

**Alaska FASD Partnership
Steering Committee – MINUTES
March 14, 2012**

- I. **Introductions** – Deb Evensen, Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus, Mike Jeffery, Amy Hansen, Dee Dee Raymond, Ardyce, Todd Brocius, Jeri Museth, Monica Leinberger, Art Dulaune, Trish Smith, Teri Tibbett
- II. **Approval of Agenda** – Approved.
- III. **Approval of 2/8/12 Minutes** – Please send comments by Friday, March 16.
- IV. **Partnership Summit (Justice System Focus)** - March 27-28 in Juneau.
- V. **Workgroup Updates**
 - a. **Diagnosis/Parent Navigation.** No meeting was held.
 - b. **Family/Peer Support.** Have had meetings on bringing Whitecrow Village’s L.I.F.E. Sessions to Alaska. The workgroup is currently working on developing a white paper describing the proposal, the costs, etc. to be given to the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority who will assist us in determining funding. The goal of the workgroup includes bringing L.I.F.E. Sessions to Alaska and sending people to Whitecrow Village (in Canada) to see and experience their program firsthand so it can be replicated in Alaska. Jeanne has been participating with the Alaska Peer Support Consortium on coordinating efforts, advocacy, youth participation, and their potential participation with the FASD camps. Volunteers of America Alaska (VOAAK) held their FASD camp in Mat-Su area, 12 families attended and it was successful. The next camp will be in Homer April 16-18. Jeanne said one camp mom said, “Family camp is a place where I’m not judged for my parenting skills.” Trish added that lots of families became more engaged than last year. Ardyce reported that she knows a family who really benefitted from the camp. Monica reported the kids she’s known who went to the camp loved it because they felt like it was some place they belonged.
 - c. **Prevention/Treatment for Pregnant Women.** No meeting.
 - d. **FASD & the Education System.** Deb reported on the meeting of 3/14/12 which discussed the group’s current goals and efforts to 1) educate superintendents, school board members, principals and other school personnel on FASD; 2) utilizing FASD Conference Kits conferences statewide and volunteer list to sit at exhibit tables, be keynote speakers, and/or present in break-out sessions; 3) presenting to the State Board of Education; 4) expanding FAS 101 and 201 at conferences and in-services to districts statewide.
 - e. **FASD & the Legal System** – Judge Jeffery and Teri reported that Sen. Meyer has introduced SB 151 that focuses on FASD as a Mitigating Factor. A sub-workgroup of the FASD & Legal System workgroup was formed last October which includes Judge Mike Jeffery, Dave Fleurant from the Disability Law Center of Alaska, Susan Astley at the University of Washington FAS Diagnostic Clinic, Kate Burkhart from the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, and Teri Tibbett of the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse – working closely with Christine Marasigan, staff to Senator Meyer. After numerous drafts going back and forth between the workgroup, the senator’s office, Legislative Legal, the Dept. of Law, Public Defenders Agency, and the Court System – a final version that everyone could agree has been formulated and will be presented before various committees in the legislature. After the committee hearing process, a vote is taken, first by the entire Senate, then by the entire House of Representatives. We’ll keep everyone posted. Teri reported that on March 27-28, the Partnership will be hosting an FASD Justice Summit through funding by a grant from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. The summit will include strategy sessions, meetings with the Dept. of Law, Juneau Mental

Health Court, Public Defenders Agency, Office of Public Advocacy, Juvenile Justice, and presentations before the House Judiciary Committee and House Health & Social Services Committee. The goal is to educate and advocate for issues related to FASD and the justice system and brainstorm areas the Partnership's legal system workgroup can work to improve things.

- f. **Services for Adults with FASD.** No meeting.
- g. **Professional Development.** No meeting.

VI. Next meeting: Wednesday, April 11- 3:00-4:30pm

Upcoming Conferences:

Alaska Native Leadership Conference on FASD, Anchorage, March 27-28, 2012

Sharing Our Knowledge Clan Conference, Sitka, March 29-April 1, 2012

Alaska RPTC Conference, Anchorage, April 4-5, 2012

International FASD Conference, Vancouver BC, April 18-19, 2012

Full Lives Conference, Anchorage, April 18-19, 2012