



MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL

quarterly newsletter

ISSUE NO. 11 | December 2023



December Board Meeting

The Board reviewed the content that would be included in the 2024 VOCA, SASP, and DVI funding opportunities, made funding recommendations for the Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) funding opportunities, and approved VOCA match waivers.

The agenda, public documents, and more can be found on the [MBCC Events Calendar](#).

[Find Out More](#)

2024 Funding Opportunities

MBCC is seeking applicants for the Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) 60% State Share, Local Pass Through (Direct), and Local Pass Through (Under \$10,000 Jurisdictions) funding opportunities. Applications are due: **January 22, 2024**.

2024 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), 2024 Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP), and 2024 Domestic Violence Intervention (DVI) Program funding opportunities will open on **Friday, December 15, 2023**. Applications for VOCA, SASP, and DVI are due: **January 26, 2024**.

The 2024 STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding opportunity is expected to open in March.

For funding opportunity links, dates and deadlines, and more information, please visit the Funding Opportunities page on the MBCC website.

[View Funding Opportunities](#)

2024 Spring Program Highlight Submissions are Open!

MBCC's Program Highlights honor criminal justice and community-based programs that merit recognition for providing effective services in their communities or statewide. MBCC will recognize at least two programs per year and applications will be archived for future consideration. Applications are accepted from both current and previously funded MBCC grant recipients. MBCC is currently accepting Program Highlights for the Spring quarter.

Up to two representatives from the selected program will be invited to give a presentation about their program to the Board of Directors at the Board Business Meeting on March 14, 2024. MBCC will showcase the Highlight Program through a statewide press release, certificate of recognition, and placement of program information on the MBCC website. Additionally, the selected program will receive one attendance scholarship to the 2024 Montana Crime Prevention Conference.

For your program to be considered, please complete the Program Highlights Submission Form and email any relevant supplemental materials to Jessi Deily at jessica.deily@mt.gov. The deadline for Spring Program Highlights submissions is **5:00 PM on Friday, February 16, 2024**.

[Submit Program Highlights Form](#)

December Youth Justice Council Meeting

The Youth Justice Council met to review the Governor's Report and juvenile justice data and discuss topics and priorities for the strategic plan. Val Weber from the Ted Lechner Youth Services Center and Mary Pat Hansen, Dylan Claxton, and MC Jenni from the First Step Resource Center gave a presentation on Juvenile Detention in Montana.

The agenda, public documents, and more can be found on the [MBCC Events Calendar](#).

[Find Out More](#)



The 2024 Do the Write Thing Challenge has begun!

All across America, students are taking action to end youth violence. Montana's Do the Write Thing Challenge is a violence prevention program that encourages middle school students to examine the causes of youth violence, the impact of violence on their lives, and to communicate in written form what they think should be done to reduce youth violence. By encouraging students to make personal commitments to do something about the problem, the program ultimately seeks to give them the opportunity to break the cycles of violence in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods. Do the Write Thing is an initiative of the National Campaign to Stop Violence.

Student writings are due March 8, 2024. Eight State Finalists and two Student National Ambassadors will be selected and invited to the State Recognition Event in Helena in May 2024. The two Student National Ambassadors will be invited to the National Do the Write Thing Recognition Ceremony in Washington D.C. in July 2023.

If you would like to participate in the Do the Write Thing challenge, or would like more information, please email [Rachel Gemar](#).

[Learn more about the DtWT Challenge](#)

Kathy Wilkins to Retire on December 29, 2023

After 30 years of service with the State of Montana, 8 of which she spent as the Statistical Analysis Center Director at the Montana Board of Crime Control, Kathy Wilkins has decided to retire. Kathy has been devoted to building and maintaining strong working relationships between MBCC and law enforcement and streamlining data collection processes that unburdened law enforcement agencies while providing value back to them. Her breadth of knowledge and wisdom will be dearly missed.

Congratulations, Kathy, on your well-deserved retirement!

[Find Out More](#)



Just the Facts

MTIBRS Training & Technical Assistance Series

Join us in 2024 for a new year of National Incident-based Reporting System (NIBRS) crime data training topics. You helped us choose topics that matter to Montana Law Enforcement. Just like last year, the sessions are only 15 minutes every other Wednesday at 11:30. Our staff will be available afterwards for questions as well.

Based on your feedback, more topics will be added as the year progresses. Email us at MBCdata@mt.gov with any crime data issues you would like us to cover. By registering below, you are signing up for all 2024 sessions, although you do not need to attend every session.

[Find Out More](#)

State Victim Liaison Update

Since our last update in September, the Victim Liaison Project has achieved notable progress. Key accomplishments include advancing map development by collaborating with service providers for accurate and clear information presentation, conducting outreach for the Statewide Needs Assessment, and successfully completing Educational Power Hours. The upcoming focus involves initiating data analysis from the assessment in January, leading to a comprehensive report. Furthermore, the initiative to improve training for victim service providers, as demonstrated by the Trauma-Informed Practices program, has gained advantageous feedback and registration was full within the first week it was released. The project remains committed to its mission and looks forward to continued success in these priority areas.

[Find Out More](#)



Join us for the month of January's Educational Power Hours. On Tuesday, January 9, 2024 we will learn more about the development of a Family Justice Center. On Tuesday, January 23, 2024 we'll hear about the Domestic Violence Response Team out of Bozeman.

[**Subscribe for Email Updates**](#)

Be sure to subscribe to the Educational Power Hour email list to receive notifications about video uploads and upcoming series and speakers.

[**Register for Educational Power Hour**](#)

Click the button below for more for the Educational Power Hour schedule, upcoming topics and speakers, recordings of previous presentations, and more.

[**Find Out More**](#)



January is National Stalking Awareness Month (NSAM)! Stalking impacts nearly 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men in the United States, yet many victims, families, service providers, criminal justice professionals, and members of the general public underestimate its prevalence, danger, and urgency. Stalking must be recognized as its own form of violence as well as a crime that frequently co-occurs with other victimizations, including physical and sexual violence.

Stalking is a pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that causes fear or emotional distress. The vast majority of victims are stalked by someone they know, and most stalkers use technology and in-person tactics to watch, contact, threaten, sabotage, and/or otherwise frighten their victims. Common stalking tactics include unwanted phone calls, the offender approaching the victim or showing up uninvited, unwanted texts/emails/messages, and being followed and watched.

Learn how to get involved with NSAM and the Day of Action on January 18th at www.StalkingAwareness.org/Stalking-Awareness-Month-2024!

[Find Out More](#)



2024 Montana Crime Prevention Conference

Multi-Disciplinary Solutions for Public Safety

Save the date! The 18th Annual Montana Crime Prevention Conference will take place at **Fairmont Hot Springs** on **October 1 and October 2**. Post-Conference Training will take place on October 3 and 4.

Now Accepting Presentation Proposals

Do you have an idea for a presentation? We'd love to hear it! Please fill out the Presentation Proposal Form below to submit your idea. MBCC staff will review and all selected presenters will be notified in Summer 2024.

[Submit Presentation Proposal](#)

Sponsorship Opportunities

Support from our sponsors enables our conference to continue to provide key educational sessions to law enforcement professionals, state, local and tribal government, probation, victim service providers, educators, and leaders from the public and private sectors across the state.

For sponsorship opportunity ideas, please review the [Sponsorship Levels](#).

[Become a Sponsor](#)

Receive Conference Updates

Subscribe to the Montana Crime Prevention Conference mailing list to receive notifications about selected presenters, exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities, registration, lodging, and more.

[Subscribe for Email Updates](#)

For more information please visit the 2024 Montana Crime Prevention Conference webpage.

[Find Out More](#)



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