



MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL

quarterly newsletter

ISSUE NO. 14 | October 2024



From left to right: Eric Bryson, Wyatt English, Natalia Bowser, Amanda Littlesun, Kaydee Snipes Ruiz, Amy Tenney, Shantelle Gaynor, Bryan Lockerby, Meaghan Mulcahy, Laurie Barron, Scott Twito, Katie Weston, Brian Gootkin, Rick Kirn, and Leo Dutton.

September Board Meeting

The Board met at the Yogo Inn at Lewistown, MT to discuss funding for the STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant, Family Violence Prevention & Services Program (FVPSA) grant, and Title II Juvenile Justice grant.

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

[Find Out More](#)



From left to right: MBCC Chairman Leo Dutton, Diane Olsen, and Mallory James.

MBCC Fall Program Highlights

B.E.A.R. (Bitterroot Ecological Awareness Resources)

The Montana Board of Crime Control honored B.E.A.R. with the Certificate of Outstanding Program Award at the September Board Meeting.

Diane Olsen gave a presentation on the important work B.E.A.R. does through their Venture OUT program.

Venture OUT is a small group and 1-1 outdoor-based mentoring program for adolescents with highly trained staff mentors. They meet youth where they are to engage them in meaningful relationships and connections with adults and peers that help them to more fully meet their potential. Youth learn hard and soft skills while participating in healthy risk-taking outdoor activities that they are passionate about. The model has a unique strength in that it uses an indirect positive youth development approach, so the program bypasses the rebelliousness of many adolescents who may not respond to direct education about risky behaviors.

By addressing educational, social, and mental health needs, Venture OUT helps youth develop positive relationships, build life skills, and reduce their risk of engaging in delinquent behaviors.

More information about B.E.A.R. can be found on the MBCC [Program Highlights page](#).

[Read the Full Article](#)



2024 Montana Crime Prevention Conference

Multi-Disciplinary Solutions for Public Safety

The 2024 Montana Crime Prevention Conference took place at Fairmont Hot Springs on October 1 and 2, with post-conference training on October 3 and 4.

The Opening Ceremony began with the National Anthem, performed by the Anaconda Schools Choir, followed by the Presentation of Colors by the Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association Honor Guard, including members from Missoula County and Lewis and Clark County. Sheriff and MBCC Chairman, Leo Dutton, delivered opening remarks, blessings, and welcomed everyone to the 18th Annual Montana Crime Prevention Conference.

Following the Opening Ceremony, Bryan Lockerby, Administrator for the Division of Criminal Investigation lead a panel discussion about Homelessness in Montana. Sheriff Peterson from Missoula County, County Attorney Scott Twito from Yellowstone County, Chief Newton from the Great Falls Police Department, and Chief Venizio from the Kalispell Police Department answered questions about challenges they have faced, strategies they have implemented, and collaboration they have fostered between local organizations and community partners to create a comprehensive response to homelessness.

U.S. District Attorney Jesse Laslovich and Lewis & Clark County Sheriff and Coroner Leo Dutton discussed criminal justice issues throughout Montana during the Fireside Chat.

MBCC honored the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Marty Lambert, and the 2024 Innovative Community Improvement Award recipient, Northern Lights Family Justice Center at the Tuesday, Awards Luncheon.

In addition to the traditional Victim Services, Law Enforcement, and General track sessions, attendees had the option to attend a special track sponsored by the Montana Community Corrections Association (MCCA). MCCA-sponsored sessions included "Integrated Correctional Program Model", "Using Data to Determine Program Effectiveness", and "Enhancing Crisis Intervention: Data-Driven Approaches and Community Collaboration". Thank you to MCCA for your support again this year and for the valuable training opportunities!

MBCC Staff facilitated a Subgrantee Training on Thursday. Two multi-day trainings took place on Thursday and Friday, including a "Court Preparation and Testimony" course led by Amy Tan and Ken Webber from Rocky Mountain

Information Network and "Trauma-Informed Practices in the Criminal Justice System" with MBCC's Victim Services Liaison, Tawny Rogers.

Thank you to all of our presenters, sponsors, exhibitors, and all who attended!

[Find Out More](#)

2024 Lifetime Achievement Award

Marty Lambert



The Montana Board of Crime Control honored Marty Lambert with the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award for his 40-year legal career as a tireless advocate for justice and public safety in Montana.

As many of you know, Marty had a successful heart surgery and was recovering post op, but passed away unexpectedly on July 15 due to an aggressive infection resulting from a post-surgery medical procedure. He will be dearly missed, but his legacy will continue across the state and in the hearts and actions of those he worked with, mentored, and inspired.

Photo credit: Rachel Leather/Bozeman Daily Chronicle - <https://bozemandailychronicle.com/>

Marty embraced technological innovations, elevating investigations and courtroom presentations to better serve victims and the community. He championed the establishment of victim advocate positions, sexual assault nurse examiner programs, child advocacy centers, and Montana's first drug treatment court. His leadership and mentorship extended far beyond Gallatin County, and he selflessly mentored attorneys across the state. He served as a driving force behind the Missouri River Drug Task Force and the Montana County Attorneys Association, training prosecutors and advocating for sound public policy.



From left to right: Leo Dutton, Kathryn Lambert, Brian Gootkin.

MBCC Chairman Leo Dutton and board member Brian Gootkin presented the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award to Kathy Lambert, Marty's wife, during the Tuesday Awards Luncheon. Chairman Dutton then turned the room over to Kathy, Cory Swanson, and Scott Twito, who shared personal stories about Marty and the profound impact he had on the lives of his family, friends, peers, and those he served.

Marty's lifetime of unwavering dedication and innovation has left an undeniable mark on Montana's justice system. We are grateful for all that Marty accomplished throughout his life and career and he will be dearly missed.

For more information about Marty Lambert and the Lifetime Achievement Award, please visit the [MBCC Recognition Awards page](#).

[Learn More About Marty Lambert](#)

2024 Innovative Community Improvement Award

Northern Lights Family Justice Center



Northern Lights

FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER

The Montana Board of Crime Control is pleased to present the Northern Lights Family Justice Center with this prestigious award in recognition of their groundbreaking work in addressing domestic violence and family abuse in the Billings community.

This innovative one-stop hub centralizes critical services, bringing together law enforcement, prosecutors, legal aid, and other providers under one roof. Northern Lights empowers individuals to self-identify their needs and customize their path to safety, autonomy, and wellness. This holistic, trauma-informed approach honors each person's unique circumstances, reducing the risk associated with leaving unsafe situations. As a beacon of light in the Billings community, Northern Lights represents a new era in addressing interpersonal and generational violence. By prioritizing community, belonging, and hope, this pioneering center is a model for comprehensive, victim-centric support that can be replicated across Montana and beyond.

MBCC board member, Kaydee Snipes Ruiz, presented the 2024 Innovative Community Improvement Award to Taya Keith during the Tuesday Awards Luncheon. While Taya couldn't make it in-person, she graciously provided a remote presentation about the important work Northern Lights Family Justice Center does.

We are so proud of the work you do, Northern Lights! Congratulations!

For more information about the Northern Lights Family Justice Center, please visit the [MBCC Recognition Awards page](#).

[Learn More About Northern Lights](#)



Do the Write Thing National Celebration

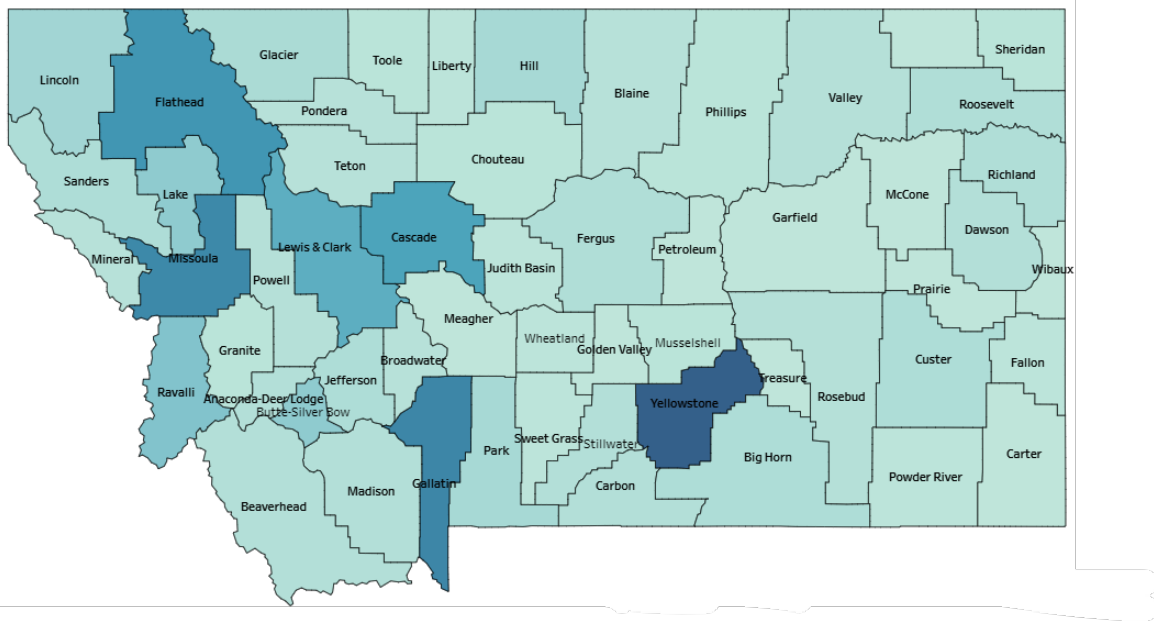
Montana's National Ambassadors traveled to Washington D.C. with their parents and teachers for the National 2024 Do the Write Thing (DtWT) celebration. Jasmine Tallon and Jayce Haskell from East Middle School in Butte were able to visit Senator Daines' and Senator Tester's offices as well as tour some of the sights in the Capital.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2024 Do the Write Thing Challenge! MBCC will announce details about the 2024 DtWT Challenge later this month.

For more information about National Student Ambassadors and State Finalists from this year and previous years, challenge rules, and more, please visit [MBCC's Do the Write Thing webpage](#).

[Find Out More](#)



Victim Services Map

Thanks to the efforts of Victim Services Liaison, Tawny Rogers, and Data Warehouse Architect, Brandy Murray, MBCC's Victim Services Map is now available!

Discover vital victim services and resources statewide to support and empower Montana communities in their journey towards safety and healing.

The map can be filtered by County and City and includes contact information and lists of services provided by each provider on the map.

[View the Victim Services Map](#)

Subgrantee Resources Page

If you receive funding from the Montana Board of Crime Control, we recommend routinely checking MBCC's [Subgrantee Resources page](#).

This page includes procedures, examples of required documentation, training resources, and more.

[Go to the Subgrantee Resources Page](#)

Thank you to our 2024 Montana Crime Prevention Conference sponsors!

