

From: Missoula Forum for Children and Youth
To: [Antila, Mackenzie](#)
Subject: Your weekly newsletter is here!
Date: Friday, April 07, 2017 1:46:32 PM

Read our new mobile friendly newsletter on your phone!



Our mission is to lead collaborative, proactive community efforts to prevent underage substance use and to foster the development of healthy and resilient children and youth.

What's Happening at the Forum

Register for this Event!
State of the Young Child 2017
Tuesday, April 25th
Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula



Training - \$10
8:00am - 11:00am
Sexual Behaviors in Young Children: Recognizing Concerning vs. Healthy Sexual Behavior
Trainer: MC Jenni, MSW, Care Coordinator at First Step Resource Center, Providence St. Patrick Hospital
and
Introduction to the Community Resiliency Model (CRM)
Trainer: Dana Eisenberg, LCSW

Luncheon - \$20
11:30am - 1:00pm

Keynote Speaker: Mike Halligan, Executive Director, Dennis & Phyllis
Washington Foundation

Leaders in health, business, and early childhood are invited to participate in this event highlighting issues that impact young children and families in Missoula. In order for a child to grow up to become a healthy and productive adult, they need to have quality early childcare, education, and healthcare. At this luncheon we will be discussing:

- why investing in early childhood is so important;
- creative solutions to address childcare scarcity; and
- how the medical community and childcare/service providers can better connect to support families.

After the Luncheon there will be community discussion held at 1:15 pm. We will be discussing "Supporting Families and Strengthening Your Workforce." Luncheon attendees are invited to stay after to learn more about ways that businesses can help support families and discuss next steps for our community.

To learn more about the the event or how to register, go to <http://conta.cc/2mtwseX>.

Week of the Young Child Event for Families!

Free Family Night at A Carousel for Missoula

Monday, April 24th

4:00pm - 5:30pm

101 Carousel Drive, Missoula



We are inviting Missoula families to join us for a FREE night of carousel rides for kids to celebrate "Week of the Young Child!" Be sure to mark your calendars for this great event! There will be free carousel rides and hot cocoa!

For questions or to learn more about the event contact Leah Fitch at leah@missoulaforum.org or call 406-258-3020.

Montana Legislative News

Important: The information provided here is to collect news stories about relevant bills coming up in the 2017 Montana Legislative Session. This is for educational and informational purposes only and is not a reflection of the opinion of this office.

**Underage Tobacco Use
Prevention**

"House Panel Snuffs Out Tobacco Tax Hike"

Over the protests of Democrats, Republicans on the House Taxation Committee on Thursday pushed through a motion to reject a bill that would have raised tobacco taxes by \$31 million a year.



The committee voted 12-8 to "not concur" on [Senate Bill 354](#), by Sen. Mary Caferro, D-Helena. All 12 Republicans supported the motion, while all eight Democrats opposed it.

Her bill would have increased the current \$1.70-pack state tax on cigarettes by \$1.50 a pack to a new rate of \$3.20 a pack, which would have been fifth highest among the states. It would have imposed similar increases on other forms of tobacco, such as moist snuff, and taxed for the first time the liquid used for e-cigarettes or vape cigarettes.

It would have dedicated 44 percent of the revenue to a fund in the Department of Public Health and Human Services to raise the hourly salaries of direct-care workers who assist the elderly and disabled on Medicaid.

Afterward, a disappointed Caferro said the motion basically means her bill is dead. "It looks like this Legislature is going to turn its back on people who have disabilities and senior citizens and ignore the people who care for them," she said, adding, "And it looks like folks today on this committee, at least the majority party, turned their back on the people I care the most about. And I'm not happy."

Rep. Kerry White, R-Bozeman, moved that the committee not concur in SB 354, which the committee heard Wednesday.

[Link to Article](#)

Local News

Suicide Prevention

"Suicide Prevention Training Offered as Rates Increase"

With national and Montana suicide rates increasing, health officials are offering more trainings on the proper response to a possible suicide.



QPR Gatekeeper Trainings teach people to look for signs of suicide like hopelessness, apathy, or somebody talking about not wanting to live.

Suicide specialist, Heidi Kendall of the Missoula City-County Health Department, says the next step is quickly responding with QPR: Question, Persuade, Refer.

"You want to talk to them about it and ask them, 'Are you thinking about suicide?' People are afraid to do that because they think that it will put the idea in their mind. It won't do that. We know that from evidence. It's okay to ask someone if they are feeling suicidal," said Kendall. Missoula resident Kaylyn Brown went to school for social work. We talked to her at a recent QPR training at Saint Patrick Hospital. She says suicide isn't talked about enough, and asking someone if they are thinking about taking his or her life is crucial.

"It's important to get over how scary it is to ask somebody that because it is important and can save a life," said Brown.

Montana is ranked number three in the nation for suicide rates. Even though we have dropped from number one, the percentages are still climbing.

We looked at numbers from the National Vital Statistics 2015 Report.

It shows Montana's rate of 26.3 is about double the national suicide rate.

Specialists say if somebody tells you that they are struggling, you need to get them help. "You can either take them to someone who is a mental health professional. Or call and make an appointment, but stay with them if they are suicidal," said Kendall.

Risk factors in Montana include a large population of veterans and less access to mental health services.

That's why QPR trainings are becoming more available.

Suicide hotlines are available 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week.

[Link to Article](#)

In Other News

The Foster Care System and the Opioid Crisis

"The Children of the Opioid Crisis"

The police officer who entered Mikaya Feucht's Ohio apartment found it littered with trash, dirty dishes and plastic milk jugs full of the opioid addict's vomit.



He also found two toddlers, aged 3 and 2, who watched as the officer uncovered the track marks on their mother's arms and looked in vain for any food to feed them.

That was three years ago. By the time Mikaya overdosed and died from the elephant tranquilizer carfentanil this summer, her sons were living with their grandparents. But the chaos of watching their mother descend into addiction will burden them for years. They were often hungry and dirty in her care, and spoke of being hit with a belt by her boyfriend, according to their grandparents.

At the funeral home before Mikaya, 24 years old, was cremated, her younger son, Reed, clung to her through the open casket. "And it wasn't just a quick hug. It was heartbreaking," says Chuck Curran, his grandfather.

Widespread abuse of powerful opioids has pushed U.S. overdose death rates to all-time highs. It has also traumatized tens of thousands of children. The number of youngsters in foster care in many states has soared, overwhelming social workers and courts. Hospitals that once saw few opioid-addicted newborns are now treating dozens a year.

And many of the children who remain in the care of addicted parents are growing up in mayhem. They watch their mothers and fathers overdose and die on the bathroom floor. They live without electricity, food or heat when their parents can't pay the bills. They stop going to school, and learn to steal and forage to meet their basic needs.

[Link to Article](#)

Trauma and Substance Use Disorders



"Trauma & Addiction - What's the Difference?"

Dr. James Flowers is a guest contributor to this article. He is the founder and CEO of [Driftwood Recovery](#) in Austin, Texas. He is a renowned chronic pain specialist with over 25 years of experience in the behavioral health care field.

Over the last couple years, more and more treatment centers have started saying they specialize in "Trauma Informed Therapies." We marvel over this, as clearly indigenous to substance abuse, mental health and chronic pain is, in fact, trauma.

Let's take a look at this. Larke Huang, Director of the Office of Behavioral Healthcare Equity at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, defines trauma broadly as "a stress that causes physical or emotional harm which you cannot remove yourself from." Trauma is subjective, meaning what matters most is the individual's internal beliefs and their innate sensitivity to stress, not whether a family member or therapist or other outsider deems an experience traumatic. We all know people who were in the same combat zone, present at ground zero, have seen a life-threatening event, or who have been bullied and persecuted, etc. will have differing responses. There is a link between emotional trauma (i.e. the increase in the number and frequency of events) and a link to substance abuse.

In the Journal of Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental, a study was published which showed a link between childhood trauma and alcoholism. For example, a study of children who lived near ground zero were more likely to experience trauma the more exposure they had to a life-threatening event (such as knowing someone who dies or fearing for their life), which correlated with a higher likelihood they were to use alcohol and other drugs. Furthermore, the study reports that "a child with four or more adverse childhood experiences is five times more likely to become alcoholic and 60 percent more likely to become obese, and a boy with 4 or more of these adverse experiences is 46 times more likely to become an injection user than others." The researchers of the Adverse Childhood Experience, which followed 17,000 Kaiser patients, further found that the effects of trauma are cumulative and that one of the most destructive forms is "chronic recurrent humiliation," a big term for name-calling or ridicule.

[Link to Article](#)

Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

"Call Children's Private Body Parts What They Are"

Question: My 3-year-old calls his penis his "wee-wee," but my sister says he should learn the correct term for it. I think "penis" sounds too clinical, and I also don't want him going around talking about that. Who's right?



Answer: Your sister's right.

Children should be taught the standard terms for all of their body parts, including the ones adults are nervous about naming. He probably doesn't call his hand his "bang-bang" or his foot his "walkie," and it's time to teach him that his penis is his penis.

When kids know and are comfortable using the standard terms for their private body parts - penis, scrotum, clitoris, vagina - they've got one more protection against sexual abuse.

When children feel awkward talking about certain body parts - if they giggle when someone mentions those parts, for example - they're more likely to feel embarrassed about asking questions, and they're less likely to tell you if someone is touching them inappropriately. Euphemisms usually reflect [parents'](#) discomfort with talking openly about those body parts, and so kids learn there's something naughty, wrong, or rude about talking about them.

Recent research shows that knowing the correct anatomical terms enhances kids' [body image](#), self-[confidence](#), and openness. It also discourages their susceptibility to molesters. When children are abused, having the correct language helps both the child and adults deal with disclosure and - if necessary - the [forensic](#) interview process.

According to [Laura Palumbo of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center](#), "We need all adults to be partners in teaching healthy [childhood](#) sexual development, and square one is body parts. Educators and parents should communicate accurately, without stigma or [shame](#)."

Kids need to know that their penis, scrotum, clitoris, vagina, and vulva are body parts like their arms, feet, ears, and elbows. They're different because they're private - we usually keep them covered - but they're healthy, good, acceptable body parts nonetheless.

[Link to Article](#)

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Walk With A Doc is a free program provided by Community Medical Center that encourages healthy physical activity for people of all ages. Each program is led by a Missoula physician. A short talk is followed by a group walk where you can participate in lively conversations, good company and healthy exercise. Walks are approximately 2 miles.

MEET US AT MILWAUKEE & CATLIN

FEBRUARY 14 - MAY 30

TUESDAYS @ NOON

WALK WITH A DOC

COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER
Parks & Recreation
AHEC MONTANA
Missoula Public Health

With day one.

Every Tuesday through May

"Walk With A Doc"

Tuesdays at Noon

Meet north of Third Street, at the Milwaukee Trail, on Catlin

Community members are invited to trek a 2-mile expanse of the Milwaukee Trail, as part of Community Cancer Care and Prevention Center's Missoula Walk with a Doc program. The program launches at noon Tuesday, Feb. 14, and will continue every Tuesday

through May.

[Learn More](#)



Job Opening

The Parenting Place

Social Worker (Full-time)

Facilitate parenting classes and work one on one with families in need of parenting support.

Applicant must have a BA in Social Work or a related field, as well as experience with families and children. Previous class facilitation is preferred. Starting wage is \$13.25/hr.

To apply with The Parenting Place, bring a resume to 1644 S. 8th St. W., Monday-Thursday 9-5pm, or email to teresa@parentingplace.net

[Learn More](#)



Screening of the Paper Tigers Documentary

Hosted by the Parenting Place

Cost: Free

Tuesday, April 25th

Missoula Public Library

4:30pm - 6:30pm (Childcare Available)

[Learn More](#)



Friday, April 7th

Autism Acceptance Celebration

MSO Hub/The Bicycle Hanger

5:00pm - 8:00pm

Child Development Center (CDC) invites you to celebrate and spread acceptance of kids on the autism spectrum! There will be ART by [Big Sky High School](#) and CDC and RAFFLE packages.

[Learn More](#)

Big Brothers Big Sisters Of Missoula

A Little Art Show:

When: First Friday, April 7th
Time: 5-8pm
Where: Deep Tissue Massage Group Inc.
Address: 725 W Alder St #20
What: An Art Show and Senior Project

Start Something

Celine is a senior in high school and a Little in the Big Brothers

Friday, April 7th

A Little Art Show

Deep Tissue Massage Group, Inc. (725 W. Alder, Suite 20)

5:00pm - 8:00pm

Celine Herbenson, a Little in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, is putting on an art show with art created by Bigs and Littles in the program.

[Learn More](#)



Saturday, April 8th

Spring Wellness Fair

Payne Family Native American Center
10:00am - 2:00pm

FREE for Missoula's American Indian/Alaska Native Community. Education, Resources, Screenings, Vaccines, and more. Raffle baskets, prizes, and gifts!

[Learn More](#)



Saturday, April 8th

Healthy Kids Day

YMCA Missoula (3000 S. Russell)
9:00am - 12:00pm

Celebrate fitness and healthy living at this FREE event which includes family-friendly activities, community partnerships, and more.

[Learn More](#)



Tuesday, April 11th

Parent Education Workshop

Western Montana Addiction Services (1321 Wyoming St., Basement Conference Room)
6:00pm - 8:00pm

For parents of adolescents to learn more about addiction and receive support on setting boundaries and communicating more effectively.

[Learn More](#)



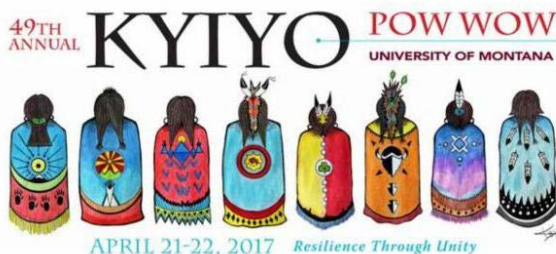
Saturday, April 15th

Diversity Day 2017

Missoula Senior Center
7:00pm - 10:00pm

Join Empower Montana, their Youth Advisory Council, Youth Forward, and their after school clubs, EPIC (Empowering People, Inspiring Change). Featuring showcases of youth talent which include song, dance, and spoken word.

[Learn More](#)



April 21st - April 22nd

49th Annual Kyiyo Pow Wow

Adams Event Center

Join Kyiyo Native American Student Association as they host one of the oldest student organized pow wows in the nation. General admission \$5 a session or \$12 for a weekend pass.

[Learn More](#)



Friday, May 12th

Childwise Institute Spring Conference: "The Trauma Informed School"

Holiday Inn, Great Falls
8:30am - 4:00pm

Jim Sporleder will present his new Administrative Guide "The Trauma-Informed School" A step-by-step implementation guide for Administrators and School Personnel.

\$200 Registration Fee

[Learn More](#)

Attend a Coalition Meeting!

Healthy Start

Thursday, April 20th, 2017

General: 9:00am - 10:00am

SOTYC Planning Mtg: 10:00am - 11:00am

Location: YMCA Missoula

3000 S. Russell St., Missoula, MT 59801

Coordinator Anna Semple

anna@missoulaforum.org

MUSAP

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2017

General meeting: 9:00am - 10:30am

MAC meeting: 10:30am - 11:30am

Location: Salvation Army Community Center

355 S. Russell St., Missoula, MT 59801

Coordinator Brandee Tyree

brandee@missoulaforum.org

Rx Task Force

Friday, April 7th, 2017

10:00am - 11:00am

Location: City Life Community Center

1515 Fairview Ave.

Coordinator Brandee Tyree

brandee@missoulaforum.org

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The findings and conclusions in these newsletter materials are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of The Missoula Forum for Children & Youth.

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