

Our Kids Matter!

Here are just a few ways the schools in Richland County are supporting our youth's behavioral health.



Learn more at:
characterstrong.com

A comprehensive and evidence-based multi-tiered solution for whole child success. The Character Strong program builds a students:

- ✓ Sense of Belonging
- ✓ Improved Well-being
- ✓ Increased Engagement

This program is made available to all Richland County schools through funding by the Montana Eastern Service Area Authority for Behavioral Health and the Richland County Health Department.



Learn more at:
hopesquad.com

Hope Squad is a peer-to-peer suicide prevention program. Using the foundation of QPR training (Question, Persuade, and Refer), students are trained to support others in seeking the right help when in need. The core values and tools of Hope Squad are relevant in all situations where someone needs mental and/or substance use help.

This program is made available to three schools in Richland County and Richey School District in Dawson County, through funding by the Montana Eastern Service Area Authority for Behavioral Health and the Richland County Health Department.



In the 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, **38.3% of Richland County students surveyed, reported they had poor mental health most of the time or always.**

Learn more at:
rbhi.org

The Rural Behavioral Health Institute (RBHI) is providing Youth Suicide Risk Screening Linked to Care within Richland County Schools. Major challenges in youth suicide prevention are identifying those at risk and getting them the mental health care they need. Students participate in a self-reported suicide risk screening process. Professional services and resources are made available to students who flag for suicide ideology with the permission of parents.

This program is made available to Montana schools through state and private supported funding.



The Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) assists communities in determining the prevalence of health-risk behaviors as self-reported by Montana youth. Initiated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 1988, the YRBS aims to identify the leading causes of mortality, morbidity, and social problems among youth.

Click here to view the:
[2023 Montana YRBS Results - Full Report](#)

Additional programs, services and special projects are made possible through partnerships with volunteers, community service organizations, county and private donations, and this caring community!

