**Organization Name:**

Butte Cares, Inc (Southwest Montana Prevention)

**Organization Contact Name:**

Stephanie Michaelson, Prevention Specialist

                                 or

Tami Martin, Program Administrator

**Contact Email/Phone Number:**

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**Program Services Description:**

We work in partnerships to provide underage drinking and drug misuse/abuse services through alternative activities, evidence-based prevention programs, Responsible Alcohol Seller Server trainings for free, dissemination of information, and problem identification and referral.

Our work is completed in collaboration with community partners, parents, youth, schools, key leaders in the community, businesses, and local government.

**Proposed Program Service and Costs:**

Alternative activities are a great way to provide a substance-free event for youth and their families. The events will be paid for with these funds and other funds that are raised or by contributions of supplies, event location, etc., by community partners. All of the alternative activities will also include some information regarding the prevention of substance abuse and misuse.

Alternative Activities will include, but are not limited to:

* New Year’s Eve Family Night Buckets $ 1,000.00
* Christmas Stroll Ornaments $ 300.00
* Prevention Education-Prime for Life (Grades 6-12th) $ 700.00
* Prevention Education- Media Detective Program (Grades 3-5th) $ 1,500.00
* Prevention Education-Media Ready Program (Grades 6-8th) $ 500.00
* Prevention Education-PAX Tools Kits $ 500.00
* Hidden in Plain Sight (for adults only) $ 200.00
* Prevention Plus Wellness events (Teacher events) $1,000.00
* Alcohol-free game/activity zone at Fall Fest               $ 500.00

Estimated Total $6,200.00

**About the Programs and Activities:**

**New Year’s Eve Buckets,** represent families staying in and off the road on New Year’s Eve, with fewer adults and children out drinking and driving. The buckets can contain items for a family game or movie night. I would partner with Tracie for Buckle up Montana and the Local DUI Task Force. Below are a few choices for buckets. It’s not 100% decided which one will be used this year. With these funds, we can make approximately 40 buckets for a family of 4 with the DUI Task Force and Buckle up Montana chipping in.

1. **Movie Night Bucket** – Movie pack (3+ movies), Popcorn, candy, drinks (water flavoring), ParentingMontana.org rack card
2. **Game Night Bucket** – Card/Board games (i.e. Uno, Skip- Bo, Yahtzee), healthy snacks (i.e. nuts, granola bars), drinks, ParentingMontana.org rack card

Christmas Ornaments at the Christmas Stroll was fun last year. I plan to keep that going yearly for a fun activity for kids. I had some older girls (high schoolers) come by, and I loved it! It’s a warm indoor alternative activity and a keepsake to remember their height through the years.

I am attending a Prime for Life training in April. This training will allow me to teach kids after being caught drinking/smoking/vaping/chewing in the school (a mandatory ISS course). This program will offer education to help students make healthier choices and decrease the use of substances. The school has a policy for this but does not have a program to enforce it with. I am hoping to implement the program in the fall. The Alcohol Tax funds can be used to purchase the student books for the program. Each student book is currently $25. The course could become a mandatory DUI/MIP course in the county. Years ago, there was a MIP class that was mandatory.

 Media Detective is a media literacy education program designed to prevent or delay the onset of substance use by enhancing critical thinking skills to deconstruct media messages for students in elementary school.

 Media Ready is an evidence-based (EB) program for middle school classrooms. It’s designed to give youth the ability to analyze media messages, recognize unhealthy behaviors, and prevent substance abuse through the power of media literacy education. To make this Sustainable, more than the Prevention Specialist must be trained. To send each instructor to training costs $250. Sustainability goes for all EB programs and activities.

 The Townsend Elementary School teachers already use PAX Good Behavior Games (PAX GBG). I have the training to provide parents, those in a parenting role, other school staff members, and community members with PAX Tools training for community members**.**PAX is an evidence-based program that provides a foundation of universal prevention for all stakeholders who interact with children, including those in the care system. This ensures youth-serving adults have trauma-informed, evidence-based strategies to use as part of a community- and strengths-based approach to supporting young people. These programs have proven to provide optimal outcomes for children while meeting the unique needs of families and communities anywhere.

 Hidden in Plain Sight is a hands-on mock bedroom display for parents, those in a parenting role, among other caregivers that children come in contact with. This display is reusable, but kids use so many different items to hide alcohol/tobacco and other drugs that it’s impossible to get all of them at once. It provides information on what to watch for and how to communicate with their child effectively, with the help of Parentingmontana.org.

 Teacher events (paint parties or other art events) are an excellent way to get them together outside of work to celebrate them—one way to reach the adult community to prevent adult binge drinking.

**Project Benefits for Broadwater County:**

 These programs and activities are designed to increase protective factors and decrease risk factors. They are meant to work cohesively together to provide prevention activities from all angles, ensuring the health and safety of our youth. The goal as a Broadwater County Prevention Specialist is to provide as many opportunities as possible for developing healthy habits within our youth and taking advantage of all the great activities available to us here in our beautiful county and community.

**Further Information:**

 The Alcohol Tax funds can only be used for programs and activities for alcohol prevention. The funds provided by my grant are limited in quantity and have restrictions for use. The guidelines are underage drinking, drugs (i.e.: marijuana), and adult binge drinking. Since each set of funds can be used in different ways, all of the funds will be used together to ensure more activities and programs are made available to our children and adult community members. Many other Alternative activities can be planned throughout the year to help the community develop healthier habits.