

## **Pine Hills School: A Look at Education in a Correctional Setting**

The presentation will be a brief synopsis about the facility, primarily the educational department, and about how youth end up in the care and custody of the Department of Corrections. The focus will be on the challenges surrounding these youth in school and reentry into the community. We will share data collected from our population pertaining to homeless and neglected youth. To assist school districts in developing a better understanding, we will also provide information about how our school operates and the day-to-day challenges our delinquent Montana youth face. We will discuss re-entry coordination and transitioning to the public school setting. The attendees will hear first-hand accounts of our successes and failures in dealing with this at-risk population.

The majority of our students have stopped attending school, dropped out, or been expelled. Many fail to understand the importance of education and how it can assist them in being more successful. The majority of our students arrive below grade level in Math, Reading, and Language Arts. They are also in need of credit recovery to be on track to earn their high school diplomas.