

PCOP

January

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

HI-SET

ÄISSPOÖMMOÖTSIYÖ•P "WE HELP EACH OTHER"

# Parent Community Outreach Program

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

### Hi-SET

Currently, we have not had any interests in the Hi-Set Tutor Position being advertised. We are referring students who are interested in information to the Blackfeet Community College- Hi-Set Program.

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

We've identified some subtle changes to our GRG/Kinship families but, we still have over 224 (so far) GRG/Kinship who are interested in receiving support or who are already receiving support through our McKinney Vento Program. Many of our GRG/Kinship families also meet the criteria for both. Families are eligible for MV support by meeting one of the following criteria:

- In a homeless shelter
- In a hotel or motel
- In a campground, RV, or building that is not a home
- Doubled up with friends or relatives because you cannot find or afford housing

Families who participated in our "Secret Santa" event were super grateful for the support from the community and everyone who donated to this event.

We had over 45 families and over 150 students who received gifts. Our staff here, Ashlynn, Tamara, and Jeri did an amazing job juggling tasks as well as wrapping all of the gifts.



We also distributed 40 holiday meals.

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*McKinney Vento Data update 2023-2024: 207*

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

### **McKinney Vento (MV)**

Ashlynn is currently working to assure all of our McKinney Vento students and families have warm winter gear. We are still working to update our data with new information weekly and prioritizing documentation and collaboration with other building staff.

We are continuing to reach out to families via, phone and/or home visits while providing support to those who are requesting specific supports.

### **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**

We are hoping to establish better working relationships with the Nurturing Center as well as C.P.S. to ensure our students have access to all necessary services and support.

### **Teen Parents:**

Currently, we’ve identified 10 Pregnant/Parenting Teen Parents and are continuing to meet with the Blackfeet Man Power Teen Parent Coalition as well as receive/request referrals from I.H.S.

We also have the baby pantry stocked with diapers, wipes, clothing, shoes, wraps, and hygiene items. We also have a crib, high-chair, seating supports, and a walker. With the cold spell we've been experiencing, students have had added barriers such as, frozen water pipes and traveling out in the cold with their small children. Yet, they are doing their best with attending school.

### **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, 18 enrolled UHY.*

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

We have a new employee, Jeri Lawrence. She is our Youth Case Manager for the YHDP program and has been busy working to meet the needs and requests of our Unaccompanied Homeless Youth. Jeri is a great addition to the PCOP and has been doing an amazing job connecting students to resources.

### **UPCOMING Outreach Events for January-February:**

- Winter Clothing Give-away: Tentatively set for Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Reach Higher MT: Scholarship Support (End of Jan.- Date TBA)

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

- Hi-Set Tutor