



TIWAHE HAPPENINGS

Introduction

Amba Washte! Wahey!

Welcome to the first issue of the Tiwahe Happenings Newsletter. This is to provide the Fort Belknap Indian Community updates on the Tiwahe Program. We will begin with a quick overview of the Initiative and will continue updates on a quarterly basis!

The Fort Belknap Tiwahe Initiative is a BIA contract that works continuously with various tribal programs to ensure collaboration and barrier breaking for clients to

help promote self-sufficiency, family reunification and cultural exposure and competency. Tiwahe umbrellas 477, Social Services, Prosecutor's Office, Recidivism Reduction Initiative (RRI), & Domestic Violence Programs while partnering with Child Support, CDC, Blue Heaven Harnessing Hope, Tobacco Prevention, Empowering Inner Strength, Native Connections and Tribal Health Administration.

Tiwahe means FAMILY in Lakota.



TIWAHE YOUTH WELLNESS TASK FORCE

In efforts to combat the suicide crisis in Fort Belknap, Tiwahe oversees Suicide Prevention Task Forces in all four areas of the Reservation. Due to the stigma surround the word "suicide", we are now called Tiwahe Youth Wellness Task Force, with chapters in the Agency/Dodson area, Lodgepole and Hays. Advisors are: Amy Murdock- Agency/Dodson Chapter, Buster Moore- Hays Chapter and Hannah Has Eagle, Lodgepole Chapter. Each area hosts various events for the youth and families! Events include: Round dances, drum making classes, beading, movies and game nights, etc.

The task forces are completely youth driven!

Tiwahe Contacts:

- Sarah Gone, Family Advocacy Coordinator 353.8418
- Amy Murdock, Assistant Family Advocacy Coordinator 353.8361
- Kayla Horn, Family Intervention Specialist 353.8393
- Tom Medicine Bear, Tiwahe Transit Driver 390.5846
- Margaret Nicholson, Admin. Assistant 353.8381
- Bea Clark, Domestic Violence Crime Advocate 399.1779
- Joan Johnson, RRI Program Manager 353.8324
- Geno LaValdo, Juvenile Probation Officer 353.8322
- Charity Boushie, RRI Case Manager 353.8324
- Stanley Johnson, Adult Probation Officer 353.8365
- Ray Cichosz, JH2WC 353.8355
- Seanna Gone- Harshman, Prosecutor's Assistant 353.8382
- Louise Doney, ICWA Specialist 353.8335
- Benita Plain Feather, 477 GA Case Manager 353.8376
- Randall Birdtail, 477 Office Assistant 353.8376
- Johnathan Walker, 477 Fiscal Manager 353.8376

Winter Recap

The winter season kicked off with our first Equine Wellness/Therapy Services located in Hays at the Blue Heaven Harnessing Hope Ranch. Referrals are available for Tiwahe clients. For class schedules, please contact Toby Werk at 406-399-1419.

Tiwahe Administration offices worked vigorously to commit to the renovations of the Hays Youth Center and the Domestic Violence Shelter in order to have functioning services in each area.

The Hays Youth Center is located at the old "Blue Building" in the Mission Area of Hays, MT. The Hays Amateur Boxing Club will be utilizing the space for training and practices.

Tiwahe is continuously working to develop the Leadership Improvement Program: Policies and Procedures for the Fort Belknap Social Services Department.

The Tiwahe Transit Driver has been providing transportation for clients of Tribal Programs and Fort Belknap Tribal Members. Applications can be picked up at any Tiwahe Program or the Administration Offices at the Planning Department. Contact Tom Medicine Bear at 406-390-5648 for scheduling!

Spring into 2020!

Upcoming events for Tiwahe include: Agency area Equine Wellness/Therapy Services with Day Eagle Hope Project. We hope to begin these services in the Spring of 2020!

Traditional Teachings of the Buffalo will take place in Hays under the Hays Chapter Youth Wellness Task Force Advisor, Buster Moore. Please reach out to Buster for more information on times and dates!

Tiwahe has teamed up with local veteran, AJ Stiffarm to provide in a critical skills training for domestic violence victims who are currently enrolled in the program. The training will give women the tools and skills they need when they may be faced with an abduction scenario. These skills are critically important for our Native Woman to have as there is an epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Men happening throughout the state and country.

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Classes

Current Classes include:

Family Strengthening, Women's Group, Language Preservation Classes for Assiniboine and Gros Ventre, Equine Wellness/Therapy Services, Life Skills Trainings, and more to come! Please reach out to our offices if you have questions or concerns.

