# KINSHP Support services



#### **OLDER RELATIVE CAREGIVER PROGRAM**

Our Older Relative Caregiver Program is designed to assist older caregivers (55+) who are raising relatives either under the age of 18 or under the age of 59 and living with a disability. The program's mission is to instill a sense of hope, accomplished by linking families to community resources; offering assistance in required document completion; hosting monthly support group meetings with provided caregiver respite; and by offering a variety of supplemental services.

### TOP NEWS

- December 14th is the next Kinship Support Group Page 2
- 2. Fun Events in town Page 4
- 3. How to get through the holidays Page 9
- 4. Holiday Fun Pages 10-12

You're invited to our CHRISTMAS Manual

OIN US,

THE SUPPORT GROUP THIS MONTH IS OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY. FIRST UNITED METHODIST IS BEING VERY KIND AND IS PROVIDING US WITH OUR DINNER! YOU OF COURSE WELCOME TO BRING A SIDE TO SUPPORT GROUP. WHEN YOU RSVP, WE WILL LET YOU KNOW IF A DISH IS BEING MADE OR NOT AND GET YOU ON THE LIST! THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT SO PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN AMAZING EVENING!

Thursday14December06:00 PM2023

## 108 E 18th St





# A Christmas Story

94 YEARS

## Adapted by Philip Grecian

Based on the motion picture A Christmas Story, © 1983 Turner Entertainment Co., distributed by Warner Bros.,

## written by Jean Shepherd, Leigh Brown and Bob Clark;

and on the book In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash by Jean Shepherd.

### Directed by Blake Dorris

Historic Atlas Theater

Dec 1 - 3, Dec 7 - 10, Dec 15 - 17 *Dinner Theater:* December 2, 8, 9, 15, 16 \$12 Thursday December 7



## Old West Holiday

11/25/2023, 12/2/2023, 12/9/2023, 12/16/2023

Dates:

121 West 15th Street. Suite 202 Cheyenne, WY 82001

Price: FREE Time:

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Downtown becomes a magical wonderland. Visit Santa, meet Santa's horses, write a letter to the North Pole, and more!

#### Railspur Master Class- Beginner Chocolatier's Class Dates: December 6, 2023

Learn some chocolate trivia while making truffles and trying some trending wines to go with.

Breakfast for Dinner With Santa

December 16, 2023

216 E. 17th Cheyenne, WY 82001

5:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Enjoy an old-west BreakFEAST for dinner buffet with the jolliest man around!

#### Canyon Concert Ballet presents: The Nutcracker 510 W. 20th St Presented By: Cheyenne, WY 82001 Cheyenne Civic Center (307) 637-6363 Dates: Price: December 16, 2023 \$35-\$55

Audiences will be swept up in the magic of the season as Canyon Concert Ballet brings to Cheyenne this annual classic holiday favorite.

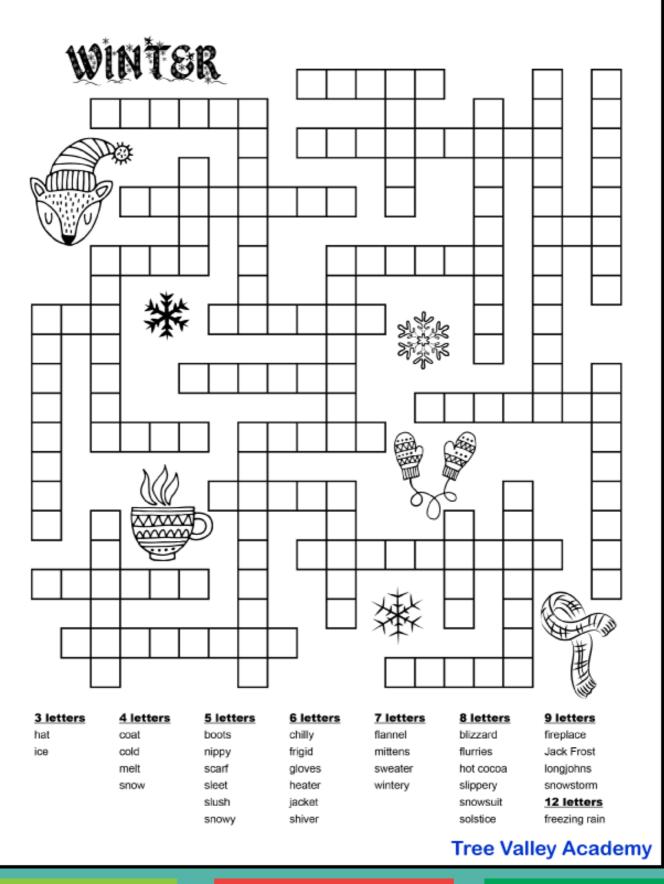


Go to www.cheyenne.org to find more events happening around town

# WINTER WORD SEARCH

Z S Μ U S B E N D J K 0 P т H B Т H Ε J S E Ι U K E X P G Т A D L C U C A Y K C T C 0 C Ι S G S V 0 E H 0 0 A 0 H 0 A A C K Т F Η R Κ D V E Y R В C A W 0 S C V R L U G R G L Z E U C 0  $\mathbf{P}$ Y Y Y L S т Z Ι C R G Μ R E A D M M E S C P Ι Μ M U S A J P G V Μ Y H X М F Х S U E P т P U F V N W N U J C W F U L A E H X K G P R Ι E H I т A J E V Μ T X M V W E 0 G F D Ι H L H D Z Ι Ν J R A Ρ R L H L W в D Ε 0 A C B K A E N т A Z W Ι G S L U U Ρ N S L E J S Z F Η E Z H Z т 0 0 V U 0 U U V Ι W R L Ι N J D R Q Т R J D т L Y H Μ Ε S Z L 0 V F F H E P R R E 0 S R A X N G 0 0 Ρ J в V N B Η L в P R D т E C C Y Y E Ζ S E P 0 V Ε E R F L N A z т N B W L 0 S L 0 т R N 0 R G G Y K Ν S A B 0 Ε S H L X 0 K J Ι M N Ι Μ Y Ι 0 V W Μ X Α G Y Ι W K т Y Y L V U J J E W F W 0 E W S L Η т P W Ε U C W G B P V U S 0 0 C U

Chilly Icicle Fruitcake Evergreen Wonderland Igloo White Freeze Skiing Below Hot Cocoa Music Slush Winter Sweater



woman's day



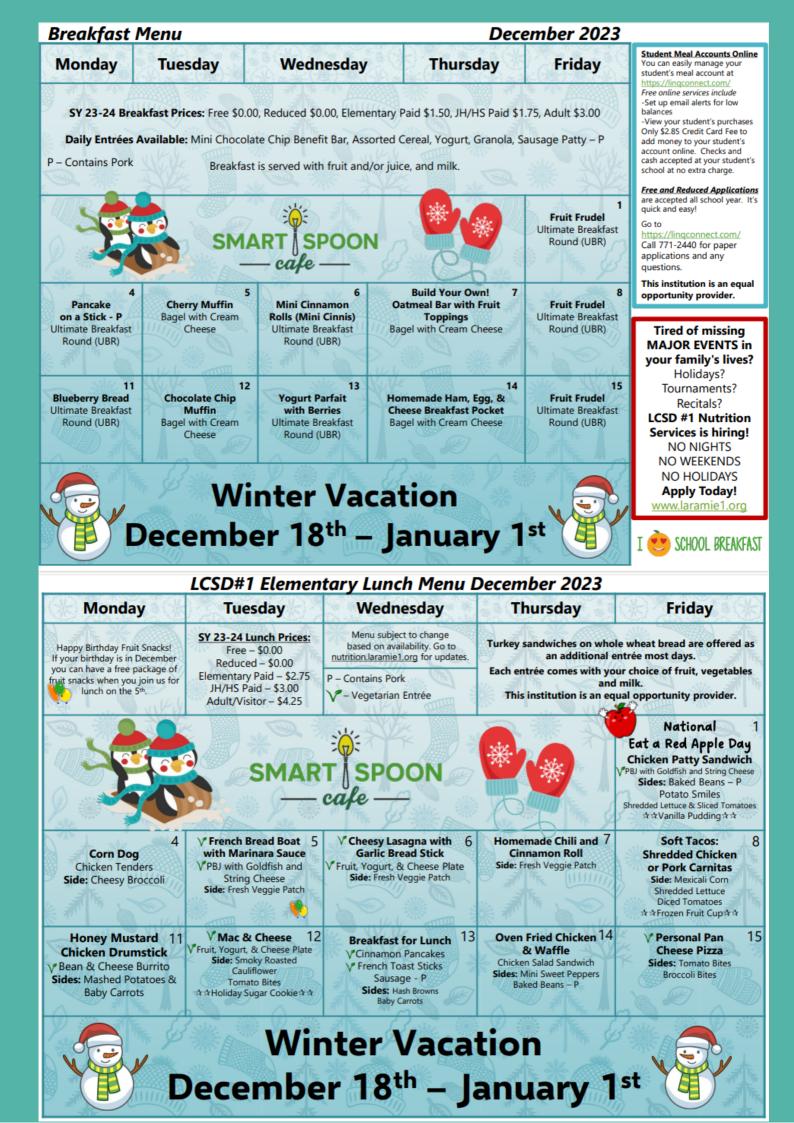
woman's day



#### How does Santa take photos?

With a Pole-aroid camera, of course.

woman's day



Breakfast	тепи					December 2023
Monday		Tuesday	Wedn	esday T	Thursday	Friday
French Toast	Sticks B	cks Biscuits & Gravy-P		Burrito-P	Waffles -or- kfast Pizza - P	Breakfast Burrito-P
	Secon	dary Breakfast Pric	:es: - Free: \$0.00	, Reduced: \$0.00, P	aid: \$1.75, Adult: \$	3.00
Stick - P, Sm	oothies, Ultir	mate Breakfast Rou	und, Breakfast Ba ls. Each meal al		th Granola, Bagel	andwiches, Pancake on a & Cream Cheese, and a ice, and milk.
Tired of MAJOR EV your famil	VENTS in ly's lives?		<mark>ary Lunch</mark> ces 0	I 🕐	SCHOO	L BREAKFAST
Recitals?		Reduced		Student Meal Accounts Online You can easily manage your student's meal account at https://linqconnect.com/ Free online services include -Set up email alerts for low balances		
		Paid: \$3.0 Adults/Vis	itors: \$4.25			
		equal op	This institution is an equal opportunity provider.		-View your student's purchases Only \$2.85 Credit Card Fee to add money to your student's account online. Checks and cash accepted at your student's school at no extra charge.	
www.laran	nie i.org			all school year Go to <u>https://</u>	It's quick and e	n/Call 771-2440 for
CSD#1 condary l ecember 2		Join us f on your l and get a la cart	birthday 🙀			SP & Mar
MONDAY	TUESD	DAY WE	DNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	In addition to the m entrée line, each
****	SM			ster stire -	National Eat a Red Apple D Burger Baske	3 Secondary School h several other entré
*****		ARI SI — cafe		**************************************	Build Your Own Side: Baked Beans Customize your Lunch! AtVanilla Pudding At	the students at the school.
4 Corn Dogs Side: Cheesy Broccoli	Cook's C See Your C Today's Se	afe for Build Side: Fro	an Pasta Bar <sup>6</sup> A Your Own! esh Veggie Patch tomize your	7 Homemade Chili & Cinnamon Roll	Side: Baked Beans Customize you Lunch! ☆☆Vanilla	<ul> <li>the students at the school.</li> <li>(Not all choices are avail every day. See your cafe for the daily menu</li> <li>Hot Sandwiches: Chicken Patty, Spicy Chicken Patty, All-Beef Cheeseburge</li> </ul>
Corn Dogs Side: Cheesy	See Your C	hoice <u>lafe</u> Cafe for Build Election Side: Fro Veggie Cust	Your Own!	Homemade Chili &	Side: Baked Beans Customize your Lunch! **Vanilla Pudding** Taco Bar Build Your Own Side: Mexicali Com	<ul> <li>the students at the school.</li> <li>(Not all choices are avail every day. See your cafe for the daily menu</li> <li>Hot Sandwiches: Chicken Patty,</li> <li>Spicy Chicken Patty,</li> <li>All-Beef Cheeseburge</li> <li>Lighter Options: Cheddar Baked Potat Assorted Salads</li> </ul>
Corn Dogs Side: Cheesy	See Your C Today's Se Side: Fresh Patch VMac & Cl Sides: Smoky Cauliflor Tomato I	Inoice     Italia       Cafe for     Build       Side: Fro     Side: Fro       Veggie     Cust       h     Side: Fro       Veggie     Cust       h     Breakf       y Roasted     Pa       wer     Fro       Bites     With	4 Your Own! esh Veggie Patch tomize your Lunch! 13 ast for Lunch ancakes or ench Toast Sausage - P	Homemade Chili & Cinnamon Roll Side: Fresh Veggie	Side: Baked Beans Customize your Lunch! At Vanilla Pudding At Taco Bar Build Your Own Side: Mexicali Com Shredded Lettuce Diced Tomatoes Customize your Lunch!	<ul> <li>the students at the school.</li> <li>(Not all choices are avail every day. See your cafe for the daily menu cafe for the daily menu</li> <li>Hot Sandwiches: Chicken Patty,</li> <li>Spicy Chicken Patty,</li> <li>All-Beef Cheeseburge</li> <li>Lighter Options: Cheddar Baked Potatt Assorted Salads Salad Shakers Deli Sandwiches</li> <li>Wraps</li> <li>Pizza Slice: Cheese V</li> </ul>
Corn Dogs Side: Cheesy Broccoli 11 oney Mustard Chicken Drumsticks	See Your C Today's Se Side: Fresh Patch V Mac & Cl Sides: Smoky Cauliflor	Image: Noise State of the	4 Your Own! esh Veggie Patch tomize your Lunch! 13 ast for Lunch ancakes or ench Toast	Homemade Chili & Cinnamon Roll Side: Fresh Veggie Patch 14 Oven Fried Chicken and Waffles Sides: Mini Sweet Peppers & Baked Beans - P	Side: Baked Beans Customize your Lunch! At Vanilla Pudding At Taco Bar Build Your Own Side: Mexicali Com Shredded Lettuce Diced Tomatoes Customize your Lunch! At Frozen Fruit Cup Cook's Choice See Your Cafe for Today's Selection	<ul> <li>the students at the school.</li> <li>(Not all choices are avail every day. See your cafe for the daily menu cafe for the daily menu</li> <li>Hot Sandwiches: Chicken Patty,</li> <li>Spicy Chicken Patty,</li> <li>All-Beef Cheeseburge</li> <li>Lighter Options: Cheddar Baked Potatt Assorted Salads Salad Shakers Deli Sandwiches</li> <li>Wraps</li> <li>Pizza Slice: Cheese V</li> </ul>



The holidays are a busy time. They can demand extra attention for cooking, cleaning, party planning, hosting, and talking with family members we might not always agree with. It's no wonder that stress during the holidays is common. By learning to reduce this stress, you might find that you enjoy the holidays more. These tips can help.

Share holiday tasks.

Let everyone help with shopping, cooking, cleaning, and event planning. If you really dislike doing dishes, help with cooking instead. Sharing tasks lets everyone be part of making the holidays special.

#### > Reflect together.

Before you say goodbye, gather everyone to reflect. Go around the room. Let everyone share their favourite part of the holiday and what wasn't so great. Brainstorm ways to make the "not so great" things more enjoyable next time.

Have realistic expectations.

No holiday gathering is perfect. Don't let something like forgetting to defrost the turkey ruin the day. Be flexible, and let it become another holiday memory. View these experiences as chances to practice being resilient.

> Keep up your healthy habits.

Staying healthy is your best defence against holiday stress. You can stay hydrated by bringing a water bottle with you to refill. Try eating a healthy snack before a party. If you don't show up hungry, you'll be less likely to fill up on sweets.

Practice gratitude.

Having gratitude means saying thank-you for what's good in your life. There are many ways you can practice gratitude.

- Before meals, give thanks to those who grew it and cooked it. Give thanks even if that person was you.
- Remember the ways—good and bad—that others show you that they care. Choose to be positive.
- Keep it up. It may take awhile to catch on. But when it does, you might find that an attitude of gratitude spreads quickly.
- Take time to unwind.

You might try taking deep breaths or going for a walk. Maybe you need time to yourself after being with family. Even a little break can make a big difference to reduce stress.

Make time for joy.

This could be baking, playing games, or volunteering in your community. Maybe take a plate of cookies to a neighbour. Do what feels right for you.

> Get professional help if you need it.

The holidays can be a big event. And stress leading up to them is common. Talking to a friend or family member may help. But you may also want to see a counsellor before the holidays start. A counsellor can help you change the way you handle stress. "The way you spend Christmas is far more important than how much"- Henry. David

Thoreau

## TIPS FOR EATING WELL AND FEELING BETTER DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Simple tips to help you stay on track



#### **STAY HYDRATED**

Our bodies stay hydrated not only by what we drink, but also what we eat. Choosing a variety of food and drinks throughout the day will help you reach your hydration goals.



#### **MEAL PREP**

Prepping a protein and veggie-packed weekly menu makes it easier to get back on track after a day (or weekend) of decadent holiday treats.



#### **KEEP SNACKS HANDY**

Having healthy snacks on hand helps avoid the temptation to "browse" the pantry, fridge, or breakroom.



#### **HEALTHIER HOLIDAY FAVORITES**

Lightening your favorite holiday dishes (without compromising on flavor) is one of the easiest way to satisfy your cravings without overindulging.

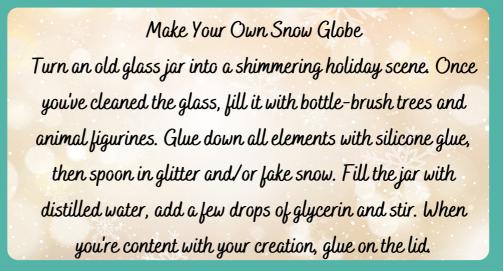


#### **ENJOY THE SEASON**

Be mindful, but allow yourself some indulgences so you don't feel deprived.

#### www.LiteCravings.com

## <u>DYI</u> DECORATIONS



Use Popsicle Sticks to Make a Wreath Start with a rounded foam wreath (we suggest a 12" one). Paint about 50 small and 20 to 30 large popsicle sticks in three different shades of green before you start layering and hot gluing this adorable creation together. Finish it off with a beautiful red bow.



DIY a Christmas Card Tree You probably receive a countless number of Christmas cards (which isn't a bad thing), so pick the very best to display on your wall. Arrange them in a Christmas tree shape for a festive look.

#### Easy Berry Icebox Cake



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 5 from 11 reviews

Author: Sally Prep Time: 15 minutes Cook Time: 0 minutes Total Time: 3 hours, 15 minutes Yield: serves 12

This is easy berry icebox cake, a no-bake dessert recipe that's perfect for summer and feeds a crowd. Assembly takes about 15 minutes, and most of the work is hands-off as the cake sets in the refrigerator. This cake is always so much fun to serve because no one ever believes it's made from mostly whipped cream and graham crackers!

#### Ingredients

- 3 cups (720ml) cold heavy cream or heavy whipping cream
- 1/3 cup (40g) confectioners' sugar
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract or vanilla bean paste
- 1/2 teaspoon pure almond extract
- 20–21 full-sheet graham crackers
- 2 cups (380g) sliced fresh strawberries
- 1 cup (140g) fresh blueberries
- optional for garnish: additional berries and star sprinkles

Cook Mode Prevent your screen from going dark

#### Instructions

- Preliminary notes: There are 3 layers of graham crackers, 3 layers of whipped cream, and 2 layers of berries (plus any you use for topping). Each layer of graham crackers is about 7 graham crackers (you can break some up to fit). This recipe yields 6 cups of whipped cream and you will use 2 cups per layer.
- Using a hand mixer or a stand mixer fitted with a whisk attachment, beat the heavy cream, confectioners' sugar, vanilla, and almond extract together on medium-high speed until medium peaks form, about 4 minutes.
- Spread a couple Tablespoons into a very, very thin layer on the bottom of an ungreased 9×13inch pan. This will help the bottom layer of graham crackers stick. Layer graham crackers on top, breaking them apart as needed to make 1 even layer.
- Spread about 2 cups of whipped cream on top of the graham crackers. Then layer the sliced strawberries on top. Follow with another layer of graham crackers, 2 more cups of whipped cream, then the blueberries. Top with a final layer of graham crackers, followed by a final layer of whipped cream.
- Cover with aluminum foil or plastic wrap and place in the refrigerator for at least 3 hours, and up to 48 hours.
- Garnish with additional berries and/or star sprinkles. Cut into slices and serve cold. A small narrow serving spatula is especially helpful for getting the slices out of the pan.

#### Notes

- Make Ahead Instructions: You can make this icebox cake the day before you need it because it can set overnight in the refrigerator. The graham crackers and fruit become a little too mushy by day 3 or 4, so keep that in mind with any leftovers.
- Special Tools (affiliate links): Electric Mixer (Handheld or Stand) | 9×13-inch Pan | Offset Spatula | Star Sprinkles | Small Narrow Spatula
- Vanilla: I love using vanilla bean paste in the whipped cream because it combines both extract AND vanilla bean seeds. You can, of course, use pure vanilla extract instead. If you want that extra vanilla bean flavor, feel free to add the seeds scraped from 1/2 of a vanilla bean. (This is in addition to the liquid vanilla extract.)
- Graham Crackers: Don't have graham crackers where you live? You can substitute digestive biscuits or Biscoff cookies, if you have either of those options. Use however many will fit for each layer.
- Can I Use Frozen Berries? No. They will release too much liquid as the cake sets up. Even after thawing, they are a little too wet. Fresh berries are ideal.





#### Classic Cheeseball

This Classic Cheese Ball recipe makes the perfect party appetizer. A cheese ball made with cheddar cheese, cream cheese, green onion and spices, and coated in chopped pecans.

> Prep Time 15minutes mins Total Time 15minutes mins

Course: Appetizer Cuisine: American Servings: 24 Calories: 101kcal Author: Lauren Allen Ingredients:

16 ounces cream cheese , softened 2 cups freshly grated sharp cheddar cheese (avoid pre-shredded cheese)



2 green onion , chopped 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce 1 teaspoon hot pepper sauce 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano leaves dash freshly ground black pepper 2/3 cup pecans , finely chopped Instructions

1)Place cream cheese in a mixing bowl and mix until smooth. Add cheese, green onion, Worcestershire sauce, hot sauce, parley, garlic powder, oregano and pepper and mix well to combine.

2)Use a rubber spatula to scrape the sides of the bowl and gather the mixture into one lump. Lightly grease your hands and form the mixture into a round ball.
3)Place the pecans on a plate. Hold the cheese ball in one hand and use the other hand to scoop the pecans onto the outside of the ball, pressing them in gently and turning the ball to coat all sides.
4)Cover the cheeseball in cling wrap and refrigerate for about 1 hour to allow it to firm up. Take it out of the refrigerator about 20 minutes before serving to allow it to soften just slightly. Serve with crackers, pretzels, vegetables or anything else you'd love to dip in cheese

## COMMUNITY ACTION OF LARAMIE COUNTY

## HELPING LARAMIE COUNTY. HELPING EACH OTHER

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a new program with CALC run by our FCC/ACP Outreach Coordinator Susan. This program is to help eligible low-income households pay for internet service and connected devices.

You can visit our Crossroads Clinic at 100 Central Ave, suite 173 or call (307) 632-8064 to ext 2009 speak with Susan with any questions.



## 🕋 ARE YOU A WYOMING HOMEOWNER STRUGGLING TO PAY BILLS?

Under the Wyoming Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) Program, eligible homeowners can receive up to \$17,000 as a one-time award to cover delinquent mortgages, up to 3 consecutive months of forward mortgage payments and/or PAST DUE utilities, property taxes, homeowners insurance or homeowner association dues.

## FUNDS ARE LIMITED. APPLY ONLINE TODAY.

### Wyoming Homeowner Assistance Fund Program VISIT DFS.WYO.GOV/HAF OR CALL 1-888-WYO-HAFP



Are you a Wyoming homeowner who has fallen behind on mortgage payments, utility bills or other housingrelated costs? The Wyoming Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) Program focuses on helping Wyoming homeowners, who have been financially impacted by COVID-19 and meet eligibility criteria, stay in their homes. <u>Wyoming Homeowner Assistance Fund Program</u> <u>(HAF) - Wyoming Department of Family Services</u> https://dfs.wyo.gov/assistance-programs/home-utilitiesenergy-assistance/homeowner-assistance/

#### WYOMING HAF PROGRAM DASHBOARD (UPDATED 08/17/2023) PAYMENT BREAKDOWN \$8.6N HOW MANY WYOMING HOUSEHOLDS HAS THE HAF PROGRAM HELPED? Deliquent Mortgages **XX** 1,384 🛩 \$7,520 \$1N Forward Mortgages Total Households Helped Total Assistance Paid Average Assistance Paid Ŧ \$384K **STATUS OF HAF APPLICATIONS** \$90K Property Taxes **(()**) 76 145 73 1.384 Submitted Applications Currently in On hold pending Approved & Paid \$5K 企 **Currently Being Reviewed** ousing educatio Applications Homeowners Insurance HOUSING cases have HOA successfully completed Homeowner Association Dues EDUCATION housing education Wyoming Homeowner Assistance Fund Progam APPLY AT DFS.WYO.GOV/HAF

#### Adult and Children's Eyeglasses

#### **Older Relative Caregiver Program**

Community Action of Laramie County is now accepting applications for the adult and our children's eyeglass programs. If you are in need of assistance, please complete an application to be placed on our waiting list. You can get an application from our front desk Monday through Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm.

If your child needs eyeglasses, please contact your child's school nurse who will refer them to Community Action of Laramie County to begin the process.

If you are, or know of, an older relative who is caring for a younger relative, Community Action of Laramie County has openings for our Older Relative Caregiver Program.

This program connects caregivers to resources in the community, offers a monthly support group and dedicated case management to ensure the success of the family. Our mission is to instill a sense of hope and support to a changing family unit.

"I Heard a bird sing in the dark of December a magical thing and sweet to remember. 'We are nearer to spring than we are in September,' I heard a bird sing in the dark of December" - Oliver Herford



Approved Project Hope participants enter into a 1 year contract to receive Intensive case management services to enhance life skills, achieve and maintain their housing, build social skills and community relationships and to address their individual needs CONQUERING SETBACKS, CELEBRATING SUCCESS with the goal of becoming self-sufficient.



Working in close partnership with the Cheyenne VA Medical Center, our Veteran Housing Services provides short-term housing for homeless veterans as they work with case managers to secure permanent housing.

Crossroads Healthcare Clinic provides primary medical care, mental health services and substance abuse services to individuals and families who are - currently homeless and a small percentage of low-income persons who are currently housed.



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