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| | YOUTH HOMELESSNESS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT | HI-SET | ĀISSŌŌMMOŌTSIIYŌŌ |
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Parent Community Outreach Program

HI-SET/ Adult Basic Education/Kinship~

Hi-SET

We are wrapping up the academic year 2022-2023 with 7 students. With the summer break between June-9th-August, the Hi-Set students have plans to continue working and/or finding employment for the summer months. They have been provided information regarding the other two Hi-Set Programs within the community (Blackfeet Manpower & BCC). We did not have any of the students who were ready to attempt their Hi-Set Test so, we will re-access goals when everyone returns in August.

Grandparents Raising Grandkids/Kinship (a program within āissŏōmmoŏtsiiyŏŏ) Kinship Program & Aging Mastery Program-

We're ending this school year with 274 kinship families with a total of 607 students who received support from the PCOP. Sadly, many of these kin are raising their nieces, nephews, or grandchildren due to the placements/removals by CPS. Most are also occurring because of their parents/legal guardians drug/alcohol abuse. On a more positive note, we were able to assist 11 Grandparents with the petition of guardianship/custody process where they successfully gained either permanent custody and/or guardianship. We will continue to encourage our GRG/Kinship families to register their students online and will continue to connect and check back with them in August to assist with registration and help with making sure their students are prepared to begin school.

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McKinney Vento Data update:

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

McKinney Vento

To end the school year, we had documented 224 students in the district receiving opportunities and supportive services.

A success: We had 13 McKinney Vento Students who graduated from Browning High School!!!!

Foster Care:

23 Students

Teen Parents:

9 Students – 3 of which Graduated from BHS!

School-based Clothing Closets

Through donations (and support from the MV and YHDP grants) received for the school-based clothing closets, the PCOP staff were able to fulfill #295 requests! Most of these requests (ie. Fit Needs Requests) were for clothing items (ie. Shirts, Pants, underwear, socks, coats, hats/gloves, Halloween costumes, laundry services, etc.) We also provided shoes to #187 students. These totals do not include the daily requests and needs filled on-site at the specific buildings. We are still receiving donations including household items and furniture.

School-based Food Pantry

This academic year, PCOP staff provided #64 food boxes to families. This number does not include the specific buildings' totals (WBHA, BHS, and BMS food pantry's).

Additionally, for holiday meals, we provided:

#40 Thanksgiving Dinners

#44 Christmas Dinners

#28 Easter Dinners

Assisted with #4 Graduation Dinners

We also oversaw the distribution of #7016 MFBN weekend backpack meals to the elementary students.

The backpack food program for the elementary grades will continue throughout summer school in addition to the Summer Food program.

BPS YHDP

#23 unaccompanied homeless youth have been provided support this 22/23 SY. Currently, 9 enrolled UHY.

“As The YHDP Supportive Services Case Manager, June has been a very busy month. YHDP assisted with getting clients/students signed up for Summer School assisted with transportation to and from Dental appointments, helped our five graduated students with Job placement, Job applications, Enrollment at Blackfeet Community College, Submitted Blackfeet housing applications for housing and also connecting them to other Job opportunities. They also submitted their SNAP applications as well as made referrals for all clients to the O'yo'.p' food pantry. As today 06-20-2023 is the last day of work for Irene and I for the summer, we will continue providing YHDP Supportive services at the beginning of August.

As of June 2023, there are currently nine students Identified as Unaccompanied Homeless or on the verge of being homeless. Being only contracted to work for 215 days out of the year we are not able to support those clients/students through the four weeks we are off but, connect them to programs that can. Four clients met the guidelines to be exited this month.

Some challenges the YHDP and students experience is still not having a transitional living center for the unaccompanied youth to stay in. Not having enough resources in the community to refer them to. Not having the ability to utilize the washers and dryers that the YHDP grant has purchased for YHDP clients. Although we are still able to provide laundry support at the laundry mat. Even with the resources offered by the YHDP and other case managers, I feel like I would benefit from further trainings to help me improve and challenge myself to prosper as I am the one and only Case Manager. I am needing more help and assistance with providing the supportive services we offer and to keep up with all the data and all the duties for one person has been very challenging.

The building we are currently in needs some weatherizing. This spring we experienced our offices flooding a few times causing damage to our personal items as well as office supplies and items that we have on hand for our clients. Poor ventilation causes moisture and mold to not leave our building. If these issues could be addressed and resolved before returning in August it would make it a safer and healthier environment to work in as well as have the clients/students and public in.”

Thank you.-Monty Lucke

Out Reach Event for May:

May was MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS month! We collaborated with the SAMSHA Native Connections: Culture & Hope program to provide mental health including, specifically information related to grief. Our friends at Tamarack Grief Resource Center shared the idea of offering a “Walk with Me Through Grief” opportunity for families and students to receive information in a space which welcomes them to begin or continue their grieving process. We also collaborated with THIP and Southern Piegan at the Skate Park/Walking Path beginning May 24th-June

Cooking Classes:

The YHDP students completed their six-week cooking class with Kaitlyn Sharp. Majority of the students said they enjoyed the classes and were able to make a variety of meals with minimal ingredients. We are planning to bring Kaitlyn back in the fall to assist us with our food pantry's as well as offer more cooking classes.

Happy Summer!- *From all of us here at the Parent Community Outreach Program.*