

From: [Steve Allison](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Water District
Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 8:50:38 AM



'Disbelief': Billings property owners upset by city reinstating late fees for water bills

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/disbelief-billings-property-owners-upset-by-city-reinstating-late-fees-for-water-bills>

The City of Billings sent out letters notifying residents with overdue water bills that late fees and water shut offs will begin taking effect again in January.

We have \$7000 a month for upto 6 months on a CONSULTANT . But no reasonable settlement for our City Citizens. How much extra wad spent to adjust our software.

The Left press covered the errors.

More rates more increases in the water Rates. No additional services.

Is our City Manager leaving us to go east?

This is a great handout to our newly elected CONSERVATIVE MAJOR.

From: [Chartier, Jeff](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: contract status (Billings Police Officers)
Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 7:42:25 PM
Attachments: [Letter To Management RE Vote-Police Union \(12-17-25\).pdf](#)

All members of City Council,

In order to reduce conjecture, detailed information on our contract status is attached for your review.

Jeff Chartier – President
MFPE Local 7769



Billings Police Officers
Local 7769
Billings, Montana



MEMORANDUM

Date: December 17th, 2025

To: Karla Stanton – Director of Human Resources
(on behalf of the City of Billings and management)

From: President – Billings Police Officers labor union
(on behalf of the elected board and union members)

On July 23rd, 2025, the Billings Police Officers union body overwhelmingly rejected the initial contract proposal from the City of Billings. The “no” vote was 92%. The “yes” vote was 8%.

On August 11th, 2025, the union body rejected a 2nd contract proposal. The “no” vote was 81%. The “yes” vote was 19%.

On December 11th, 2025, voting was opened to the union body on a 3rd contract proposal. Voting was closed on December 16th, 2025. The “no” vote was 13%. The “yes” vote was 87%. The Police Officers and Detectives of the union body thereby accept this contract (collective bargaining agreement) with the City of Billings.

As agreed upon during the formal mediation session of December 9th, 2025, our labor union expects the proposed contract to be presented to City Council on Monday, January 12th, 2026. Furthermore, we expect this contract to immediately take effect upon Council approval.

Prior to that date, I am available to provide clarification or field questions from any member of City Council, management personnel, or other relevant parties.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Chartier", followed by the number "133" written in the same ink.

Detective Chartier – President

Billings Police Officers (Local 7769)

Montana Federation of Public Employees



LIFTT

Living Independently for Today & Tomorrow

The LIFTT Connection
Newsletter

LIFTT Wishes all a Joyful and Hopeful 2026



As we step into a brand-new year, all of us at LIFTT want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the people who make our mission possible.

To our consumers, community partners, donors, funders, collaborators, volunteers, board members, and dedicated staff: thank you. Your commitment, compassion, and belief in

independence for all have carried us through another year of growth, innovation, and collective strength.

May 2026 bring each of you peace, health, happiness, and prosperity.

May your homes be warm, your hearts be full, and your days be bright with possibilities.

And may we continue to walk forward together, building a community where everyone can live independently, joyfully, and with dignity.

From our LIFTT family to yours,

Happy New Year!

Introducing our 2026 Peer Program

LIFTT is proud to announce the launch of a completely re-envisioned Peer Program: a dynamic, community-centered, barrier-breaking initiative.



Something New is Growing at LIFTT!



LIFTT's DPP Earns Organizational Leadership Award

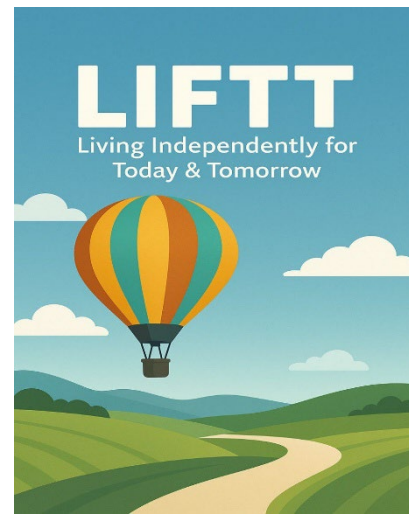
LIFTT and its Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) were recently honored with an award for organizational leadership at the DPHHS Diabetes Professional Conference in Helena

Award "Celebrates LIFTT's Holistic Approach to Diabetes Care"

LIFTT's Year of Growing Forward

In 2025, as the LIFTT team traveled through Southeast and South-Central Montana, one truth became increasingly clear: the desire for independence is universal.

LIFTT Executive Director Carlos Ramalho offers this and other lessons the organization has learned this past year, as well as a look at the number of folks we have served.



[Learn more about LIFTT's 2025](#)



Hope on Wheels: How One Chair Kept Independence Rolling

Thanks to the quick action of a cross-departmental team of LIFTT employees and a donated power wheelchair, KD, a consumer of LIFTT's Self-Directed Personal Assistance Services Program (SDPAS), was able to maintain their independence and keep rolling when their regular power chair needed repairs.

For KD, it was “just” a loaner chair. For LIFTT, it was a promise kept.

"Optimize Your Brain Health" Starts January 14

Are you interested in learning lifestyle habits that help prevent Dementia? Join our FREE 8-week class entitled "Optimize Your Brain Health!" Class sessions will be held on Wednesdays at 3 p.m. beginning January 14 and running until March 4.

Get the Support You Need!

OPTIMIZE YOUR
BRAIN HEALTH
CLASS


PREVENT COGNITIVE DECLINE


Join us for this **FREE** 8-week course, where we'll explore lifestyle changes that support the brain's ability to heal and thrive. Each week, we'll focus on a key brain health habit, covering essential topics such as exercise, nutrition, sleep, and stress management techniques. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your well-being and boost your brain health!

NEW CLASS STARTING ON:
JANUARY 14
@ 3:00 PM

**GET THE
SUPPORT YOU
NEED**

Eileen Rodriguez, one of LIFTT's dedicated Nutritional Health Coaches, is a ReCODE 2.0 Health Coach trained by Dr. Dale Brudsen. She is passionate about empowering individuals with the support and guidance needed to safeguard and enhance cognitive health as they age.

 **BILLINGS LIFTT OFFICE**
1241 CRAWFORD DR.

 **LIFTT**
LIFE IS BETTER WITH IT

**CALL TO
REGISTER:**
406-294-5185



A Trio of Reflections

On Working at LIFTT

As 2025 draws to a close, three LIFTT team members offer reflections on how working at LIFTT and supporting our consumers "to empower themselves above the barriers of life" has impacted them personally and professionally.



SDPAS Program Senior Advisor, Lanette Brown, writes about how, after 17 years at LIFTT, she still considers it "an honor to help bring a bit more independence into the lives of our consumers and to see the difference it makes."



Billings IL Program Manager, Pamela Ramirez, tells about how she is "proud to contribute to a mission that uplifts voices, honors experiences, and removes barriers one person, one step, one success story at a time."

Nutritional Health Coach, Eileen Rodriguez, shares about how coming to LIFTT has allowed her to achieve a dream to create a "Brain Health Community a place where people not only learn what supports cognitive wellness, but also truly experience what it's like to live it."

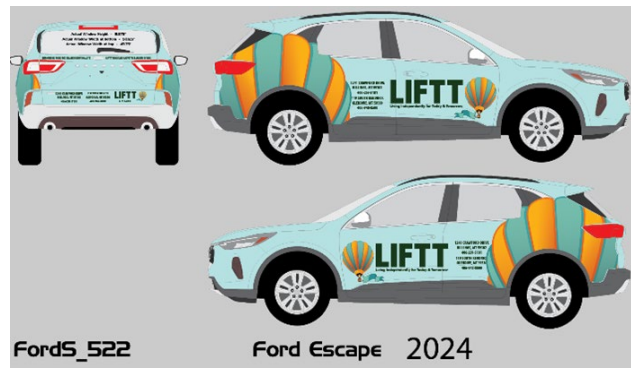
[Read Lanette, Pamela, and Eileen's Full Reflections](#)

LIFTT Takes to the Road in Style!

In an effort to strengthen our presence throughout southeastern and south-central Montana, LIFTT is proud to announce that all agency vehicles are now being wrapped in a vibrant new design that celebrates who we are and the communities we serve.

The colorful hot-air-balloon motif, paired with LIFTT's logo and mission statement, ensures that our message of Living Independently for Today & Tomorrow is visible wherever our work takes us.

Eye Catching Ambassadors for Independent Living





Connecting Communities with Information & Referral

At LIFTT, we believe that information is independence. Every day, our staff helps Montanans with disabilities and those who are aging discover pathways toward autonomy, stability, and inclusion.

This philosophy drives our Information and Referral (I&R) services: the heart of how we connect people with the resources that can transform daily life.

[Learn More About This Core Service](#)



Community Living Skills Workshop Starts January 20

Living Independently for Today & Tomorrow (LIFTT) is pleased to announce a "Community Living Skills" (CLS) Workshop. The 10-week workshop begins on Tuesday, January 20, and will run for 10 sessions through Tuesday, March 31, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Each of the ten sessions covers a different topic, designed to help participants learn and practice skills that will allow them to live more independently.



[Click for Workshop Topics & Registration Info](#)

Support LIFTT's Mission and Vision

In this era of uncertain federal, state, and foundation support, your contributions are more vital than ever.

Any amount you give will go directly to supporting LIFTT's programs and services, which promote independence and self-determination for elders and people with disabilities in our region.

[Donate to LIFTT Today!](#)



Living Independently
for Today and Tomorrow
Call 406.259.5181
or click to learn more.

Living Independently for Today & Tomorrow (LIFTT)

1241 Crawford Drive Billings, MT 59102 · [\(406\) 259-5181](tel:4062595181)

119 South Kendrick Avenue · P.O. Box 1387 Glendive, MT 59330 · [\(406\) 948-8500](tel:4069488500)

LIFTT is a Montana 501(c)3 corporation organized as a Center for Independent Living (CIL). With team members based in Billings and Glendive, LIFTT provides aging and disabled members of the community with programs and services that help empower them to break down the physical, bureaucratic, and cultural barriers that prevent them from being fully independent participants in their lives and communities throughout 18 counties in southeastern and south-central Montana: Big Horn, Carbon, Carter, Custer, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, Golden Valley, McCone, Musselshell, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Rosebud, Stillwater, Treasure, Wibaux, and Yellowstone.

LIFTT is partly funded through contracts and grants from the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, USAgings, National Aging and Disability Transportation Center, and the Administration for Community Living, United States Department of Health and Human Services. The statements herein do not necessarily reflect the opinion of DPHHS, USAgings, NADTC, ACL, or HHS.

[Support Independent Living in Montana by Donating to LIFTT Today!](#)



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