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## **State awards \$6 million to start three new substance abuse treatment programs**

*Fairbanks, Kenai and Palmer communities awarded grants*

ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services today awarded \$6 million in new substance use disorder grants to three communities. The awards fund programs not previously provided within the communities. These grants are part of the Walker-Mallott Administration's commitment to battling the state's opioid epidemic, as referenced in Governor Bill Walker's [State of the State speech](#).

"Quyana to the Legislature for making this funding possible, which will provide much needed behavioral health services for Alaskans," said DHSS Commissioner Valerie Davidson.

The grants will provide funds over three years to:

- Tanana Chiefs Conference for a 12 bed sobering center in Fairbanks. The FY17 award of \$500,000 will be for start-up and initial operational costs;
- Central Peninsula General Hospital for a 6-8 bed withdrawal management (detox) center for the Kenai/Soldotna communities. The FY17 award of \$500,000 will be for start-up and initial operational costs; and,
- Set Free Alaska Inc. for up to a 16-bed residential substance use disorder treatment program in the Mat-Su Region to serve women, pregnant women, and women with children. The FY17 award of \$250,000 will be for start-up and operational costs.

The remaining \$4.75M will be distributed in fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to support their continued operations. The three grantees will partner with other agencies and providers in their communities to implement the new programs.

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*The State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services promotes and protects the health and well-being of Alaskans. We help individuals and families create safe and healthy communities. For more information, visit <http://dhss.alaska.gov>.*