

Did You Know?



- ◆ South Dakota ranks 6th in the nation for juvenile suicide.
- ◆ South Dakota currently has the second highest rate of juvenile incarceration in the United States. (The state of Louisiana ranks #1 and California ranks #3)
- ◆ In 2003 enrollment in Pennington County Schools, both public and private rose by just .9%. However, Juvenile Justice Referrals rose by 72% and Department of Corrections Commitments rose by 56%.
- ◆ The rate of juvenile arrests in Pennington County decreased by 20% from 1990 to 2001. This compares to a decrease in South Dakota of 27% and a decrease in the U.S. of 60 %.
- ◆ 800-1200 young people appear on the juvenile docket in Rapid City each year with a wide variety of serious needs that call for a response from our community.
- ◆ In a 2002 survey of high-risk youth in Rapid City, 66.7% reported using alcohol, 16.0% reported using drugs, and 44.0% reported using marijuana in the past thirty days. The rates of use by Rapid City Youth are higher than the overall state rates. The South Dakota Youth Risk Behavior Survey reported that 50.2% used alcohol, 3.1% used drugs and 18.4% used marijuana.
- ◆ South Dakota ranks second highest in the United States for 30 day use of alcohol by adolescents.
- ◆ South Dakota ranks second in the nation for binge drinking by adolescents