

# PATH

PROVIDING ACCESS TO HEALING



PATH for Students is a partnership between Sioux Empire United Way, Lutheran Social Services, Family Service Inc., Volunteers of America-Dakotas, and the Harrisburg School District. The purpose of this collaborative partnership is to offer mental health outreach and treatment services. The combined commitment and expertise of our respective agencies will allow for quality services for students in our school district. These services are designed to meet the needs of students who would otherwise be unable to access counseling.

### Is your child:

- worried about school
- worried about home
- having trouble with friends and/or family
- trying to do better, but it's hard
- struggling with self-confidence
- having trouble concentrating
- feeling sad or lonely

### Benefits of PATH

- Access to a licensed professional therapist within the school building
- Reduced behavior issues and classroom disruption
- Improved academic performance
- Improved attendance
- Learning new skills
- Developing self confidence
- Practicing new behaviors
- Understanding feelings
- Learning how to cope with day to day problems

If you feel your child could benefit from PATH, contact your child's teacher or counselor for more information. All students using PATH services will need to have permission and information forms completed by parents or guardian.

### Contact Information

South Middle School Counselor | Betsy Atwood  
 betsy.atwood@k12.sd.us | 605-743-2567 xtn 5143



## PATH Breaking Barriers to Care

**Time off:** Bringing a child to a provider for a session can take up for half a day off with travel and time off work and out of class time.

**Affordability:** United Way funds help cover the cost for student care. No insurance, difficult to pay co-pay, co-insurance. Student still obtains services.

**Stigma:** Participation in a school-based resource for therapy may be more easily accepted by parents and community. Parents learn about their student's care and understanding their need.