



Member Directory 2023

This is an opt-in member directory, so not all members are listed. Members are listed alphabetically by last name. Need more information or want to be included? Contact ecflatheadvalley@gmail.com

Name: Jami Campbell

Organization: Montana Legal Services Association

Title/Role: Community Outreach Coordinator

Phone: 406-442-9830 ext 157

Email: jcampbel@mtlsa.org

Web: mtlsa.org and MontanaLawHelp.org

Social: @MTLegalServices (FB and Insta)@MTLegalServices (FB and Insta)

Service Area: Statewide including Native American Reservations

Clients/Customers/Patients: MLSA offers free assistance on a variety of civil legal issues including housing stability, employment law, family law, debt and money problems, public benefits, DV, crime victim rights, and more.

Service Description: Improving housing stability, family safety, economic stability, public benefits. We educate our clients on their rights and responsibilities and help them navigate the legal system so they are not attempting to solve their civil legal issues on their own. Many times people are unaware that they have certain rights under the law or that their problem is rooted in a legal issue that an attorney can assist with. A lot of what we do it educate people on their rights.

How I came to this work I thought I might want to be an attorney, so I should get some experience working for a law firm.

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact:



Name: Lyn Ireland

Organization: Child Development Center

Title/Role: Office Director and BCaBA

Phone: (406)755-2425 ext. 227

Email: lireland@childdevcenter.org

Web: <https://childdevcenter.org>

Social: <https://www.facebook.com/CDCMontana><https://www.facebook.com/CDCMontana>

Service Area: We serve children in their home and community all over western Montana.

Clients/Customers/Patients: The Child Development Center is a western-Montana nonprofit who supports children who have developmental delays and disabilities. Our team primarily works in families' homes and communities, and we serve kids from birth to high school graduation.

The Child Development Center offers four programs: Montana Milestones Early Intervention, Autism and Behavioral Services, Family Education & Support and the Life Skills Program. We understand that no two children, and no two families, are alike. For this reason, services are individualized to strengthen each family's independence and maximize each child's abilities.

Service Description: As an office director, I assist with community outreach, training and supervising staff, and assisting with all office workflow decisions.

My responsibilities as a Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA) are to provide behavior analytic services to children with Autism, in order to increase skills while decreasing challenging behaviors.

How I came to this work

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact: I enjoy everything Montana outdoors has to offer. From fly fishing in the summer to skiing in the winter!

Name: debra isakson

Organization: north west mt head start

Title/Role: Family Advacate

Phone: 406-752-7011

Email: disakson@nwmtheadstart.org

Web:

Social:

Service Area: Kalispell, Tobacco Valley

Clients/Customers/Patients: I serve the parents and the children at Head Start

Service Description: I find resources for the families and children in the program

How I came to this work Was a Teacher in the Program for over 30 years In classroom was getting hard for me when this job came open it serves both areas the children and the parents Best of both worlds

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact:

Name: Kalli Jacquay

Organization: Logan Health

Title/Role: Maternal Care Coordinator

Phone: 406-758-1386

Email: kjacquay@logan.org

Web: <https://www.logan.org/>

Social:

Service Area: Flathead, Lincoln, Lake, Sanders and Glacier counties (primarily) but will work with any patient seeing the providers in the Maternal Fetal Medicine or Midwives clinics

Clients/Customers/Patients: As a Maternal Care Coordinator, I work with patients of our Logan Health Maternal Fetal Medicine and Midwives clinics to evaluate and connect them with necessary resources to meet their social determinants of health (SDOH) needs (in areas such as housing, food stability, medical coverage, child care, mental health and substance use and parenting). Once SDOH needs have been identified, I refer patients to community resources to assist them in meeting those needs. I continue to follow that patient, as needed, through prenatal care and into the postpartum period to ensure all needs are met.

Service Description: As mentioned above, I work with patients to ensure all resource needs are met. I follow that patient through prenatal care and into the postpartum period as long as needed to ensure all needs are met. The purpose of my work is to increase the likelihood of healthy pregnancies and babies. I like that I get to work with patients on non-medical needs since those needs have been shown to impact medical care and pregnancy and child outcomes. It is rewarding to help a family get the support they need to welcome new babies into their lives and feel they have the support of their community to raise their family.

How I came to this work I have spent my career in various human services organizations and spent most of the time working with families who have children with developmental disabilities and delays. I have also spent time as a caseworker with Child Protective Services in Washington and worked for a few years with a Child Care Resource and Referral Agency in Kalispell before coming to work for Logan Health. I cannot say that I initially intended to end up in this position but this is the way life took me and I am thankful that I get the opportunity to make an impact on the lives of women, children and families in our community.

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact: I come from a town of less than 500 people with my graduating class being 13 so Kalispell feels like a "big city" for me.

Name: Marcy Otten

Organization: Northwest Montana Head Start

Title/Role: Executive Director

Phone: 1-406-752-7011

Email: dir@nwmtheadstart.org

Web: <https://nwmtheadstart.org/>

Social: <https://www.facebook.com/nw.start/>

<https://www.instagram.com/nwmtheadstart/><https://www.facebook.com/nw.start/>

<https://www.instagram.com/nwmtheadstart/>

Service Area: Kalispell, Whitefish, Columbia Falls, Canyon, and Eureka

Clients/Customers/Patients: Head Start promotes the school readiness of preschool-aged children from low-income families.

Service Description: Head Start programs support children's growth in a positive learning environment through a variety of services, which include: Early learning and development; Health; and, Family well-being.

Head Start services are provided in centers in Kalispell, Columbia Falls, and Eureka. Parents participate in leadership roles, including having a say in program operations.

How I came to this work I started at Head Start as the Education Manager, when the previous director took a different job, I applied!

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact:



Name: Trishia Pollard, LCPC

Organization: Logan Health Newman Center Pediatrics

Title/Role: Outpatient Mental Health Therapist

Phone: 406-758-5155

Email: tpollard@logan.org

Web: logan.org

Social:

Service Area: 35 Claremont St. Ste C, Kalispell, MT 59901

Clients/Customers/Patients: We serve youth ages 5 (developmentally) to 18 years.

Service Description: Through a relational and developmental lens, I synthesize Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Expressive Arts, Psycho-education, and Mindfulness for the needs of the child, and family. I've always gravitated to children, families, and the people who serve them in my career. To be able to do so in this beautiful location, in a highly professional and friendly clinic, is nothing short of phenomenal.

How I came to this work Always strived for full time direct service.

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact: I am raising a puppy (pictured)! And another puppy (not pictured)!



Name: Cara Rathke

Organization: Healthy Beginnings Pediatric Therapy

Title/Role: Community Outreach Coordinator

Phone: 406-285-1160

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Web: www.mtbeginnings.com

Social: Facebook: Healthy Beginnings Pediatric Therapy, Instagram: mtbeginnings Facebook: Healthy Beginnings Pediatric Therapy, Instagram: mtbeginnings

Service Area: Flathead County, we have a clinic in Kalispell (55 Heritage Way) and a clinic in Columbia Falls (Cedar Palace Medical Center, 500 12th Ave. W)

Clients/Customers/Patients: Healthy Beginnings Pediatric Therapy provides holistic care for children ages 0-18 with developmental needs utilizing evidence-based and clinical expertise that empowers families with foundational practices that matter. We provide evaluations and consultations along with speech, occupational and physical therapy services that are family-focused. By assessing each child's individual needs we personalize a plan that is easy to follow and maximizes progress. We believe little, intentional steps lead to big futures for every child. We offer in-clinic services and online tele-therapy based on qualification. We also offer and host various community outreaches and events to benefit children and families, specifically in the areas of early intervention and disability services.

Service Description: In my job, I get to provide more readily-available, comprehensive resources for caregivers and community organizations in understanding the importance of early intervention and evaluation, as well as the benefits of speech, occupational, and physical therapy by developing new avenues and resources in sharing the wealth of knowledge available from our amazing team. I'm passionate about providing our community with opportunities to connect, find support and outlets for families, specifically those with children ages 0-8 and those with special needs. I love being able to work alongside so many amazing people and organizations in the Flathead to join hands in providing resources for families that make a difference.

How I came to this work My background and degree is in Child Development and Family Services, however I didn't work directly in this field until after having kids of my own. My son needed speech therapy services as a toddler, and I stayed connected with his speech therapist, Jenni Kingan, who now owns and operates Healthy Beginnings Pediatric Therapy. She is also passionate about making a difference in the community, and asked me to join the team to help them meet outreach goals. It has been an honor and privilege to be a part of expanding our community outreach, and I'm thrilled to see it continue to impact more families.

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact: I started a Hiking with Tots group in the Flathead Valley that connects moms who like to get outside and hike or do other outdoor activities with their littles. It's been fun to see it grow and create a sense of connection between moms in the valley!

Name: Evelie Reid

Organization: NWMT Head Start

Title/Role: Teacher/ Advocate

Phone: 406-752-7011

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Web:

Social:

Service Area: Kalispell

Clients/Customers/Patients: Families and children

Service Description: Classroom teacher and advocate.

How I came to this work

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact: Native to Montana

Name: Jennifer Sevier

Organization: The Nurturing Center

Title/Role: Outreach and Communications Specialist

Phone: 406-756-1414 ext *217

Email: jens@nurturingcenter.org

Web: nurturingcenter.org

Social: @thenurturingcenter (Facebook) @nurturingcenter (Instagram)@thenurturingcenter (Facebook)
@nurturingcenter (Instagram)

Service Area: Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, and Sanders Counties

Clients/Customers/Patients: We service Flathead, Lincoln, Lake and Sanders counties, helping families apply for scholarships for childcare, find childcare and direct them to other resources in their communities. We also provide training and TA for childcare providers and parenting classes for families.

Service Description: As the outreach specialist I connect with other agencies in the areas we serve to help promote them and make their resources known along with our own at the Nurturing Center. I get involved in community events and also plan our own events and programs

How I came to this work As I worked at the Nurturing Center I found myself branching out in other capacities than what was detailed in my job description. I love being involved with work that helps families and children and when this position became open, I was happy to jump on the opportunity

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact: Fun fact! I was adopted and have four full sisters that just found me through Ancestry!!!



Name: Dr. Eliza Sorte-Thomas

Organization: Flathead Valley Community College

Title/Role: Director of Early Childhood, Full Time Faculty, Social Sciences Division Chair

Phone: 406-756-4865

Email: ethomas@fvcc.edu

Web: www.fvcc.edu

Social:

Service Area: Based in Flathead County, but serviceable outside of the county through distance learning opportunities.

Clients/Customers/Patients: FVCC services all those seeking continuing education - for those interested in early childhood we offer coursework for apprenticeships, professional development, Associates of Applied Sciences in Early Childhood, and transfer work for those seeking Bachelors degrees in Early Childhood or Elementary Education.

Service Description: I love working with pre-service educators and those already practicing in the field, but seeking lifelong learning opportunities. Through that work, I thoroughly enjoy the chance to work with young children and their families.

How I came to this work This work found me when I changed my degree path from Pre-Law to Education and I've never looked back. I love all aspects of teaching and learning.

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact: A fun fact is that I lived and taught in Dhaka, Bangladesh where I did my first real work with early childhood when I had the chance to teach 3 year olds and 4 year olds.

Name: Karen Weaver

Organization: Flathead City-County Health Dept.

Title/Role: Lead Home Visitor/Social Worker

Phone: 406-890-3172

Email: kweaver@flathead.mt.gov

Web: <https://www.flatheadhealth.org/>

Social:

Service Area: Flathead County

Clients/Customers/Patients: Our Parents as Teachers home visiting program serves families with children prenatal-5 years old. This is a free, voluntary program to support and partner with families to ensure that children are thriving and ready for school. We bring activities to promote parent-child interactions, development information and assessments, and work to support family well-being. We work with young parents, struggling families, and families that just need extra support and information on parenting as well as grandparents and foster parents who are raising young children.

Service Description: Our Parents as Teachers program is free for anyone in the community who may need some extra support in parenting (Prenatal-5 years old). We serve the families in their homes by providing development information, parenting topics, new books, and we bring activities that promote parent-child interactions. We offer developmental assessments to evaluate children's milestones from prenatal-5 years old and make referrals for children and families as needed. We offer mental health assessments as well and assist families by connecting them to resources for various needs. The child is the enrolled participant but we work with the whole family. We offer "Group Connections" which are events for families to come together as a group and participate in fun and creative activities and get to know other families with young children.

I enjoy working with families in our community so much. Making a deep and lasting connection with children and their families is a privilege. Watching children meet milestones, making progress with a difficult situation, or just to see the beauty in a parent and child playing on the floor together or reading a book. Parenting is hard! I love being able to encourage and support parents and caregivers and to help families to work together and thrive. I so enjoy that this work allows for a real connection with families as many stay with our program for years.

How I came to this work My work in social work was all as a medical social worker working in hospitals, nursing homes and with hospice until I found my current position. I had no idea this type of program existed or how much county health departments provide for their communities! It was a welcome surprise and I enjoy my work very much.

Interesting Detail/Fun Fact: I am a singer and piano player and music is my passion. Flathead Lake is my happy place!!!