



Parent Community Outreach Program

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November 2020

School Board Report

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BPS Child Care

The BPS Child Care Center remains closed due to COVID 19. Our staff are continuing their training online and will hopefully be returning to their classrooms after the holidays to prepare for the arrival of children during the 3rd quarter. The decision to re-open will be made by central Administration based on the current state related to COVID 19 cases in our community.

BPS Teen Parent Resource Center

The BPS Teen Parent Resource Center continues to provide supportive services to our teen parents as needed. We have identified 16 teen parents (both moms and dads) currently enrolled in high school. We are working in partnership with the Buffalo Hide Academy staff to serve their teen parents with care packages. We are once again meeting with the Blackfeet Pregnant and Parenting Teen Coalition to coordinate our services.

BPS Hi-Set & Adult Basic Education

The BPS Hi-Set & Adult Basic Education program continues to offer online tutoring to our students. We temporarily discontinued packets due to the rise in COVID cases in our

community but have recently begun to offer them again. Packet distribution is contact-free, and packets sit for 48 hours prior to being graded and returned. Attendance fluctuates with both online and packet returns. We attribute this to the “typical” reasons (ie. motivation) but also take into account the significant trauma our community is currently experiencing.

Our tutor, Jerelyn, is also coordinating with the local ᯀ’yō’• ’ (We Are Eating) food pantry to provide an online training, “Healthy Eating Basics,” for her Hi-Set students. Students who participate will also be able to pick up the food ingredients from ᯀ’yō’• ’ to make the dishes they learn about in the class.

BPS YHDP

The BPS Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) has officially launched! We are trying to lay a solid foundation for this project by first gaining as much professional development as possible. At the end of October, I participated in the YHDP Grantee Orientation offered through the Montana CoC technical assistants. There will be monthly calls to provide ongoing support, including additional professional development. I recently completed the mandatory HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) through Service Point. This training explained how to use the required HMIS system for tracking “clients”. I also recently participated in the Connect Referral System training and advocated for our Unaccompanied Homeless Youth to be able to access services through the Connect system. I have joined another group of Host Home providers established courtesy of Schoolhouse Connection. We now meet monthly to create an on-going network of support for providers offering host homes to homeless youth. Finally, I’m part of a much larger cohort of YHDP grantees courtesy of the National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE). Once we have hired our YHDP Youth Case Manager, we will be able to really take off with the next steps!

BPS āiss oōmmoōtsiiyō•

The BPS āiss oōmmoōtsiiyō• program has been busy filling requests for winter clothes and other essential items for the families we serve. We recently received a large donation of winter apparel from Coats for Kids Inc in Kalispell. A huge shout out to Pastor Matt Nelson of Columbia Falls Lutheran Church for making this essential delivery; and thank you to Ronnel Goss for helping unload everything! We are also expecting a delivery of winter clothes from the Soroptimists in Whitefish with delivery courtesy of the coordinating efforts of Scott Brant (Nourish the Blackfeet). Thank you!!!

