

AK FASD Partnership - STEERING COMMITTEE
February 12, 2014 – DRAFT MINUTES

I. Introductions - Monica, Jenny Van Der Slice, Center of Psycho-Social Development, Sean O'Brien, Alex Edwards, Jeannie Yuman, Vickie Tinker, Mike Baldwin, Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus, Trish Smith, Adam Rutherford, Mike Jeffery, Deb Evensen, Lakota Holman, Teri Tibbett

II. Approval of Agenda. Approved.

III. Approval of Minutes–11.13.14. Approved.

IV. Draft Recommendations to the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

A group of individuals worked with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority over the summer, at their invitation, to develop recommendations for addressing FASD in Alaska. A draft set of these recommendations were distributed (with the agenda for this month's meeting) to members of the steering committee for review and comment. Comments and recommendations will be incorporated into the document and offered to the Trust, who is working closely with Senator Kelly and the Senate Finance committee's FASD working group.

Jeannie Y. – Recommended adding more graphs and visuals to accommodate people who are visual.

Mike Jeffery – Asked how the recommendations will be prioritized. Answer: The document offers “the kitchen sink” of recommendations, allowing the Trust and legislators to pick and choose the recommendations that support their direction/interest.

Vickie Tinker – Suggested the FAS Facial Features Screening Tool identifies only a small percentage of people with prenatal alcohol exposure, and that the group who needs the attention, that is falling through the cracks, are the 90% on the spectrum who do not have facial features. Vickie also pointed out the importance of recognizing women drinking during pregnancy and the associated trauma, and the need for trauma-informed practices.

Monica – Need to partner with ANTHC, AFN, ANHB, Native Corporations, and other cultural-related entities. Need to work with families (grandparents, parents, children) and give them the skills and strategies to function in a stable way so they can keep their children. Get policymakers to look at prevention, but also at the large part of our population who do not fit into the FAS category, who are undiagnosed and unserved. Add to public awareness campaign something about “we're all together in this, we're all on the spectrum.”

Deb – Rural recommendations need to be developed by people in rural areas (not by urban folks for rural areas). PCAP should be adapted for use in rural areas by people who live there with people who spend time in rural areas. Providers need more DD-type services.

Jenny/Lakota? – Be sure *FASD Into Action* is appropriately accommodated for use in rural areas. Create a definition list and acronym list.

Jeanne G. – The Developmental Disability (DD) service system offers appropriate services for people with FASD, and the Behavioral Health (BH) system is not as effective at this. Wants to see DD pick up the folks with FASD. Answer: BH has a new director and things are changing there. A wave of understanding about FASD is rising to the top at the Division of Behavioral Health and to legislators. Jeanne also

suggested the prevention piece should include recognition and prevention of secondary conditions and use person-first language.

Jeannie Y. - In the overview, add that there are “permanent neurological and psychological effects.” Also, we need the services to match the recommendations that come from the diagnostic teams. There are not adequate services available after the diagnosis.

V. Member Updates

Deb – Working on an in-depth program with Anchorage School District and Kenai School District. ASD is releasing a 20-minutes animated video (DVD) that shows how to work with people with FASD – for teachers, by teachers. Contact: STEP Center, Barb Loutrel, 907-742-3872, loutrel_barbara@asdk12.org

Trish – Doing this year’s first FASD camp in Mat-Su this weekend, and one in Fairbanks. Received a call from a person who asked for parenting classes for new parents impacted by FASD. Deb suggested the program for adults.

VI. SCR 13–A legislative resolution “Urging the governor to establish and support programs designed to eradicate the occurrence of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder from the state” go to the Legislature’s website to review the text of the resolution and back-up documents. Also look at SCR 14.

VII. Advocacy for SAMHSA’s Center for Excellence – Needs advocacy. Read “call-out” from National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (was attached with agenda).

VIII. Other Announcements – None.

IX. Next meeting: March 12, 2014