



YELLOWSTONE
Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation

2050 Overland Ave.
Billings, MT 59102
www.yellowstonefoundation.org

Native American Youth Reservation Affiliate Pilot Project (RAPP)

RAPP was created to develop effective support services and aftercare services for Native American (NA) youth who have received psychiatric residential care from YBGR and are returning to their homes and communities near or on reservations.

- On average, approximately twenty percent (20%) of the youth served in YBGR's Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility are Native American and almost 27% agency wide.

- The 2017 MT Native Youth Suicide Reduction Strategic Plan states that the Montana suicide rate from 2005-2014 for all individuals ages 11-24 was 8.01% but for NA youth and young adults ages 11-24, the suicide rate was 42.82%!

YBGR has found that in rural and reservation areas, aftercare services are not available or do not meet the needs of high-risk youth and their families. YBGR believes that to ensure these NA youth and their families receive these critical services YBGR must become directly involved in provision and coordination of aftercare services by:

- Collaborating with key stakeholders including tribal leaders, agencies and staff, and advocacy and administrative organizations such as the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council and Billings Urban Indian Health and Wellness Center to improve success of high-risk NA youth.

- Improving cultural training for YBGR staff and cultural opportunities for NA youth.

- Identifying providers and independent professionals located near the 8 reservation areas to become affiliates through agreement with YBGR and provide aftercare services.

- Utilizing YBGR's robust on-site, on-line, and video training opportunities for affiliates as well as for youth and family interventions and support, treatment team meetings, etc.

- Connecting RAPP Affiliates with YBGR residential Treatment Coordinators to develop

discharge plans for youth prior to discharge and then implementing those plans within 24-48 hours of the youth returning home.

- Developing an electronic tribal/reservation resource guide to better serve Montana's NA youth and families.

- Collecting and documenting youth outcomes for a minimum of 3 months.

- Collecting and documenting affiliate satisfaction, family satisfaction, and key stakeholder satisfaction.

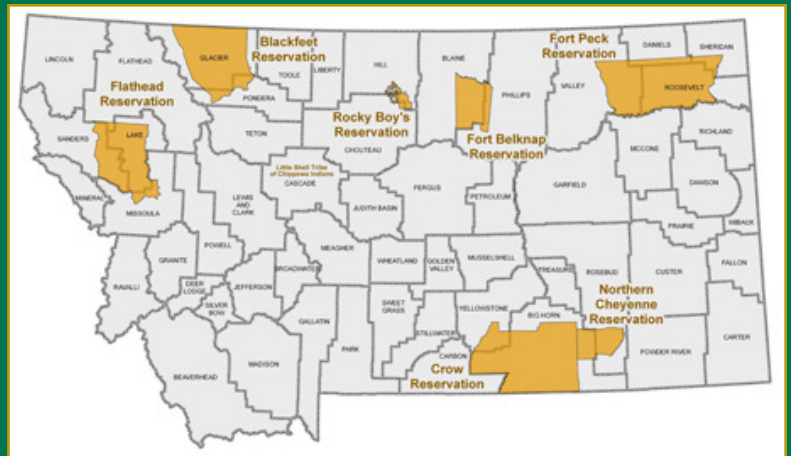
*"Do something
that makes your
ancestors proud."
-Lyndsey Stepetin*



Meet RAPP Project Coordinator, Lyndsey "Tasha" Stepetin

Lyndsey is enrolled in Fort Belknap with ties to Fort Peck and the Alaska Native community of St. Paul. She has an Associate degree in Psychology from Fort Belknap Tribal College and has graduated from both the Montana Law Enforcement Academy and the Indian Police Academy in New Mexico. She has worked with both children and adults through prior positions with Child Protective Services and law enforcement but prefers to focus on children. As a member of a four-generation household, she wants to help children experience the connection and support of extended family.

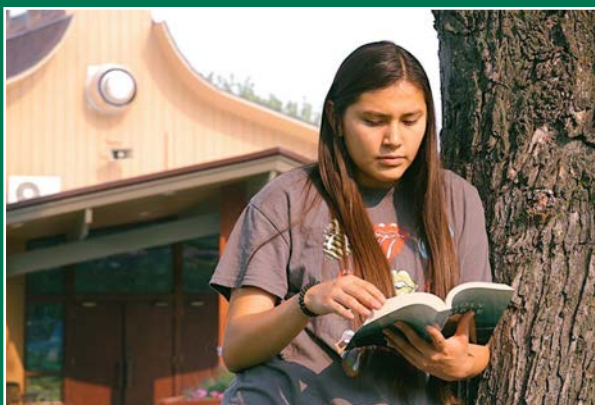
Call 406-651-2813O or
406-702-2491C or Email:
lstepetin@ybgr.org



The NA Healing Walk, held on YBGR's campus, featured tipis and ceremonies.



Visiting with YBGR's Youth Pastor and Bible study out in front of the Robbie Chapel.



Lyndsey and Les Lefthand with Rocky Mountain Tribal Lenders who donated the tipi.