

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

I. Introductions. Vickie Tinker (Frontier Community Services), PJ Hatfield-Bauer (parent, Seaview Community Services), Mike Jeffery (Barrow Superior Court), Barb Chambers (FASDx Services), Lakota Holman (ANTHC), Teri Tibbett (AMHB-ABADA).

II. Approval of Agenda. Approved.

III. Approval of Minutes from 6.14.17. Approved.

IV. Professional/ Membership Updates

Barb reported FASDx Services having positive interactions with Senior and Disability Services (SDS), helping to broaden the understanding of FASD and the challenges across domains of ‘functionality’ individuals with FASD may experience. SDS staff who review eligibility applications have attended recent diagnostic team discussions as guests and FASDx Services presented to a staff meeting at SDS this week. SDS reports liking the multidisciplinary diagnostic model and the comprehensive detail of the team’s diagnostic reports. Summer is quiet regarding the Alaska Center for FASD.

Lakota reported that ANTHC continues to work on prevention efforts related to reducing access to alcohol and giving more information to adults to increase awareness about over-drinking and reduce binge drinking; sending out products to rural areas, like cabinet locks for liquor, breathalyzers, etc. Communities are using the products at public events to raise awareness; ANTHC may brand some of them and are preparing to market and distribute to more places.

Mike reported learning about a Native-based substance use treatment program that centers around subsistence.

PJ reported a lot is happening in Seward for FASD education, including an FASD and Trauma class. Active organizations include Seward Prevention Coalition, Seward Strong, and others offering the information to their clients. She noted she is getting reports from pregnant women that midwives in the region have told mothers that drinking during pregnancy will not hurt their babies. One of the mom’s was told that a British study reported that mothers who drank moderately during pregnancy had babies with higher intelligence than those with abstinent mothers. PJ and others are trying get the word out, with evidence to back it up, that there is no known safe amount of alcohol during pregnancy.

V. Legislative Report

Teri attached a preliminary legislative report on bills and budget items of interest to the Mental Health Trust and partner advisory boards. While the regular session has ended, legislators are in their second special session addressing oil taxes. Several bills and budget passed of interest to the Partnership are reflected in the report.

VI. Announcements

Teri reported that the Ad Hoc Therapeutic Foster Care workgroup will get started again with the goal of prioritizing action steps. Vickie reported the Kenai OCS office is understaffed and those who remain are carrying very large caseloads and working lots of overtime.

Teri asked if there is interest in participating in the statewide FASD Awareness Day in Restaurants promotion again this year, and there was unanimous yes. The table tents and posters are already printed, Teri will contact CHARR to inquire about their interest in collaborating (in the past they’ve offered their distribution list and support contacting restaurants). Volunteers: Lakota (Anchorage), Mike (Barrow), PJ (Seward), Vickie (Kenai).

Lakota announced that ANTHC received a grant to work with at-risk youth to improve outcomes and increase resilience, related to culturally-appropriate training for foster families, camps, homework help—across tribes and agencies.

Next Regular Meeting: August 9, 2017