

Memorandum of Agreement



Blackfeet Tribal Health Program – Blackfeet Tribal Courts - Browning Public Schools - Blackfeet Tribal Business Council-Community Health Representatives (CHR) program, Crystal Creek Lodge Treatment Center and The Following are recognized under the Blackfeet Honor your Life program; Methamphetamine & Suicide Prevention Initiative (MSPI), Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative (DVPI), Juvenile Healing to Wellness, Community Wellness, Partnership for Success-Underage Drinking & Prescription Drug abuse, and Injury Prevention.

WHEREAS, *Blackfeet 'Honor Your Life' program* under *Blackfeet Tribal Health*, and *Browning Public Schools* have come together in a collaborative effort for the purpose of implementing a Male and Female Youth support group. The male group known as "iitooksskiitaiks," The Lost Children society and the female group will be known as "sookapii niipaitapiiyit," Live life Good. These support groups will cater to 60 middle school-aged and high school-aged youth on a referral system by means of Browning Public School officials (i.e. Principles, counselors, etc.) and will focus on helping to build resiliency in these youth throughout the duration of the next year (January 2017-December 2017). Each group will have 30 youth and will meet on every Wednesday of the year 2017 thereafter the first official group scheduled on January 11th, 2017. These groups will implement both traditional and western aspects of healing, growth and development.

WHEREAS, all partners listed above have entered into this collaboration in which the Blackfeet 'Honor Your Life' program will be the lead program and/or facilitator for efforts specific towards building resiliency in these youth on the Blackfeet reservation; and

WHEREAS, the partners herein desire to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding setting forth the services to be administered by the Blackfeet 'Honor Your Life' program, Browning Public schools and the Blackfeet Tribal court; and

WHEREAS, this collaboration agreement will be approved by all partners and submitted to the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council for the final approval. Each partner will then receive a copy of this agreement alongside important and relevant data to address their program needs without breeching any confidentiality as it pertains to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

- I) Roles and Responsibilities NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed upon and between the partners as follows:
 - The Blackfeet 'Honor Your Life' program will provide the appropriate screening and/or tests required by the Browning Public schools, in order to work with youth within the school district.



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- Browning Middle school, Browning High school officials and Blackfeet
 Tribal juvenile court will refer candidates into the group based on their
 high needs, which may be as a result of behavioral issues within the
 schools and/or home and community environments.
- Each program in collaboration will sponsor a group as they see fit for their program throughout the duration of 12-months.
- Honor Your Life will do intake interviews with parents to assure that a positive, healthy support system can be established.
- Facilitators for the group will correspond directly with the Honor Your Life program and implement the appropriate topics, curriculum, and surveys during each group.
- Resiliency will be monitored throughout the course of the 12-month period and Honor Your Life's designated staff member/coordinator will do follow-up with Browning Public schools and/or Blackfeet Tribal courts.

II) Collaboration between partners

- The Blackfeet 'Honor Your Life' program and Browning Public schools will collaborate in the following manner:
 - Ensure that Honor Your Life coordinator can proceed with follow-up to each school in regards to the resources available to the referred student and their individual progress.
 - Contact Honor Your Life program for any additional information in regards to the support group.
 - Provide new referrals as openings are available into the group.
- The Blackfeet 'Honor Your Life' program and the Blackfeet Tribal Health program will collaborate in the following manner:
 - The Honor Your Life designated coordinator will conduct updates with Tribal Health and the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council as it is deemed necessary.
 - Honor Your Life will review goals and obstacles of the support group and make appropriate adjustments as long as they are not counterproductive to the growth and development of the youth who are participating.
 - Honor Your Life will provide appropriate data trends as it corresponds to this support group.

III) Collaboration between Programs and Facilitators

 Each facilitator will be required to attain a background check and a drug test as it is an already established requirement to work with youth from the public school system.

- Each facilitator will be paid a stipend for each group they facilitate, in the amount of \$50.00 and this will be paid by the program who is sponsoring the group that week.
- Facilitators will provide youth with appropriate materials and/or surveys during the group session in order to support resiliency and the development of coping skills and life skills.

IV) Materials provided:

- Each program will provide the materials, resources, surveys, and any other additional supplies that may be required to be utilized during that group session that they are sponsoring.
- V) Community Trainings
 - Monthly trainings will be implemented for the community, specifically for the parents and/or guardians of the youth enrolled in the facilitated groups.
 - This training will focus on the holistic healing approach for all participants associated with the group and under a separate agreement of support from parents/guardians they will be obligated to attend.
 - The cost of these trainings will be divided amongst ALL programs associated with the memorandum (exception for exclusion is the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council and Browning Public Schools).
 - Each program will be required to implement a monthly training sometime during the year and complete all prior trainings necessary in order to be capable and/or certified to implement within the community.

Agreed upon by:
Timothy Davis, Health & Social Services (HSS) Committee Chairman
Rosemary Cree Medicine, Tribal Health Director/Administrator
John Rouse, Superintendent of Browning Public Schools
Jade-Heather Lepotokisi, MSPI & DVPI Coordinator

Marlene Kindness, Community Wellness Coordinator Marlene Kindness, Community Wellness Coordinator Debbie Whitegrass-Bullshoe, Injury Prevention Coordinator