

AK FASD Partnership Steering Committee - MINUTES
Wednesday, September 21, 2011, 3:00-4:30pm

- I. **Introductions** – Monica Charles-Leinberger (chair), Deb Evensen, Vickie Tinker, Todd Brocius, Stephanie Johnson, Art Dulane, Hersh Wallace, Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus, Jeri Museth, Amy Hansen, Cindy Anderson, Dee Dee Raymond, Mike Jeffery, Ardyce Turner, Teri Tibbett.
- II. **Approval of Agenda** Approved.
- III. **Approval of Minutes - 7.13.11** Approved.
- IV. **International FASD Awareness Day on Sept. 9 events** – Alaskans celebrated International FASD Awareness Day in many ways – including awareness walks, public receptions, free non-alcoholic beverages to pregnant women, informational displays in public places, picnics, print and radio interviews, and more. Teri reported that the free non-alcoholic beverages promotion expanded this year to 56 restaurants in six communities, with 824 informational table tent displays. A detailed overview of all the events will be featured in an upcoming October newsletter of the AK FASD Partnership. Following is a brief overview:
 - Homer (Deb) – Deb gave a speech at CICADA House on FASD, delivered 90 table tents to five restaurants for the free non-alcoholic beverages to pregnant women restaurant promotion.
 - Anchorage (Deb) – The Anchorage school board wrote a resolution supporting FASD Awareness Day; she hand-delivered posters warning about the dangers of drinking during pregnancy to be permanently displayed at 15 high schools and programs serving high school students; all principals were asked by the superintendents to read a page on FASD that Deb and Barbara Loutrel wrote; owner of Don Jose’s in Anchorage – chair of CHARR –was really involved. (Cheri) – “None 4 Nine” gathering at Loussac Library sponsored by the Anchorage Council on FASD which set up a “stick people display” representing each diagnosed case of FAS in Alaska; Sen. Kevin Meyer read a resolution recognizing Sept. 9 as FASD Awareness Day; A “Pregnant Pause” occurred in Town Square at 9:09am with about 100 people posing pregnant and promoting not drinking during pregnancy; Channel 2 did a story; the Diagnostic Team did a training with activities (her phone was cutting out so not all activities were recorded here). Trish Smith, of Volunteers of America Alaska, distributed 117 table tents to 8 restaurants.
 - Kiana (Jeanne) – FASD Awareness Walk - 132 participants (population = 400). Walked to school where they drank hot chocolate and had round robin reading facts on FASD .
 - Kotzebue (Jeanne) – Maniilaq hosted an FASD Awareness Walk.
 - Bethel (Monica) – Submitted story to KYUK about how to gain awareness of FASD; presented to LKSD School Board on FASD; sent flyers to LKSD employees; distributed 30 table tents to four restaurants.
 - Kenai (Vickie) – submitted op-ed pieces on FASD to local newspapers; did a staff training; received proclamation from Homer Borough Assembly related to FASD.
 - Mat-Su (Amy) – Amy and Teresa Sprague from the Mat-Su diagnostic clinic distributed 195 table tents to nineteen restaurants.
 - Sitka – FASD Awareness Reception for families at Harrington Centennial Hall, with balloons, information, videos and more.

Fairbanks – FASD Awareness Day Picnic and Caregiver Support event at Pioneer Park. Also, Channel 11 News did a 2-part story and KUAC radio ran FASD awareness messages.

Juneau (Teri) – The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence contacted 18 restaurants city-wide, and the Partnership for Parents and Children delivered 350 table tents to them; Ric Iannolino from the Juneau FASD Diagnostic Clinic and I sat at an information table at the Partnerships Health Fair; Ric, Toni Weber from Southeast Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC), and I were interviewed on two radio stations; SEARHC hosted an informational table at their behavioral health center.

V. FY13 Budget Recommendations (Teri)

- The Alaska Mental Health Board and Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse recommended \$300,000 be included in the Mental Health Budget to develop a statewide alternative/itinerant diagnostic team. The team would focus on diagnosing adults, prioritizing adults in the justice and corrections systems, and help connect them with supports after diagnosis. While this team will be called upon, at times, to travel to conduct the diagnostic clinics, telehealth resources and flexible formats (bringing the person to the team, rather than taking the team to the person, collaborating with local teams, etc.) will be utilized to speed referral, diagnosis, and access to treatment – and to reduce travel costs.

VI. Workgroup Updates

- New chairs are needed for “Services for Adults Workgroup” and “Professional Development Workgroup.” Jeanne suggested the merging “Services for Adults” with the “Family/Peer Support” workgroup. The group concluded there are too many issues related to adults that could overburden the Family/Peer Support workgroup. An announcement to the entire Partnership invites interested people to join/chair these workgroups. Cheri recommended for “Professional Development” Addy Peters and Eric Boyer both with Alaska Children’s Services, and for “Services for Adults” she recommended Rachel Casey; Teri recommended a woman Gayle Young recommended in Sitka for “Services for Adults.” Vickie suggested Rebecca Porter of FASD Arctic RTC for “Professional Development.”
- Diagnosis/Parent Navigation – Met 8/9/11 (see attached minutes). Vickie added that they’re still working on the tele-health options with Dr. Chudley; Monica noted the Bethel diagnostic team has indicated they must perform a minimum number of diagnoses each year; Cheri said the state budget has allocated funding for up to a specific number of diagnoses per year; Todd suggested asking Diane Casto about the caps and minimum diagnoses.
- Family/Peer Support – Met 8/23/11 (see attached minutes). Jeanne offered an overview and direction of the workgroup, including expanding FASD camps, bringing the Whitecrow Village model to Alaska, networking with the Alaska Peer Support Consortium, exploring curriculum for primary care providers and case management/care coordination. She suggested emphasis needs to be put on lifelong case management.
- Prevention/Treatment for Pregnant Women – Met 6.22.11 (see attached minutes). Teri reported that the workgroup is working on writing a letter to manufacturers of pregnancy tests to add an FASD warning on their labels; changing the “look” of “Do Not

Drink During Pregnancy” signs in locations where alcohol is sold in Alaska; participating in the development of a Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) related to FASD; update on distributing funding for case management at four clinics (Sitka, Bethel, Kenai, Juneau).

- Education – Met 8/16/11 (see attached minutes). Deb reported the workgroup’s main goal is to get FASD Awareness at as many conference as possible statewide, developing hot sheet for school boards and school superintendents that is relevant to their jobs, developing conference kits. Monica talked about the group’s intention to develop user-friendly kits that can be used by agencies, teachers, paraprofessionals, parents & families. Monica reported that she received strong support from board members about her presentation before the LKSD school board meeting, saying the word is getting out and supported her role in the district. Monica said she was contacted by a new school in the district interested in bringing her there to talk to middle and high school students about FASD. Todd offered that the department applied for prevention and early intervention grant from DBH for alternative schools, \$400,000 per year over 3 years, approx. 4,000 at-risk students, high poverty rates and unsuccessful in traditional settings, been collecting data to support the idea that they are highest risk for problems, 10-20% sexually active, best practices include mini grants to counselors, presentation to students, teachers at these schools are excited – more services, statewide alternative schools meeting to include community teams, community resource assessments, networking, action plan, coalition building, local FASD training, etc.
- Legal System – No meeting. Stephanie will send a doodle request for a meeting soon.
- Professional Development – No meeting. Needs a chair.
- Services for Adults – No meeting. Needs a chair. Invite Hersh and Dee Dee to be on the workgroup. Hersh indicated DOLWD is currently looking at budget issues within the department.
- Public Relations (ad hoc) Teri is working with Ric Iannolino, Deb Evensen, and Monica Leinberger on a “conference kit” with resources for presenters, exhibitors, etc. Any suggestions and ideas are welcome.

VII. Individual Action Plan update (✓ = **completed!**; *new information italicized and in blue*)

- **Monica** – ✓-Give presentation to LKSD district board on FASD. Coordinate with Stephanie/Teri on recruiting mushers. *Working on inviting Valerie Davidson from ANTHC to join the steering committee. Is working with Deb, Ric and Teri on “conference kits.”*
- **Alex** – Create resource list of trainings for professionals currently available (by profession) and send it out.
- **Mike J.** – Canadian Bar Association resolution to adapt to FASD stop criminalization of people with FASD – get AK Bar and American Bar Association to do the same. Start with contacting Law & Community Health Sections – May 2011. *Recommends reading “Living with FASD: A Guide For Parents,” by Sarah Graefe.*
- **Jeanne** – ✓-Get mushers to champion the FASD cause. *She is working with a local musher who has agreed to support it if we can get a sponsor packet to her.* Attend AK Peer Support Consortium meeting to talk about peer support and parent navigation.
- **Cheri** – Contact FASD Center for Excellence to research current screening tools, including forensic assessment of FASD.

- **Diane** – Prepare letter for manufacturers of home pregnancy tests. Send letter to all members and encourage to send to their people as well. Deal with alcohol pregnancy signs, get examples from other states and give to ABC Boards. Call Anna Sappah about having a presence at Annual School.
- **Mike B.** – Research data on the camps – how much, how well, is anyone better off. Contact Trish at VOAA, contact families from camp (Note: was sent out last week, will forward). Work with Vickie to outline telemedicine components for pilot project.
- **Dee Dee** – ✓-Talk to DBH and DOC about incorporating FASD screening into intake process. Work with Tami on best practices to present later. Coordinate with Tami on FASD 101 and 201 about using it with DOC Mental Health Clinics.
- **Stephanie** – ✓-Talk to DJJ about incorporating screening process into intake process. ✓-Rural technical assistance evaluation mental health services in villages (Lee Underwood). She will promote addressing FASD into that system. On DJJ statewide training committee will promote appropriate trainings. *Is working on improving screening for juvenile justice, what will they do after testing and have a huge list of people testing positive, they're working on figuring that out. A couple villages are working on underage drinking grant to educate youth and young adults about FASD.*
- **Cindy** – Will talk with new DEED commissioner and address school board about FASD; also talk with Geri Benshoof.
- **Jennifer** – ✓-Identify education conferences each year, how to apply, etc. ✓-Talk to Eric Gebhart about superintendents' conferences.
- **Deb** – ✓-Presenting at conferences two-day classes at ASSEC. ✓-Replicate presentation at other conferences. *Is working with Monica, Teri and Ric Innolino to develop the "conference kits."*
- **Teri** – ✓-Will type up notes. ✓-Will investigate opportunities to interject FASD issue in meetings with Courts, Corrections, Education, Legislature, etc. *Has been discussing FASD with policy makers and department representatives about promoting FASD awareness within their departments – DEED and DOC responding favorably.* ✓-Will develop list of legislative priorities that Partnership can advocate for. *See FY13 Budget Recommendations above.*
- **Ardyce** – ✓-Will talk with John Simon (has step-son with FASD) to champion the FASD cause. *She is waiting to give him the sponsor packet.*

VIII. Where do we go from here?

- Develop sponsor packets for Iditarod mushers and other potential sponsors.
- Solicit ideas from Partnership members for contents of “conference kits;” develop conference kits.
- Solicit new chairs for “Services for Adults” and “Professional Development” workgroups.