

FASD workgroups address top issues statewide

Workgroups of the Alaska FASD Partnership are actively working on goals that are addressing issues that affect people impacted by fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. To review the minutes of the workgroups, go to: www.hss.state.ak.us/abada/fasd.htm. To join a workgroup, contact: akfasdpartnership@alaska.gov.

Diagnosis/Parent Navigation

- Develop use of telemedicine in expanding diagnosis, support and services
- Promote use of screening tools/EPSTD (Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis & Treatment) statewide
- Promote FASD training for primary care and behavioral health providers

Family/Peer Support

- Expand FASD Family Camps to rural areas
- Bring Whitecrow Village L.I.F.E. Sessions model to Alaska
- Coordinate efforts with the Alaska Peer Support Consortium (AKPSC), Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority and Dept. of Health & Social Services to develop peer specialist network trained in FASD

Prevention and Treatment for Pregnant Women

- Support FASD messages on pregnancy tests
- Vary “Do Not Drink When You Are Pregnant” signs in public places
- Expand substance abuse screening for females of child bearing age
- Expand Parent-Child Assistance Programs (PCAP) in Alaska

FASD and the Education System

- Educate district, board and school personnel about FASD, TBI, and other neurobehavioral disabilities and their relationship to behavior, e.g. presenting at conferences, in-services, hands-on in classrooms, etc.
- Promote statewide the LKSD/ASD models of employing an FASD/Behavior Specialist offering effective interventions for students, teachers and families impacted by FASD
- Expand training for para-educators, teachers and special education teachers, small village clergy, tribal staff and elders about successful interventions, e.g. positive behavior support (PBS), the importance of structure, alternative tools for discipline, etc.

FASD and the Legal System

- Address mitigating factors for people with FASD and other neurobehavioral disabilities (e.g. Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Bipolar Disorder, etc.)
- Expand use of mental health courts as alternatives to incarceration for people with FASD, and other neurobehavioral disorders.
- Expand screening and services in corrections and juvenile justice for people with neurobehavioral disabilities
- Coordinate efforts with the Depts. of Corrections and Law, Public Defenders Agency, Courts, Disability Justice Workgroup of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, and the Criminal Justice Working Group (CJWG) on issues related to FASD

Services for Adults with FASD

- Expand transition services (housing, treatment, medication management, employment, education, case management)
- Train employers, educators, peer specialists, and substance abuse treatment providers
- Expand diagnosis for adults

Professional Development

- Distribute resources for professionals
- Promote and expand training for professionals, including medical personnel, educators, small village clergy, tribal staff, legal system personnel, public safety personnel, mental health/substance abuse treatment providers, and alcohol beverage servers
- Coordinate efforts with Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development, the Disability Justice Workgroup of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, and Criminal Justice Working Group (CJWG)

Public Relations (Ad Hoc)

- Identify/contact conferences for exhibit space, keynote and break-out sessions
- Create/distribute exhibit kits for use at conferences
- Create/distribute packets for mushers and other potential sponsors ❖