

**Alaska FASD Partnership  
Steering Committee – FINAL MINUTES  
Wednesday, April 12, 2017**

**I. Introductions.** Mike Jeffery (Barrow Superior Court), Vickie Tinker (Frontier Community Services, Kenai), Stephanie Johnson (Nome Youth Facility), Marilyn Pierce-Bulger (FASDx, Anchorage), Mike Baldwin (Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority), Teri Tibbett (Alaska Mental Health Board/Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, Juneau)

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

**III. Approval of Minutes 2.8.17.** Clarify Lucy Apatoki, Vice President, Community Based Services, Norton Sound Health Corporation. Approved as amended.

**IV. Professional/Workgroup Updates**

*Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education 5-year Plan Update:* The FASD workgroup of the GCDSE is continuing to develop plans for this project. They are hoping for funding from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority for technical assistance. Jeanne and Christie Reinhart will be presenting on this effort before the Trust on April 20.

*Alaska Center for FASD Update:* Marilyn reported that their group has completed seven conversational meetings that included adults, behavioral health, criminal justice, prevention and early intervention, families, and others, with the intention of understanding what are people's concerns, what are their needs, what are the barriers, and recommendations for solutions related to FASD. She reported a reoccurring theme: that people need sustainable and trained personnel, especially educators, social workers and behavioral health clinicians, shelter workers, legal and medical professionals. She indicated a need for better overall training for these providers of services to individuals and families impacted by FASD.

*Therapeutic Foster Care Ad Hoc Workgroup Update:* Teri reported there hasn't been any action in the last month. The next step, to be completed after the legislative session, is to finalize the recommendations from the workgroup and send out to the steering committee.

**V. Legislative Update.** Teri reported there are several bills and budget items related to FASD that directly and indirectly affect individuals, families, and providers of services. Currently, legislators are working on these items through the committee process. She is sending action alerts as needed to Partnership members and other advocates.

**VI. Member Updates.**

Vickie: Applied for a grant for another conference on local solutions related to FASD and trauma.

Stephanie: Dr. Erin Johnson has moved on from leading the Nome FASD diagnostic clinic effort. Stephanie attended a webinar on “Understanding FASD: Promising practices for system-involved youth with FASD,” hosted by National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and is hoping to implement some of the practices from that. She’ll send out some information about it to the group.

Marilyn: (see overview above) She added they would like to see an FASD training team at the UAA campus to train the next generation of professionals. It was suggested she meet with Jeff Jessee, new Dean of College of Health for UAA.

Mike B: The Trust contributes \$500,000 for the FASD media campaign, including some of the focus groups that help shape the media campaign around the state; The Whitecrow Training and Camp in Juneau has been approved for a Trust small projects grant. He added that the health care system is changing, both statewide and nationally, and so there is some upset going on, but when things settle out we should see a new and better system. He emphasized the importance paying attention to the federal system, that there will be attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which feeds Alaska’s behavioral health system in critical ways.

Teri: Offered an overview of criminal Justice reform efforts, reinvestment, and shoring up community-based services in order to serve the influx of justice-involved individuals at both the pretrial and reentry levels. Since people with FASD are highly represented in corrections (a Canadian study estimates 60%), it behooves the Partnership and other FASD advocacy groups to be sure that we are advocating for appropriate training for professionals working in law enforcement, courts, corrections, and community aftercare.

***Next meeting: May 10, 2017.***