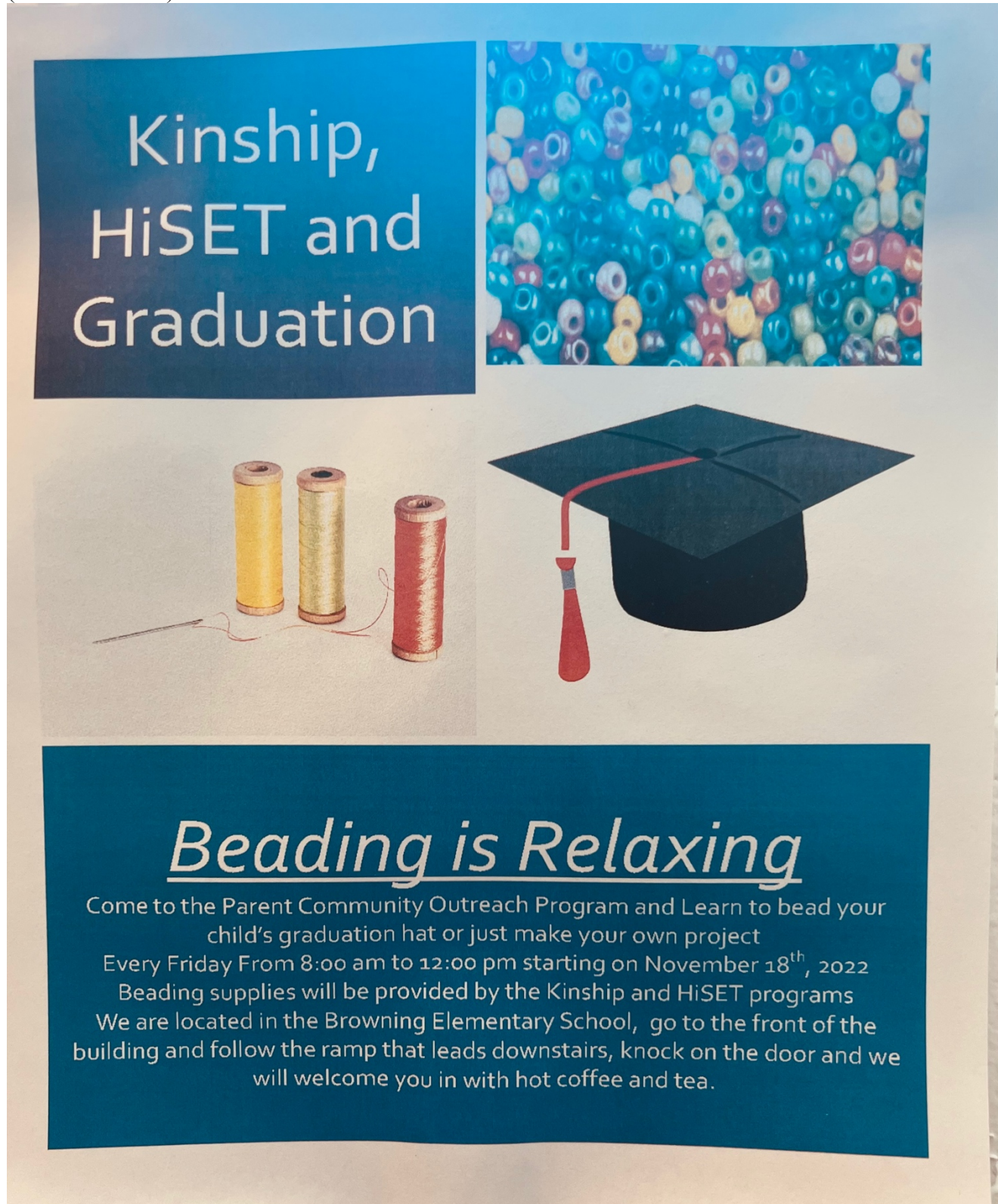
We now have 271 Grandparents/Kin raising 594 students.

We are continuing to have monthly meetings with Kinship parents to offer advice, help with paperwork if needed, register with Montana Kinship and give out new information. Monthly Facilitator updates are accomplished by meeting with the State Coordinator, Heidi Lester from MSU Bozeman, who will be visiting our office on February 18th.


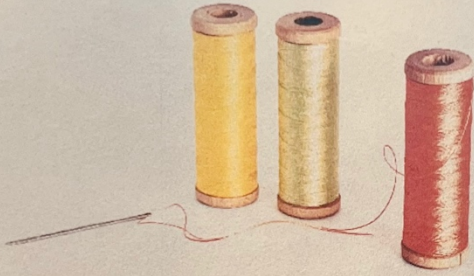

Aging Mastery Program

We are continuing to reach 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. We are continuing to offer the beading opportunity to those interested, each Friday, as a winter self-care activity and also as an opportunity for Kin to bead their Senior Students' caps and/or gowns for graduation.

(See Flier below).



Kinship, HiSET and Graduation



Beading is Relaxing

Come to the Parent Community Outreach Program and Learn to bead your child's graduation hat or just make your own project
Every Friday From 8:00 am to 12:00 pm starting on November 18th, 2022
Beadng supplies will be provided by the Kinship and HiSET programs
We are located in the Browning Elementary School, go to the front of the building and follow the ramp that leads downstairs, knock on the door and we will welcome you in with hot coffee and tea.

āiss□oōmmoōtsiiyō•□ ~

McKinney Vento Data update:

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

McKinney Vento-

We have identified 177 students who are experiencing homelessness and who meet the eligibility for McKinney Vento. Winter clothing continues to be our greatest request. For future events, we have planned to partner with the Heart Locker in Kalispell to assist us with recruiting more items to store in our clothing closets.

During our Secret Santa Event, we had a great turn out for individuals who adopted students from our program. Next year, we will be advertising the Secret Santa Event in October to gain more interests and give individuals enough time to purchase and deliver items. With the help of the SAMHSA Native Connections: Culture and Hope donations and staff assistance, we were able to provide over 89 students with gifts. Each student received at least 3 gifts each. So, in total there were over 270 gifts wrapped and distributed to each family.

Shanna and I are meeting with each building administrators and faculty at least once a month to case some of our students with chronic absences and discuss possible supports that our PCOP can possibly offer to identify barriers as well as build trusting relationships. This coordinated effort has already assisted in the re-enrollment of some of the students. We will continue to meet regularly in addition to the Bi-Weekly Attendance meetings.

We are experiencing some difficulties with a few of our MV families. After providing services and support, the expectations for what our Programs “should” be offering is outside of our capabilities. Some of these expectations include providing transportation to parents, daily, etc. There are many resources we are able to connect families too and applications we have on hand to assist families with completing but, our services do not include nor are our staff responsible for completing/submitting applications for the parents/guardians of our programs. We will continue to support these families but have established some safeguards for our staff.

School-based Clothing Closets

Our BES clothing closet was impacted by water due to pipes breaking over the holiday break. We had to remove a lot of items and so we are again, requesting specific clothing sizes for our BES clothing closet.

We received an amazing donation through a Church entity from South Carolina, as well as a private group right before Christmas Break, so we do have some clothing sets available. We also provide clothing for children ages Newborn – 5T.

School-based Food Pantry

The hamburger, bread, milk, bagels, and cream cheese were a likable option for students so, we will continue to supple the Food Pantries with these items. We are still available to make food deliveries for those students who are not comfortable taking food from the pantry or who do not have adequate transportation. Shanna will be checking in with these specific students on our MV/YHDP lists to see if they would be interested in this option.

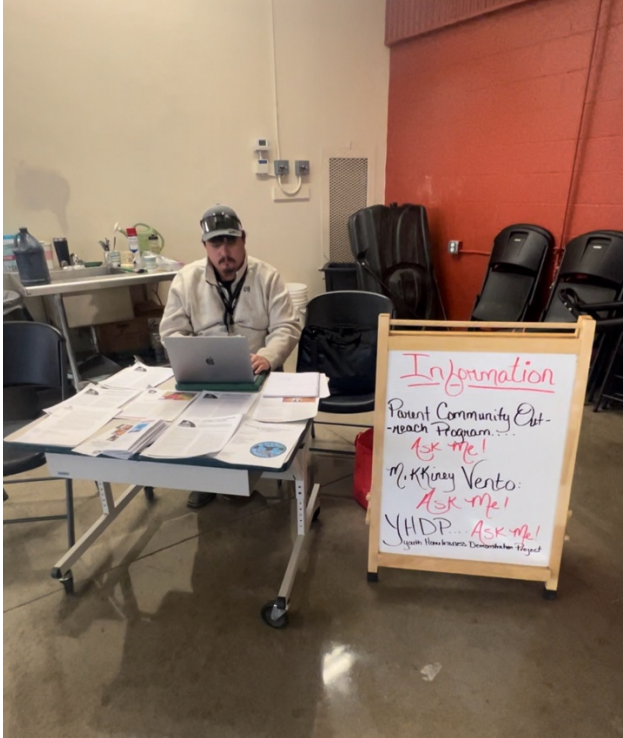
BPS YHDP

#8 unaccompanied homeless youth

Monty Lucke, YHDP Case Manager has been setting up an informational table at BHS every Wednesday mornings to increase the outreach efforts of the YHDP/PCOP. He is also going to visit the William Buffalo Hide Academy, and BMS Bi-weekly. He will be equipped with information from all of our PCOP sub-programs including kinship, McKinney Vento, etc.

We have had a decrease in UHY because of their housing status, (some are now not considered homeless and/or unaccompanied because they are now living with a legal guardian. What we are encountering still is that some of our YHDP identified students have decided not to participate in the program because they aren't willing to enroll into an educational program at this time nor are they attempting to apply for employment opportunities. We will be meeting with YAB members from all over the nation to identify ways we can increase participation.

The funding period for this year's grant will end April 30th. I have met with the proper supports to create a plan to spend down the current funding before then.



Outreach Activity-

In December, we were able to offer 47 Families, a holiday meal (Christmas). Some of these families also received the Secret Santa-Christmas gifts. Thank you to the Transportation Department for always willing to help make deliveries to those families without transportation! Below are some photos from our Christmas events.

