

Alaska FASD Partnership - Recommendations

At a summit in December 2010, the steering committee of the AK FASD Partnership met in Anchorage to finalize short-term and long-term goals for the following year. These recommendations came after a month of teleconferenced workgroups, who met and identified issues related to FASD that are most pressing to Alaskans. To join a workgroup, contact akfasdpartnership@alaska.gov.

Diagnosis

- Develop use of telemedicine in expanding diagnosis, support and services
- Promote use of screening tools/EPST (Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis & Treatment) statewide
- Promote FASD training for primary care and behavioral health providers

Family/Peer Support

- Expand FASD Family Camps to rural areas
- Expand FASD training for primary care and behavioral health providers
- Coordinate efforts with the Alaska Peer Support Consortium (AKPSC), Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority and Dept. of Health & Social Services to develop peer specialist network and training programs

Prevention and Treatment for Pregnant Women

- Support FASD messages on pregnancy tests
- Vary "Do Not Drink When You Are Pregnant" signs in public places
- Expand substance abuse screening for females of child bearing age
- Expand Parent-Child Assistance Programs (PCAP) in Alaska
- Coordinate efforts with the Dept. of Health & Social Services

FASD and the Education System

- Educate district, board and school personnel about FASD, TBI, and other neurobehavioral disabilities and their relationship to behavior, e.g. presenting at conferences, in-services, hands-on in classrooms, etc.
- Promote statewide the LKSD/ASD models of employing an FASD/Behavior Specialist offering effective interventions for students, teachers and families impacted by FASD
- Expand training for para-educators, teachers and special education teachers, small village clergy, tribal staff and elders about successful interventions, e.g. positive behavior support (PBS), the importance of structure, alternative tools for discipline, etc.
- Coordinate efforts with the Dept. of Education and Early Development

FASD and the Legal System

- Address mitigating factors for people with FASD and other neurobehavioral disabilities (e.g. Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Bipolar Disorder, etc.)
- Expand use of mental health courts as alternatives to incarceration for people with FASD, and other neurobehavioral disorders.
- Expand screening and services in corrections and juvenile justice for people with neurobehavioral disabilities.
- Coordinate efforts with the Depts. of Corrections and Law, Public Defenders Agency, Courts, Disability Justice Workgroup of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, and the Criminal Justice Working Group (CJWK).

Services for Adults with FASD

- Expand transition services (housing, treatment, medication management, employment, education, case management)
- Develop service system for adults with neurobehavioral disabilities
- Expand diagnosis for adults
- Coordinate efforts with Depts. of Health & Social Services and Corrections.

Professional Development

- Distribute resources for professionals
- Training for professionals, including medical personnel, educators, small village clergy, tribal staff, legal system personnel, public safety personnel, mental health/substance abuse treatment providers, and alcohol beverage servers
- Coordinate efforts with Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development, the Disability Justice Workgroup of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, and Criminal Justice Working Group (CJWG)

Public Relations (Ad Hoc)

- Identify/contact conferences for exhibit space, keynote and break-out sessions
- Create/distribute exhibit kits for use at conferences
- Create/distribute packets for mushers and other potential sponsors ❖