

# DHSS / DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

## -THE ALASKA AUTOMATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (AKAIMS)

### AKAIMS Project Overview

#### I. THE PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE AKAIMS

The goal of the AKAIMS project is to develop, implement, and maintain an evolving, web-based application and database that serve the dual purpose of a management information system (MIS) and an electronic medical record (EMR)<sup>1</sup>. As an MIS reporting tool, the system allows the Division to meet current and emerging State and Federal reporting requirements, such as state Quarterly Reporting, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Integrated Block Grant, Legislative Reporting, Results Based Accountability and the National Outcome Measurements (NOMs).

As an Electronic Health Record (EHR), AKAIMS provides an agency the ability to create a full Electronic Health Record (EHR) compliant with HIPAA and 42-CFR part II standards. Furthermore, the system gives grantee providers a management tool which allows them to assess clients, administer facilities, manage waitlists, measure data completeness, provide a scheduler for client visits, Quality Assurance/Quality Control of documentation, group notes module, emergency services and measure staff productivity and collect outcome data in real-time with a secure, web-based framework.

#### II. REQUIRED DATA ELEMENTS

The DBH requires grantee providers who provide behavioral health services to report “core” data into AKAIMS (as a “MIS reporting tool”) for each active client. This “core” data includes the following:

- Client Profile
- Client Intake
- Alaska Screening Instrument
- Client Status Review Data
- Waitlist (if applicable)
- Admission Data
- Encounter Data
- Discharge Data

AKAIMS as an EHR is an elective function of each grantee provider. If a provider elects to use AKAIMS in this manner, there are additional reporting requirements to insure compliance with Medicaid standards of care. The required elements of the AKAIMS as a “MIS reporting tool”, are identified with a certain color coding. Additional required elements of AKAIMS as an EHR are also color coded.

In calendar year 2014, of the 111 entities that use AKAIMS, 44 agencies in the system electively utilize expanded capacities such as assessments and treatment plans.

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<sup>1</sup> The AKAIMS Project was initiated in February, 2003.

### III. USER GROUPS OF AKAIMS

Originally, the AKAIMS was developed specifically for mental health and substance abuse grantee providers. Since its implementation, the user group of the system has expanded, and with it, a greater economy of scale has been achieved:

- DBH grantee providers of substance abuse and mental health services
- Alcohol Safety Action Program (ASAP)
- Private Providers that receive referrals from ASAP
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Diagnostic Teams
- BRS residential service providers
- Therapeutic Courts
- Dept. of Corrections (DOC) substance abuse services
- Individualized Service Agreements (ISA)

### IV. BENEFITS & EFFICIENCIES

#### **General Benefits**

- Captures data as part of the business process
- Provides one common data entry point for clinical clients statewide
- Provides on-demand access to data to authorized persons/providers/facilities statewide
- Conforms data handling procedures to HIPAA privacy rules
- Provides single industry standard security procedure for all agencies
- Provides single backup and data recovery procedure for all data
- Provides relatively and easily extended application (can be improved and modified)
- Provides centralized system administration – none needed at provider/facility level
- Provides cost effective system changes/enhancements, keeping the system current with changes in regs and codes, and which are immediately available to all providers/facilities

#### **Provider Benefits**

- Provides administrative business support
- Provides clinical client tracking support
- Provides case management support
- Eliminates repetitive entering of demographical data
- Provides sharable demographic information – as appropriate (e.g. referrals)
- Provides sharable client chart information – as appropriate (e.g. referrals)
- Includes features enabling efficient data entry, such as Group sessions linking to individual notes
- Includes a calendar/scheduler, which links staff appointments directly to clients' individual files
- Provides a mechanism to facilitate direct billing to the state for special funding streams
- Provides tracking for drug testing and dozens of other items relevant to treatment outcomes

#### **State/Division Regional Staff Benefits**

- Provides continuous availability of data & reports.

#### **Federal Benefits**

- Conforms reporting to Federal business rules, regulations and procedures.

The AKAIMS, as a shared platform for all behavioral health providers achieves an immediate economy of scale. If grantee providers negotiated individual contracts with external EHR vendors, not accounting for up-front cost of “buy-in” (this has been estimated as high as \$150,000 per provider), the additional burden on the treatment system would be \$280,000 per month / \$3,361,200 annually<sup>2</sup>.

Additional efficiencies and cost savings are anticipated in improved coordination between providers and clients across multiple systems. For example, as a DOC inmate is discharged to a community behavioral health provider, the AKAIMS can track the client’s access and participation in treatment. If critical life domains appear to decline, early intervention can assist in reducing the risk of recidivism back to incarceration.

The AKAIMS is built on the CSAT Web Infrastructure for Treatment Services (WITS) platform to create a single, web-based application and database. Currently 27 states and 3 large California counties use the WITS platform. This creates a unique collaboration with all users of the WITS platform to share the cost of design and development of new enhancements to the system. In total, WITS has over 40,000 users managing 1.8 million patient records, processing over \$200M in adjudicated electronic claims.

## V. EXPANDED FUNCTIONALITY

- **FASD Module**: provides a data base used by the statewide FASD Diagnostic Teams.
- **Alcohol Safety Action Program (ASAP) Module**: provides a standardized statewide information system for individuals that are referred to an ASAP office. This process allows ASAP offices throughout the state to be aware of events on their participant list regardless of location. The process also allows for a feed forward of demographic information to the treatment agency through referrals and a feedback loop of completion of treatment activities through consents.
- **Therapeutic Court Module**: as clients are processed through the therapeutic court system, this module interfaces with the AKAIMS to enhance treatment referral and tracking for successful outcomes. Since its pilot project that worked with the Anchorage Wellness Court in 2011, AKAIMS provides information management to a number of courts and locations. Anchorage now uses AKAIMS for its Veterans Therapeutic Court, Family Care (CINA) Court and Coordinated Resource Project (Mental Health) Court. In addition to the expansion in Anchorage, Juneau uses the system for their Wellness Court and Coordinated Resource Project, Palmer for the Coordinated Resource Project and Ketchikan and Bethel for their DUI Therapeutic Courts.
- **Emergency Services Module**: provides a method to manage a high risk population, and capture the delivery of emergency services statewide.
- **SSRS Reporting Module**: AKAIMS Report Manager has a full range of established reports to which an agency can gain immediate access, and generate reporting online, with access to real time data.
- **Contracts Management Module**: provides a mechanism to link flexible contract funds (e.g. ISA funds) to individual client treatment plans and outcomes, with billing and adjudication of invoices.

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<sup>2</sup>This is calculated at 93 Organizations, with 5602 individual users, charged a standard individual licensing fee by private vendors, averaged at \$50 per month.

- **EA Interface**: The new architecture of EA steps the application forward to meet the requests of end users and security protocols. The new system allows AKAIMS to be viewed on a variety of web browsers. In addition, dynamic functionality is added, such as the ability to alter the size of a text box.
- **Meaningful Use Certification**: The WITS (Web Infrastructure for Treatment Services) system achieved Stage One Meaningful Use certification December 2011.