

**Family/Peer Support Workgroup
Alaska FASD Partnership
August 1, 2012**

- I. **Introductions** – Cynthia Puhalski (Juneau), Ardyce Turner (Bethel), Araceli Cabarcas (Sitka, SEARHC), Brenda Moore (Anchorage), Jill Burke (Anchorage), Teri Tibbett (Juneau)
- II. **Approval of Agenda.** Approved.
- III. **Approval of Minutes (6/6/12).** Cynthia asked to correct the name of her business to We R.
- IV. **Check In/Updates.** Ardyce has been working with the family of a young man with FASD; having trouble locally with one of the GAL's who says he doesn't believe in FASD. Teri suggested contacting his supervisor and asking him/her to be sure the Bethel GAL's are trained. Also, Shannon Cross came to OCS office to offer prevention strategies. Araceli is new to SEARHC and Sitka, SEARHC is looking making their "mobile" so they'll be able travel to different locations in Southeast and do diagnosis. Brenda Moore has a niece that was prenatally exposed who has some learning and health issues. "The issue is near and dear to my heart." She talked about postvention work by the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council and though FASD is a risk factor for suicide, it is not mentioned in the suicide prevention training. She is concerned about this and would like to see FASD in the training. **ACTION: Brenda will go to the Train the Trainer site, or contact someone at NAMI New Hampshire to alert them to this fact.**
- V. **Whitecrow Alaska Update.** Teri reported that the subcommittee is working to finalize the proposal that will be submitted to potential funders. Jill reported that Mary Williard is setting up a meeting with Healthy Alaska Native Foundation (Southcentral or ANTHC) to inquire about funding.
- VI. **Peer Support Update.** Teri reported that she has been in communication SAFA (Self Advocates for FAS in Action), a peer-run, self advocacy organization for people with FASD. SAFA is interested in seeing an Alaska chapter and Teri is working with the Alaska Peer Support Consortium to make that happen. Teri also recommended going to www.hayskids.org and research some of their resources. The Hays family has adopted 15 children with FASD and have developed a manual for people with FASD to use to learn more about themselves, their disability, and how to advocate for themselves. Teri is researching this for possible use in Alaskan peer support groups. Cynthia reported that she attended the Peer to Peer Specialist training in Anchorage, and said it offers valuable skills for working with people with FASD.
- VII. **Other/Questions/Comments:** None
- VIII. **Next meeting:** Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 9:00am