

THE PRAIRIE PRESS

◆ July 2026



Same Day **Access**

Walk-In Mental Health Evaluations

For new patients at Hillsboro, McPherson & Newton offices

- **Available Monday – Thursday | 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM**
- Bring insurance card & list of medications
- Sliding scale options available for residents of Harvey, McPherson & Marion Counties
- Assistance with Medicaid applications available
- Spanish interpreters readily available
- Initial assessment takes approximately 90–120 minutes



Visit us at our addresses below!



HARVEY COUNTY

1901 E. 1st St.
Newton, KS 67114



MCPHERSON COUNTY

1102 Hospital Dr.
McPherson, KS 67460



MARION COUNTY

508 S. Ash St.
Hillsboro, KS 67063

NEED IMMEDIATE HELP?



Dial 988 or call Prairie View's 24/7 Crisis Line at 1-800-362-0180

Pet of the Month



HOMER!

Human:
Tammy Mercer

Favorite Activity:
**Licking and trying to eat
everything**

Favorite Food:
**Anything he can get in his
mouth!**

Think your pet
deserves to be Pet of
the Month?

Send their cutest pics
to Whitney at
woodwardwf@pvi.org!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Nikki Nelson

WICHITA RECEPTIONIST

NIKKI'S JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

Front Desk Receptionist at the West Wichita Office.
Schedule appointments, answer phones, etc.

WHAT IS A QUESTION THAT THEY RECEIVE A LOT?

"You look very familiar?"

WHAT TV SHOW, PODCAST, OR BOOK ARE YOU CURRENTLY OBSESSED WITH?

Reality Show: "Tiny House, Big Living"
Book: "The Nightengale"

WHAT TOPIC COULD THEY GIVE A 45-MINUTE TED TALK ON WITH NO PREP?

Favorite topic would be interesting places to travel.

WHAT ARE THEY A CONNOISSEUR OF?

Roasted Vegetables, but I almost always have a Diet Dr. Pepper close by.

JULY IS NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH MONTH



Each July, Prairie View joins organizations across the country in recognizing **Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month**, also known as BIPOC Mental Health Month. Named in honor of author, educator, journalist, and mental health advocate Bebe Moore Campbell, this observance highlights the unique mental health experiences, challenges, and strengths of Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC). It also serves as an opportunity to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and promote equitable access to mental health care.

WAYS TO SUPPORT MENTAL WELLNESS

- ☐ Learn about the mental health experiences of different communities.
- ☐ Encourage open, judgment-free conversations about mental health.
- ☐ Check in with family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers.
- ☐ Share trusted mental health resources.
- ☐ Remember that seeking help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

If you or someone you know is struggling, help is available. Prairie View Behavioral Health provides compassionate, person-centered mental health and substance use services for individuals and families across our communities.

Need support? Contact Prairie View at 800-992-6292 to learn more about our services or call/text 988 if you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis.

Every person deserves to feel seen, supported, and empowered to care for their mental health. Together, we can help create communities where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

“Knowing who you are begins in the mind.”
— Bebe Moore Campbell

PRTF VS STAFF

Softball



Rain may have moved our softball game indoors, but it didn't stop the fun! Turning Point residents and Prairie View staff brought the competition to the gym for an unconventional game of softball filled with teamwork, laughter, and plenty of memorable moments. We love opportunities like this that build connections, encourage positive relationships, and create fun experiences for both residents and staff.

PRAIRIE VIEW IN ACTION

*Celebrating our staff, community
partnerships, and organizational milestones*



Congratulations to Marissa Leddy, our Mobile Crisis Team Lead, on being selected as a presenter for the inaugural Kansas Peer Workforce Conference! Marissa will present "*Crisis Peer Support in Rural Communities*," sharing her recovery journey and highlighting how Prairie View's Crisis team supports individuals across rural Kansas through the power of peer support and lived experience. Thank you, Marissa, for representing Prairie View and making a difference every day!



Prairie View staff Laura Paulus and Yanet Cecenas-Salazar recently represented our organization at McPherson Pride. During the event, Yanet delivered a keynote presentation highlighting the importance of mental health support in marginalized communities. Thank you, Laura and Yanet, for representing Prairie View and helping promote mental wellness for all.



McPherson Social Outreach League

Congratulations to Marcy Johnson, who began her term as Board President for HealthSource and Comp One on July 1. We are proud of Marcy's continued leadership and commitment to strengthening mental health care, collaboration, and services across Kansas. Thank you, Marcy, for the positive impact you make for the individuals, families, and communities we serve.



PRAIRIE VIEW IN ACTION

Continued...



Prairie View staff from our Hillsboro office recently participated in Safe Kids Family Night in Hillsboro. The event brought families and community organizations together for an evening focused on safety, connection, and resources to support healthy families. Thank you to our team for representing Prairie View and connecting with families in our community!

Our Youth & Family Services building received a festive update thanks to School-Based Case Manager Abigale Martinez-Bell! Abigale shared her creativity and artistic talents by creating a fun 4th of July window display for the front of the building. We appreciate Abigale's willingness to bring extra creativity and joy to our campus and help make Prairie View a welcoming place for all.



We had a great time connecting with our community at Newton Open Streets! Thank you to everyone who stopped by the Prairie View booth to say hello, grab some goodies, and learn more about the mental and behavioral health resources available in our community. We are grateful to partner with local organizations and community leaders to support events that bring people together and strengthen the communities we serve.

5 HEALTHY HABITS TO PREPARE FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

SMALL DAILY CHOICES CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

The start of a new school year often brings new routines, responsibilities, and opportunities. While school supplies and schedules are important, so is preparing for a healthy mindset. Developing a few simple habits can help children and teens feel more focused, confident, and ready to learn throughout the year.

PRIORITIZE SLEEP

A consistent bedtime routine helps children wake up refreshed and ready to learn. Adequate sleep supports attention, memory, emotional regulation, and overall well-being. Try to establish regular bedtimes and wake-up times, even on weekends when possible.

FUEL THEIR BODY & BRAIN

A nutritious breakfast and balanced meals throughout the day provide the energy children need to stay focused in class. Encourage regular meals, healthy snacks, and plenty of water to help support both physical and mental health.

FIND BALANCE WITH TECH

Technology is a valuable tool, but it's important to create healthy boundaries. Encourage screen-free time before bed, during meals, and when spending time together as a family. Replacing some screen time with outdoor play, hobbies, or reading can help children recharge.

LEAVE TIME TO RECHARGE

Between school, sports, homework, and other activities, it's easy for schedules to become packed. Make sure your child has time to relax, play, and simply be a kid. Unstructured downtime is an important part of healthy development and can help reduce stress.

CHECK IN EVERY DAY

One of the best ways to support your child's mental health is simply by talking with them. Instead of asking only, "How was school?" try questions like:

- What made you smile today?
- What was something that challenged you?
- Did anyone help you today?
- Is there anything you're looking forward to tomorrow?

These conversations help children feel heard and make it easier for them to share concerns before they become overwhelming.

NEED SUPPORT?

Prairie View is here to support children, teens, and families throughout the school year. Whether you're looking for school-based mental health services or outpatient care, our team is ready to help. To learn more about our services or schedule an appointment, **call 800-992-6292.**



Prairie View

WE ARE HIRING!

MULTIPLE POSITIONS OPEN!



**APPLY
NOW**

