Elevate Montana is an initiative of the ChildWise Institute to elevate the well-being of our children by people who are passionate about the future of our State. There are many issues facing our State and our nation... issues that require long-term solutions.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA)
- Website site for educators and trauma
- Trauma informed care
- Publications and related resources on trauma and violence

National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) on Secondary Trauma
Secondary Trauma
Healing Neen (video) After surviving a childhood of abuse and neglect. Tonier “Neen” Cain lived on the streets for two nightmarish decades, where she endured unrelenting violence, hunger and despair while racking up 66 criminal convictions related to her addiction. Incarcerated and pregnant in 2004, treatment for her lifetime of trauma offered her a way out... and up. Her story illustrates the consequences that untreated trauma has on individuals and society at-large, including mental health problems, addiction, homelessness and incarceration. Today, she is a nationally renowned speaker and educator on the devastation of trauma and the hope of recovery.

Downstairs and Upstairs brain –and the barking dog and the wise owl (video) Describes how the brain works to teens and younger children: Dr. Allison Sampson Jackson: This video combines the learning from these 3 sources to demonstrate in “layman’s” terms how to help ourselves, teens, and young children understand their upstairs and downstairs brains and what happens when we experience a threat. video Downstairs and Upstairs brain

Like a Footprint in Wet Cement: Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences, Research from National DEC on Vimeo. This plenary session details the impact of childhood trauma throughout the life cycle including its correlation with hundreds of medical and mental health conditions including substance abuse. The workshop better equips attendees in recognizing and responding to these signs of trauma Like a Footprint in Wet Cement Video

Childhood Adversity Narratives

Academy on Violence and Abuse: The mission of the AVA is to advance health education and research on the prevention, recognition, and treatment of those affected by violence and abuse across the lifespan.

Futures without Violence: From domestic violence and child abuse to bullying and sexual assault, our groundbreaking programs, policy development, and public action campaigns are designed to build respect and healthy relationships.
National Technical Assistance Center for Children’s Mental Health, Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development- understanding trauma and ACE resources:

TED Talk – How Childhood trauma affects Health across a life time-Nadine Burke Harris

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),

Evidence Based Treatment & Prevention

- National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN)
- Children’s Bureau
- SAMSHA
- Maternal Depression

Development of Systems for Trauma-Responsive Education and Supportive Solutions Grant (DE-STRESS) Grant

- Nathan Stahley, Grant Program Coordinator, Yellowstone County, (406) 651-6437
- Nikki Schaubel, Center for Children and Families, (406) 794-2077

The Alliance (Billings Clinic, RiverStone Health, St. Vincent Healthcare) oversees the execution of the DE-STRESS Grant in Yellowstone County and Eastern Montana. A news release from the Alliance said the money will go toward putting into place numerous activities, programs and education regarding how health care organizations, programs and the community think about and approach those who either have experienced or are at risk of experiencing trauma.

Read more: Billings Gazette article on The Alliance