

**MINUTES**  
**Alaska FASD Partnership Education Workgroup Committee**  
**Wednesday, March 14, 2012**

I. **Introductions** – Todd Brocius, Deb Evensen, Shannon Cross, Trish Smith, Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus, Cindy Anderson, Kathy Bohatch, Monica Charles-Leinberger, Teri Tibbett

II. **Approval of Agenda**

III. **Catch up**

1. Update from each workgroup member

**Todd** – The Department of Education & Early Development (EED) is in their 4<sup>th</sup> year of the Alternatives Schools Initiative to meet the behavioral health needs of 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade students, in 14 schools, several communities (4-sites in Anchorage, 5-Mat-stu, Kenai, North Slope, Ketchikan, Sitka, Juneau). Funding from Division of Behavioral Health. For at-risk kids who are risk of not succeeding. Approximately 2000 students served. Reaching out to at risk youth whose behavior is substance abuse, MH needs – connecting to providers in the communities, reduce costs, implementing life skills classes, job coaches, classes on parenting for the pregnant & parenting teens. Has data through statewide YRBS, number of homeless and pregnant and parenting teens, no specific data on FASD. Anecdotally, he does awareness presentations, students self-identify, the numbers are “staggering” have provocative data the shows the heightened need. Also been in contact with Genevieve Casey about updating the EED online FASD training is aligned with FASD 101 and 201. **ACTION: Distribute and post link to Alternative Schools Initiative to Partnership website:** <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/alt/>

**Shannon Cross** – Announced that the Center for Human Development offers a Friendship & Dating class for teens. Also, the RPTC/ FASD Waiver is in process of designing training with Diane Malbin. Not going to do “FASD Into Action,” but will take neurobehavioral approach to make paradigm shift for appropriate treatment plans, so clients get it, hopefully everyone will be less frustrated and see more success. **ACTION: Distribute and post flyer/link for “Friendship & Dating Program” on Partnership website:** <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/centerforhumandevlopment/friendshipsanddating/index.cfm>

**Trish Smith** – 53 total participants at February VOAAK-FASD Camp in Wasilla. Did “FASD Into Action” with parents, had lots of activities for youth, successful. Moving on to the FASD Camp in Homer April 13-16. VOA is working with Kee Warner to bring LIFE Sessions (from Whitecrow Village) to Alaska. Met with Alaska Mental Health Trust and are working on what our group needs to do for a proposal.

**Jeanne** – Working to bring L.I.F.E. Sessions (Whitecrow Village) to AK through Family/Peer Support workgroup.

**Cindy Anderson** – Building capacity in the district, people shadowing Deb. Working to develop a program at the Seward Correctional Facility (run by Kenai School District) for ages 16-22 who are incarcerated, will provide educational services for those who don’t have diploma or GED. Moving to Anchorage, who is looking to track students who need other skills, like social, community, mental health, substance abuse, etc. (40% of the students who are incarcerated have IEPs). Looking to hire Spec Ed and regular teacher for up to 24-36 students, for those waiting sentencing or trial to help them use the time productively. **ACTION: Talk to Cindy & Deb about Anchorage School District’s think tank and shadowing and how to develop template for other school districts.**

**Kathy Bohatch** – Continue to do FASD education and trainings throughout the district.

**Monica** – Schools continue inquire about having FASD training, teachers always asking for strategies for interventions for those identified and those suspected of having an FASD. There continues to be a strong need in the villages for this kind of support.

**Teri** – Reported that the FASD & Legal System workgroup is working with Senator Meyer’s office on FASD as a Mitigating Factor. Also, trying to figure out FASD 101 and 201 training for administrators (Commissioner of Education & Early Development, Executive Directors of Association of AK School

Boards and Alaska Association of School Administrators, and Superintendent of Juneau School District).

2. Meetings in Juneau with Superintendents, School Boards, Juneau School District & Follow-up. Everyone we met with were open to the need to get training. The next step is to make it happen.
3. Conference Kits update – Teri reported that the kits are built and have been used so far at the “Serving Offenders with Cognitive Disabilities, Alaska Native Leaders Conference on FASD, Alaska Mental Health Board and Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Juneau board meeting, and Early Childhood Mental Health Conference. **ACTION: Deb and Trish and Teri and Monica will be on a group to take the list of conference and coordinate a comprehensive effort to bring Partnership members to participate in the conferences.**
4. Revisit Workgroup goals from December 2010 Summit:
  - a. Educate district superintendents and staff about successful models for addressing FASD, e.g. those models used in Lower Kuskokwim and Anchorage School Districts.
  - b. Present to State Board of Education on FASD – Deb, Monica, Cindy can access FASD committee members to do the planning.
  - c. Expand use of FASD 101 and FASD 201 at in-services, conferences, etc. **ACTION: Look at list of conferences that Brittany completed and make contacts to see about including FASD 101 and 201 at as many conferences as possible.**

#### IV. Current Goals

1. Educating superintendents, school boards, administrators, special education personnel, etc.
  - a. Create hot sheet on what educators & administrators need to know **ACTION: Compile what others have created and create our own hot sheet.**
  - b. Education Awareness Promo – Monica suggested sending out postcards, flyers, PSAs, news articles, etc. to school districts, administrators, etc. **ACTION: Create postcard, flyers, PSAs and editorials to go out statewide.**
2. Present to State Board of Education on FASD – Deb, Monica, Cindy suggested recruiting members of the ASD FASD committee to do the planning. **ACTION: Meet and discuss the next State Board of Education meeting and who/how will we present.**
3. Expand use of FASD 101 and FASD 201 at in-services, conferences, etc. **ACTION: Look at list of conferences that Brittany completed and make contacts to see about including FASD 101 and 201 at as many conferences as possible.**
4. Utilize Conference Kits.
  - a. **ACTION: Finalize Conference Opportunities sheet.**
  - b. **ACTION: Arrange for Partnership volunteers to attend/present/staff exhibit tables Alaska conferences using the FASD Conference Kit.**

V. **Date for Next Meeting** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 11am

#### VI. Other

1. Deb suggestion while DEED is collecting data on at-risk students for initiative, look for students affected by FASD. Todd was open to it.
2. Todd asked for information on model for dealing with district level model policy addressing FASD prevention.
3. Todd reported JSD is now directing their new teachers to online FASD training. Will be presenting to the LKSD School Board to get the heads up about what they're doing related to FASD.