

**Alaska FASD Partnership  
Steering Committee – MINUTES  
July 8, 2015**

**I. Introductions.** Vickie Tinker, Alex Edwards, Mike Jeffery, Jenn Wagaman, Stephanie Johnson, Lakota Holman, Adam Rutherford, Britteny Howell. Teri Tibbett.

**II. Approval of Agenda.** Approved.

**III. Approval of Minutes 6.10.15.** Approved, as amended. Funding for CDC is no longer available, so the Arctic FASD Regional Training Center is not operating anymore. UAA Center for Behavioral Health Research and Services.

**IV. FASD Awareness Day**

Britteny reported the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education (GCDSE) is taking a lead effort for planning the Anchorage events. A planning meeting will happen on July 14, 3pm at their office in the Frontier Building. Many former participants won't be participating this year, so they're looking for new volunteers. Lakota voiced an interest in participating.

Teri reported on the restaurant FASD Awareness Day promotion (see June 2015 minutes for details). Still in discussions with K&L Distributors about their participation in this year's effort.

Mike suggested producing table tents and posters for communities where alcohol is not allowed, such as Barrow, Kotzebue, Bethel, etc. featuring a prevention message instead of the "free non-alcoholic beverage" message.

Jenn wanted to know how volunteers will be involved if K&L Distributors handles the distribution to restaurants statewide. Teri said she'd figure that out as talks progress with K&L. Jenn suggested designing a card that goes into the delivery boxes from alcohol distribution centers statewide.

**V. Member Updates**

Mike J. reported on his experience taking the FASD 101 training through UAA's program, saying it was great and appreciated their effort to provide the training. Barrow now has four new FASD 101 trainers.

Teri reported about the reentry efforts of the Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative (AK-PRI), related to prisoner reentry coalition capacity development and their efforts to address FASD and other brain-based disorders. Their efforts directly affect Trust beneficiaries (including people with substance use disorders, developmental disabilities, Alzheimer's disease/dementia, brain injury, and FASD). They have funding to hire five coordinators for the five regional reentry coalitions currently operating on a volunteer basis in Dillingham, Mat-Su, Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Juneau. The outcome goals for this effort are to promote public safety and increase success rates of returning citizens "by fostering effective, evidence-based risk and need management and treatment, returning citizen accountability, and safe family, community and victim participation." Coordinators will conduct community assessments for identifying assets, barriers, gaps, and solutions in the areas of supported housing, transportation, employment, substance abuse treatment, domestic violence prevention, life skills training, adult education, health care, workforce development, support from faith-based organizations, sex offender treatment, family support, victim services, entitlement programs, and law enforcement. Following this, coordinators will help develop a comprehensive community plan to be approved by the Department of Corrections. To read the entire

RFP (Request for Proposal) go to:

<https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/Attachment.aspx?id=100220>

Adam reported that reentry is a major push for the Department of Corrections (DOC). They are looking at community-based treatment/community-based corrections, to reduce the number of people in hard prison beds. DOC has rewritten a previous RFP for FASD and Rural Consultant, and is now looking to hire a consultant that will help identify a screening tool, treatment for people with FASD who are incarcerated, training for DOC staff, and access to services in the community upon release. Phase 2 of the proposal will be bringing in a diagnostic team to provide diagnoses in the prisons. Diane Casto, former manager of Behavioral Health Prevention and Early Intervention in the Department of Health and Social Services, is overseeing the reentry services in DOC. Adam said the department is appreciating her knowledge and experience with FASD. Anecdotally, DOC knows that a large number of their prison population have an FASD.

Vickie reported on their efforts for a trauma center on the Kenai Peninsula. They have identified a lodge that has offered their space. They've narrowed that they want to work with younger children (under 12) because that is the demographic with fewer resources. The goal to reduce the number of children that have to be sent to Northstar in Anchorage when they're older (Northstar doesn't currently have a residential unit for children under 12). The trauma center would offer a place to bring children who are blowing out, and who have no place else to go. They are still in the brainstorming stage, but they are moving forward.

#### **VI. Statewide Efforts by Other Workgroups**

Jenn reported that she and Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus have been talking about meeting with people in the Northwest region to discuss strategies for addressing FASD there, including a diagnostic team. Also, talked about the effort to have a NOFAS representative in Alaska. The question is "where should the NOFAS representative live?" Vickie replied that it should be an organization that is stable.

Stephanie reported they're working with Carl White, with Bering Strait School District, who is advocating for FASD training in the schools and serving youth with FASD better in the villages; has had meetings with Norton Sound Health Corporation and others in the above-mentioned effort for a diagnostic team, training, etc.

Mike J. reported that Monica Leinberger had been inducted into the NOFAS Hall of Fame, and suggested the Partnership send a letter of congratulations.

#### **VII. Next meeting: August 12, 2015**