

# District 7, Human Resource Development Council

Community Action Pages Vol. 9 Issue 3

## **Upcoming:**

#### **Office Closures**

- Columbus Day 10/09
- Veterans Day 11/10
- Thanksgiving 11/23-11/24

#### **Computer Hours**

Monday - Thursday

• 8:30-10:30 am

Wednesday - Friday

• 2:30 - 4:30 pm

# Money Foundation Workshops

- Hardin 4th Wednesday every month at 9 am
- Billings Thursdays every month at 10 am

Go to <u>thehomecenter.org</u> to learn more or register!

#### **Homebuyer Education**

• Billings - 10/14; 11/4

Sign up for our
E-Newsletter here



## What's new

### **Crow Food sees highest numbers in 3 years**

The Crow Food Commodities program has seen a significant influx of clients since 2020. Located in Hardin, the program provides monthly food packages to Tribal members living on or near the Crow Reservation. The Branch Manager for Crow Food says the distribution center is serving over 200 clients compared to roughly 50 that were served three years ago.

Recently, the distribution center started making deliveries which is a helpful service for elders who may have barriers in coming to the warehouse to receive commodities. Deliveries can be made on the Crow agency, Garyowen, Wyola, St. Xavier, and Pryor.

Food packages are now pro-rated meaning clients receive the same amount regardless of household size. The Hardin office is also preparing to start their Nutrition Education Program which will be offered in the next few months. <u>Visit our website</u> to learn more about the Crow Food Commodities program and all the good it does for Big Horn residents!

#### 2023-24 LIHEAP Season is here

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is back again for the heating season! The application for the 2023-24 season can be found on our website under energy assistance.



LIHEAP has helped many community members ensure their homes are warm during the cold winter months. For any questions regarding the application, call 406-247-4778 or come into the Energy Assistance Office located at 3116 1st Avenue North in Billings. Our staff can walk you through the application process or answer any other questions you may have. LIHEAP season runs from September 1 through April 30.

# HRDC COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

The Black Heritage Foundation of Billings had a Juneteenth Event that HRDC 7 was apart of.

# **Farewell to Summer**

With summer come and gone, it was a blast getting out into the community this summer! Here are a few photos that show some of the events we attended in summer 2023.



Here is HRDC 7's booth at the grand opening of the Eagle Seekers Community Center in Billings located at the Old Shrine Auditorium.



Some of our Child Care Staff at the Balloon Glow in Billings.





We went to a few Farmers Markets in Red Lodge , Hardin and Laurel to let community members know about our services!



Several staff members participated in United Way of Yellowstone County's Community Day of Action on June 23.



We attended the Billings Gardeners' Market in at South Park in July.

# Pathways Success Story - Katerina

Katerina Bolejack came to HRDC at a time of change in her life and felt like she had nowhere to turn. She had just graduated from treatment at the Rimrock Foundation and started her path to recovery from addiction, which she struggled with for 15 years.



When Katerina first entered the Pathways Program, she wasn't sure what she wanted to do but knew she wanted a career. "I wanted to better my life, and I wanted to keep growing instead of staying stuck." Katerina loves helping people and worked at High Gate Senior Living, where she loved her residents and helping them in any way she could. It was fulfilling to her knowing they were getting the help they need since some residents didn't have family to rely on.

Eventually, Katerina decided to pursue a nursing career and hopes to become a Licensed Practical Nurse or a Registered Nurse. She is now CPR-certified and a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). Many people told Katerina that she would never become a nurse due to her background. That said, she is not letting that stop her from pursuing her goals.

## **Billings' Best Coat Drive Donations**

People's Community Outreach is is asking for donations of any new or gently used winter coats, hats, gloves, socks, scarves, blankets & boots. Drop-off Locations are listed below and are accepted the whole month of October:

#### **Granite Health & Fitness**

3838 Avenue

#### **RiverStone Health**

• 23 North 27th St.

#### **Valet Cleaners**

- 2474 Enterprise Ave.
- 2434 Grand Ave.

#### **Red Rooster Cafe**

- 1500 Broadwater Ave
- Business Unit #1

#### **Montana Jacks**

• 520 Hansen Lane

#### **Billings Public Library**

510 North Broadway

# The Drive officially starts November 14-17!

#### RiverStone Health Clinic - Billings

- 123 N 27th Street, Billings
- **November 15, 16 & 17** 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

#### RiverStone Health Clinic - Worden

- · 2469 Main Street, Worden
  - November 149:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
  - November 17
     12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Call People's Community Outreach at 406.850.9607 for more information!





# More families now qualify for Best Beginnings!

# **Career Opportunities**

- Temporary LIHEAP Service Worker
- Administrative Assistant
- Section 8 Case Manager
- Early Childhood Specialist

Click here to see all of our career opportunities available!

# **Worker Insights Survey**

Community Action Agencies across the nation participate in this survey to gather feedback about the current workforce and how it could possibly be improved.





Scan the QR code or click <u>here</u> to provide your input!







As of July 1, policy changes for the Best Beginnings Child Care Scholarship went into effect. One of those changes was an increase in eligibility for the scholarship. What does that mean? More families are now eligible to apply! Income eligibility for the program increased from 150% to 185% of the Federal Poverty Level.



Co-payments have also been made affordable being capped at 9%, meaning they are more affordable for families as well. The scholarship is available for children ages 5-11. If you meet the qualifications of Best Beginnings, you can find an application on our website or by clicking here.

This is great news for families needing help with child care costs, which can cost almost half of their paycheck. Our Child Care Department is here to answer any questions families or providers may have about these changes. Call us at 406-247-4732 or email childcare@hrdc7.org to learn more!