

Five generations



Leona Smith (center), 99, holds her great great grandchild Josie Jade Berggren recently in a five generations picture. Great grandmother is Connie Soellner (left), mother Shandi Stupka (top) and grandmother Teresa Stupka .

Students have mental health problems

Students Mental Health (August 2007) In 1999, the US Surgeon General reported that one in five children and adolescents will experience a significant mental health problem during their education years. When students experience mental health problems, conflicts with peers and adults increase, completion of schoolwork decreases and students who are struggling emotionally and behaviorally are more likely to drop out of school. Research shows that students with good mental health are more successful in school.

It is important that school administrators promote school climates that support positive mental health, including training for all staff on emotional and behavioral needs of students, the early warning signs of problems and policies and procedures when those reach crisis proportions. School mental health professionals such as school psychologists, should have specific training in school systems, educational learning theories, school law, intervention and prevention in school environments. When other community-based professionals provide services for students, they should coordinate closely with their school counterparts.

Prevention programs designed for students, or that target students who are at risk for failure, need to be a part of any school mental health program. Examples of these include school violence prevention, bullying prevention, social skills training, developmental asset building,



high plains
mental health

• plain sense

conflict resolution and social norming campaigns. Along with formal means of assessing students, such as depression screenings, in-

room and hallways can help determine on a daily basis how everyone is doing. Emotional issues and crisis in the school setting are inevi-

formal approaches also need to be encouraged. Checking in with certain students, and observing and listening to student interactions in the lunch-

table. Having staff that are well informed and trained about mental health issues will result in calm, caring interactions with students and everyone involved.

Contributed by Karen Schueler, MS, LCPC, Manager, Consultation and Education Dept. The views expressed here are those of the individual writer and should not be considered a replacement for seeking professional help.

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matters of record

The following accidents were investigated by the Goodland Police Department.

Aug. 12 — 6:58 p.m., 1204 E. 13th, a 1984 Chevrolet driven by Andrew Gibson was backing up and did not notice a 2003 Chevrolet driven by George Schmidt. Gibson's Chevrolet hit Schmidt's Chevrolet.

Goodland Police The following crimes have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

Aug. 13 — 12:06 a.m., 1209 Cherry Ave., arrested a juvenile (name withheld) for possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Case referred to county attorney.

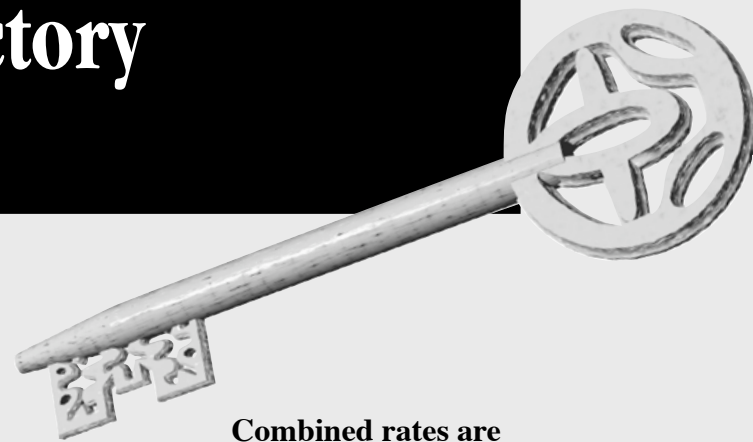
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