

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RATIFIED SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CHEYENNE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER FOR THE LARAMIE COUNTY PREVENTION GRANT (FY2027-FY2028), ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF LARAMIE COUNTY, WYOMING TO REQUEST FUNDING FOR THE LARAMIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,127.55.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF: REQUESTED FUNDS WILL BE USED BY THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO PURCHASE D.A.R.E CURRICULUM MATERIALS AND PROVIDE D.A.R.E. CERTIFICATION TRAINING FOR A DEPUTY.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Cheyenne Regional Medical Center is to receive Federal Prevention pass through funds from the Wyoming Department of Health and;

WHEREAS, the Cheyenne Regional Medical Center will distribute a portion of these funds to Laramie County agencies and nonprofits for seed grants and;

WHEREAS, the Laramie County Board of Commissioners is eligible to apply for and receive community benefit funds for the Sheriff's Office and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Laramie County desires to participate in the Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Prevention Grant by sponsoring this application to assist in financing the Sheriff's Office and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Laramie County has been provided with preliminary cost estimates and information on this project and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF LARAMIE COUNTY that a grant application in the amount of \$5,127.55 be submitted to Cheyenne Regional Medical Center for consideration of assistance in funding the Laramie County Sheriff's Office for alcohol, drug and tobacco prevention materials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Amy Gorbey, or her successor in the position of Laramie County Grant Specialist, is appointed as agent of the Laramie County Board of Commissioners to execute and submit applications and certifications for these funds and that Sandra Bay, or her successor in the position of Laramie County Grants Manager is appointed as agent of the Laramie County Board of Commissioners to receive funds and implement the programs funded under this grant.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 21ST DAY OF APRIL 2026

By: _____
Chairman, Laramie County Commissioners

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Debra Lee, Laramie County Clerk

Date: _____

Received and Approved as to Form only By:



Laramie County Attorney's Office

Date: 4-2-26

CRMC FY2027/2028 Prevention Grant- Subgrant Application

Organization: Laramie County Sheriff's Office

Point of Contact: Dawson Smith

Contact Number: 307-669-7637

Contact Email: Dawson.Smith@laramiecountywy.gov

Funding Request:

Year 1: \$4,404.25

Year 2: \$723.30

Total Request: \$5,127.55

Evidence-based Strategy:

Selected the option:

- Requesting funding for EBS listed on Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) spreadsheet

Topics to be addressed:

- **Selected the option:** Underage Drinking and Youth Marijuana and Nicotine

Project Priorities:

- **Selected the option:** Include partnerships or collaborations with at least three other community agencies.

Situation: (Briefly describe your request, define how the activities proposed will benefit the community, and describe the capacity of your organization to implement the activities.)*

The Laramie County Sheriff's D.A.R.E. Program collaborates with local elementary schools to have D.A.R.E. certified law enforcement officers who deliver curriculum focusing on prevention of drug abuse, decision-making, and resisting peer pressure. The Laramie County Sheriff's Office requests \$5,968.15 help provide School Resource Deputy (SRD) delivery of D.A.R.E. curriculum to four Laramie County School District #2 (LCSD#2) elementary schools. Funds will be used specifically to pay for D.A.R.E. certification training for one officer and for the purchase of DARE Educational Materials for the LCSD2 curriculum for the FY2027-2028 grant period. The Sheriff's Office's goal is to have three D.A.R.E. certified SRDs by the end of summer 2026, which will allow the full

implementation of the D.A.R.E. Program for all fifth-grade students in LCSD#2. Prevention Funds will also be used to purchase DARE Educational Materials for the LCSD#2 curriculum for the FY2027-2028 grant period.

These activities will benefit Laramie County by providing prevention education to fifth grade students and provide them with D.A.R.E. *keeping' it REAL* Workbooks. An estimated 140 students will participate in the D.A.R.E. program in 2026 and another 120 in 2027. The D.A.R.E. program's core lessons focus on general life skills education to support good decision making for a safe and healthy life. The project uses an evidence-based strategy to mitigate risk factors related to *Underage Drinking and Youth Marijuana* and helps to meet the Wyoming Department of Health goal of reducing the number of Wyoming High School students reporting alcohol and marijuana use. Trials found that communities that used the new D.A.R.E. curriculum noted significant reductions in alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana use and improved anti-drug norms.

According to deputy Dawson Smith, head of the Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. Program, the new D.A.R.E. program provides students with skills to help them say no to alcohol and vaping, which is a growing challenge for schools in LCSD#2. The officers selected to receive the SRDs training possess qualities that make them a good match for working with students. The SRD D.A.R.E. Certification is an 80-hour (2 week) training program. The D.A.R.E. program is a recognized, evidence-based strategy that will help lower risk factors and improve protective factors for Laramie County youth.

The Sheriff's Office has the capacity to successfully deliver the D.A.R.E. curriculum to LSCD#2 elementary schools. The program was established in 2024 and currently has two D.A.R.E certified SRDs providing the D.A.R.E. curricula in LSCD#1. The current SRDs are experienced in collaborating with teachers and administrators and in teaching the curricula and can ensure the expansion into LCSD2 is successful. The D.A.R.E. program is designed to foster positive relationships between students and law enforcement officers. SRDs develop a personal connection with the students over the ten weeks of the program and the completion, the student's accomplishment is acknowledged during a graduation ceremony where they receive completion certificates from the SDRs. The Sheriff's Office believes that this preventative education can improve protective factors and is committed to administering the program, fostering relationships with the local schools and students, and delivering the D.A.R.E. program.

Background: (Detail the causes, conditions, or needs that have led to this request. Describe how the activities proposed will enhance community well-being.)*

During the 2025–2026 academic year, the Sheriff’s Office reported issuing six citations to high school students for vaping. Pine Bluffs High School reported two drug-related incidents and seven vaping-related incidents over the past two years. According to LCSD#2 school staff, students have become increasingly adept at concealing vaping. In a recent survey of LCSD#2 teachers, the majority (23 of 27 respondents) felt that vaping and drug use on school grounds have become more prevalent over recent years. Teachers specifically noted that vaping incidents are likely underreported, as detecting them without vaping wands or sensors is difficult.

Of the seven respondents who provide written comments, six expressed strong support for the D.A.R.E Program, while one stated they were unfamiliar with it. Notably, six respondents also observed an increase in students reporting drugs, vaping, or alcohol use in the schools since the introduction of D.A.R.E.

LCSD#2 administrators and staff are supportive of fully implementing the program, recognizing its potential to help students make healthy choices and enhance overall community wellbeing in rural areas of Laramie County. Prevention education programs like D.A.R.E. are designed to address a root-causes of substance use and promote wellness. Another key community benefit of D.A.R.E. is the way it builds positive relationships between law enforcement officers and students, fostering trust and cooperation. Strengthening this relationship can serve as a protective factor in preventing future substance use and may improve communication between students and officers regarding substance related issues in schools.

The D.A.R.E. 5th-grade curriculum is based on Socio-Emotional Learning (SEL) theory, which emphasizes the foundational skills and developmental processes essential to healthy growth and responsible citizenship. Survey data show that a high percentage of Laramie County students perceive regular alcohol and marijuana use as low risk. The D.A.R.E. curriculum seeks to correct this perception and reduce overall substance use among students, ultimately contributing to improved health and well-being throughout Laramie County.

Analysis: Provide data illustrating the need and describe the evidence-based strategies that have been selected for implementation. Describe the service area for implementation (i.e. Laramie County, Cheyenne, Pine Bluffs, etc.) *

The Laramie County Sheriff’s Office D.A.R.E. project aligns with the Wyoming Department of Health’s evidence-based Community Prevention Grant (CPG) Risk and Protective Factors goals, which aim to reduce the percentage of Wyoming high school students reporting alcohol and marijuana use in the past 30 days. The project addresses key risk

factors identified under *Underage Drinking* and *Youth Marijuana* prevention efforts, specifically “favorable attitudes toward substance use” and “low perceived harm.” The *keepin’ it REAL* curriculum has been selected as an evidence-based strategy to support these goals.

The project will serve approximately 120 to 140 elementary students within Laramie County School District 2 (LCSD#2) during the 2026 and 2027 school years. LCSD#2 elementary schools are located in Pine Bluffs, Albin, Burns, and Carpenter.

According to the Wyoming Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA), in 2024 only 50.09% of Wyoming middle school students believed that smoking marijuana once or twice a week was harmful. Similarly, in 2022, just 42.46% of LCSD#1 middle school students viewed smoking marijuana or using alcohol one to two times a week as risky behavior. Although no current data is available for LCSD#2, it is reasonable to assume that students in this district have comparable low perceptions of risk.

Early intervention through the Sheriff’s Office 5th-grade D.A.R.E. program can help shape students’ understanding of substance-use risks and prevent future use as they move into middle and high school. Data from the Wyoming Tobacco Prevention & Control Evaluation indicate that 39% of Laramie County high school students used alcohol within the past 30 days, with 25% reporting they obtained their last drink from their parents. The 2019 CRMC Laramie County Need Assessment reported 22% of high school youth surveyed reported using marijuana in the last 30 days and one third said it was easy to obtain. The updated *keepin’ it REAL* curriculum focuses on building essential decision-making and refusal skills that can also address related risk behaviors, such as vaping and tobacco use. The Needs Assessment also reported that 41% of local high school students vaped within the last month, and one in four believed that daily vaping carried no health risks.

The D.A.R.E. curriculum’s strong emphasis on refusal skills serves as an important protective factor as students transition to middle school. Nearly one in three Laramie County youth report experiencing bullying at least once in the past year. Evaluation of the *keepin’ it REAL* elementary curriculum has shown that students who received it were less likely to initiate 30-day alcohol use, drunkenness, and vaping within the following year compared to matched controls.

The D.A.R.E. *keepin’ it REAL* program represents an evidence-based response to the County’s need for youth substance-use prevention. It targets youth perceptions of substance-related risks while strengthening decision-making and refusal skills and promoting positive relationships between students and trusted adults.

Health Impact Pyramid

- **Selected the level from the Health Impact Pyramid: Counseling and Education**



214 East 23rd Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-634-2273
www.crmcwv.org

FY2027-2028 Prevention Grant Subgrant Application Budget

Personnel:

Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Salary			\$ -
Benefits			\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION: Describe the need and include an adequate justification of how each cost was estimated. Break down cost where appropriate.

Evidence Based Strategy Expenses:

Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
4 packs of 100 "New" D.A.R.E. Elementary keepin' it REAL Workbooks	\$390.00	\$ 390.00	\$ 780.00
6 boxes of Graduation certificate holders (Pack of 50)	\$280.50	\$ 280.50	\$ 561.00
3 packs of Graduation Certificates (Black) (packs of 100)	\$105.60	\$ 52.80	\$ 158.40
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
Total	\$ 776.10	\$ 723.30	\$ 1,499.40

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION: Describe the need and include an adequate justification of how each cost was estimated. Break down cost where appropriate.

The LCSO estimates that there will be 140 5th grade LCSD #2 students enrolled in the D.A.R.E. Program for school year 2026 and 120 for school year 2027. CRMC Prevention funds will be used to purchase four packs of 100 "New" D.A.R.E. Elementary keepin' it REAL Workbooks (\$195.00 for 100), totaling \$780.00. Additionally, the LSCO will purchase six boxes of Graduation certificate Holders (50 per pack for \$140.25 a pack) totalling \$561.00 and three packs of Graduation Certificates-Black (\$52.80 for 100) totaling \$158.40.

Other Expenses:

Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Travel	\$ 2,928.15		\$ 2,928.15
Equipment/Supplies			\$ -
Operational Support	\$ 700.00		\$ 700.00
Administrative Costs			\$ -
Total	\$ 3,628.15	\$ -	\$ 3,628.15

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION: Describe the need and include an adequate justification of how each cost was estimated. Break down cost where appropriate.

D.A.R.E. Officer Certification-80 hour (2 weeks). Certified law enforcement officers are trained to deliver curriculum focusing on drug abuse prevention, decision-making, and resisting peer pressure. We are looking at sending one School Resource Officer to the training to be held July 27th-August 7th 2026 in South Jordan UT. Registration is \$700.00. Standard GSA rate for hotel is \$110.00 (13 nights) \$1,430.00. Standard per diem is \$68 per day. 11 full days (\$748) and two travel days (\$102) for a total of \$850 for per diem. Travel by vehicle 447 miles one way (894 round trip). Mileage of 894 x federal mileage rate of .725=\$648.15. Total Trip Cost with registration \$3,628.15

Total Expenses

Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Evidence Based Strategy Expenses	\$ 776.10	\$ 723.30	\$ 1,499.40
Other Expenses	\$ 3,628.15	\$ -	\$ 3,628.15
Total	\$ 4,404.25	\$ 723.30	\$ 5,127.55



**LARAMIE COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2**

Students First

Office of the Superintendent

P: 307-245-4050 | F: 307-459-6300
PO Box 489, Pine Bluffs, WY 82082
Laramie2.org

March 30, 2026

To Whom it May Concern:

Laramie County School District #2 is privileged to have a strong and positive relationship with many of our emergency service providers. We are a rural district spanning over 1,000 square miles with only one town that has an incorporated police system. We rely on the Laramie County Sheriff's Office for proactive support across our six schools.

Please accept this letter, on behalf of Laramie County School District #2, in support of the Laramie County Sheriff's Office pursuit of this grant for D.A.R.E. training for deputies. Corporal Dawson Smith has reviewed his intent and design with me and I am in full agreement.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. Please let me know how I may assist this process further.

Respectfully,
Justin Pierantoni
Superintendent

March 26, 2026

Rayme Van Dell
Pine Bluffs Elementary
503 Elm Street
Pine Bluffs, WY 82082

Subject: Letter of Intent – Funding for D.A.R.E. Implementation for 6th Grade Students

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of Pine Bluffs Elementary to formally request a grant to implement the **Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.)** program for our incoming 6th-grade class.

As our students transition into middle school—a pivotal stage marked by increased social pressure and independence—we believe it is our responsibility to provide them with the evidence-based decision-making skills necessary to lead safe and healthy lives.

In recent years, our community has seen a rise in vaping and social media-driven peer pressure that directly impacts student well-being. The 6th grade is a critical "fork in the road" where students often encounter their first significant exposure to substance use and high-risk behaviors.

The D.A.R.E. "keepin' it REAL" curriculum is not just about saying "no" to drugs; it's about empowering students with a comprehensive toolkit for life. If awarded this grant, we aim to achieve the following:

- **Critical Decision-Making:** Teach students to identify risks and consequences in everyday scenarios.
- **Effective Communication:** Build the confidence to handle peer pressure without losing social standing.
- **Community Policing:** Strengthen the bond between local law enforcement and our youth through positive, classroom-based interaction.
- **Health Literacy:** Provide factual, age-appropriate information about the physiological and legal risks of substance abuse.

The requested funds will be utilized for:

- Student workbooks and educational materials.
- D.A.R.E. officer training and certification.
- Program culmination supplies (certificates and shirts) to celebrate student commitment.

By investing in our 6th graders today, we are reducing the long-term societal costs associated with substance abuse and building a more resilient community for tomorrow. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal in further detail.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to the youth of Pine Bluffs.

Sincerely,



Rayme Van Dell
307-245-4070
rayme.vandell@laramie2.org