

Dear School and Community Partner,

Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch (YBGR) is pleased to announce that, through the generous support of PacificSource, YBGR will be offering a free “Train the Trainer” program in the Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) model to up to 30 schools or community partners. The “Train the Trainer” course will allow community providers and schools to train within your school or agency, as well as to do outreach to train other entities. The VIP Response class will be a five-day “Train the Trainer Course” for approximately 30 participants, occurring on the main campus of YBGR. Again, this training is available to schools and community partners **at no charge**. Additionally, housing for the conference may be available on a limited basis, for those coming from a distance, based upon need.

Violence Intervention and Prevention Response training was developed by the Phoenix Training Group, (Phoenix) owned by the originators and operators of the original MAB (Management of Assaultive Behavior) company that began in 1976. VIP Response creates a hands-off and restraint-free environment as much as possible by assisting the participating employees in developing skills in the stages prior to any physical intervention or assault and will in most cases, prevent the need for any physical intervention at all. An advantage of VIP Response is the customization of the training and constant evolution of the curriculum, depending on the skill level and philosophy of individuals being trained. Phoenix adheres to all federal workplace violence prevention requirements and all individual US state violence prevention laws in place. YBGR has been using the VIP model since March of 2015 and has found a decrease in restraints and more verbal de-escalation.

The purpose of the project is to train YBGR and community providers in a single model of therapeutic intervention in crisis situations, with the following outcomes:

- Participating partners will be better equipped to respond to physical assault and threats by youth in a trauma-informed manner that promotes the health and safety of both youth and intervening adults.
- Improve consistency across settings (YBGR, schools and community partners) to improve care coordination and outcomes.
- Reduces risk of injury and harm to both youth and staff.

Following this training, YBGR will create a “Learning Collaborative Network” to support trainers and their organizations in implementation and monitoring of the training. This network would have monthly meetings, hosted on the YBGR campus and simultaneously offered through video conferencing. The facilitator and video conferencing technology will be provided by YBGR. Topics addressed through the monthly Learning Collaborative Network meetings will include policy guidance, as well as specific case consultation regarding challenging youth.

The training is tentatively scheduled for May 18th to May 22nd of 2020. We will be providing more specific information to interested partners as it is available.

YBGR is grateful to PacificSource for funding this outstanding opportunity, and we are excited about the improved outcomes for youth that will result. If you are interested in participating or have additional questions, please contact: Jayme Roll at jroll@ybgr.org, with VIP Project in the subject line.

Sincerely,

Mike Chavers