

**Alaska FASD Partnership Steering Committee
August 10, 2016 - MINUTES**

I. Introductions – Mike Jeffery, Vickie Tinker, Christie Reinhardt, Jenn Wagaman, Mike Baldwin, Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus, Deb Evensen, Adam Rutherford, Teri Tibbett

II. Approval of Agenda. Approved, with adding the GCDSE 5-year Plan.

III. Approval of Minutes from 9/14/16. Approved, Mike J. will send amended language.

IV. Ad Hoc Therapeutic Foster Care Workgroup

Teri gave overview of the current progress being made. The workgroup has been meeting every two weeks and is assembling a compilation of recommendations. When the recommendations are finalized, they will be distributed to the steering committee and Partnership members for comment.

V. Governor’s Council on Disabilities and Special Education (GCDSE) FASD Workgroup 5-Year Plan

GCDSE has received much public input on FASD and Autism and has decided to develop a 5-year plan to look at screening, diagnosis, prevention, early intervention, education, across the lifespan support, employment, housing, transportation, adult continuing education, legal system, relationship (parent, child, foster care, OCS), gaps and barriers, sustainability 5-year disparity focus, will be taken on by entire council, across committees, to improve outcomes for these demographics. Christie looked over the 5-year plan for Autism, which came out many years ago, and was completed. Good things happen when work is focused and coordinated. Goal is to get stakeholders to see where they want to be in five years, and revisit annually to look at what has happened, what do we need, do we need policy changes, PR, professional development, etc., and develop a state plan. GCDSE has funding available to hire a facilitator to help develop 5-year plan. What are the preliminary pieces that needed to happen? 1) Gather and consolidate history, including federal funding, waiver, etc., so everyone has the same body of knowledge to begin working from; 2) identify partners and champions; 3) have a pre-meeting to define mission and priorities before legislative session; 4) after legislature do a full-day face-to-face meeting to develop the five-year plan; 5) come back annually to assess and update.

VI. Member Updates

Jenn reported Alaska Center for Children and Adults (ACCA) will be holding an *FASD Into Action* training in Fairbanks January 21 and 28. Also, they’re continuing “Sensory Swim Nights” a family outreach event.

Deb reported that the Kenai school district is moving ahead with “some real system change.” There are six “Education and Support Groups” that meet in the evenings or on Saturday, sponsored by the Anchorage and Kenai school districts, for caregivers (parents) who have children with an FASD diagnosis (Seward, Seldovia, Nikiski, Homer, Kenai/Soldotna, Anchorage). These are the only schools in North America doing this. They are educating themselves and helping each other. She also noted there is a groundswell of information happening across the country and in Alaska, with a foundational level of understanding happening.

Mike Jeffery reported that in his role on the Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (delinquency prevention), FASD has been mentioned as an issue and he is advocating for the group to look at the needs of youth with FASD. The group is part of a national network under a federal law that supports diversion programs, etc.

Jeanne reported she is working on a mini-conference in the Northwest part of the state for September 9, 2017. She went to Minnesota and learned about screening and intervention for women and children of child-bearing age, and talked about a training they’re working on for pediatricians. Also, Ivory, her daughter, who has FASD, will receive an award from the YWCA for children who have overcome adversity.

VII. DOC Screening Tool

Adam reported the Department of Corrections (DOC) is going through many changes as a result of the criminal justice reforms outlined in SB 91. Their goal is, in six months, to offer an RFP (Request for Proposal) for a contractor to provide screening, training, and appropriate services for people with FASD. Adam has reached out to many different groups trying to find an appropriate screening tool. Dan Dubowsky, from Minnesota, has responded, with ideas and recommendations. DOC is open to other individuals or organizations who have tools, but Adam hasn't received responses from them. Member of the group suggested: San Diego, Dr. Ken Jones (Mike J); "Yukon FASD Diagnosis and Case Management in Adult Corrections Population" final report June 2015 for the Public Health Agency of Canada; and Fetal Alcohol Society of the Yukon (FASY) through Yukon Dept. of Corrections in Canada.

VIII. Next meeting: Wednesday, November 9, 2016