



GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Council Orientation

October, 2017



COUNCIL MISSION

Creating Change
That Improves the
Lives of Alaskans
with Disabilities.



COUNCIL VISION

- **Self Determination**
 - People have choices, flexibility and control over the services and supports they receive
- **Employment**
 - People get and keep employment consistent with their interests and abilities
- **Housing**
 - People live in accessible, affordable and safe homes in the community
- **Health**
 - People are healthy and benefit from the full range of needed health care services

COUNCIL VISION

■ Education

- Students reach their educational goals, hopes and dreams

■ Early Intervention

- Children receive the needed prevention and early intervention services

■ Community

- Every individual is a valued, participating member of their community

COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education

State
Council on
Developmental
Disabilities

State
Advisory
Panel on
Special
Education

State
Interagency
Council on
Infants
and
Toddlers
With
Disabilities

Governing
Board
of the
Special
Education
Service
Agency
(SESA)

Beneficiary
Board
of the
Alaska
Mental
Health
Trust
Authority

COUNCIL ROLES:



COUNCIL GRANTS AND PROJECTS

◎ Federal Grants

- Alaska Integrated Employment Initiative (AIEI)
- Developmental Disability Council Operating Funds

◎ Projects

- Project SEARCH - 4 sites
- Trust Employment First Initiative/BEE
- Micro Enterprise Program
- Autism Initiative
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)
- Alaska Mobility Coalition
- Supported Decision Making Initiative (WINGS)
- Alaska ABLE Program Accounts
- Alaska Disability Benefits 101
- Transition Handbook

GENERAL COUNCIL INFORMATION

- ◎ 24 Council members appointed by the Governor
- ◎ 3 full Council meetings per year:
 - **January** in Juneau (3 days) focus on advocacy
 - **May** via webinar (1-2 days) focus on evaluation and planning
 - **October** in Anchorage (2-3 days) focus on work plans, training and partner collaborations

GENERAL COUNCIL INFORMATION

⦿ Committees:

- Developmental Disability
- Education
- Early Intervention
- Legislative
- Employment and Transportation
- Executive

⦿ Ad Hoc/Workgroups

- Medicaid
- FASD
- Autism

* Committees meet monthly by teleconference *

COUNCIL WEBSITE

[HTTP://DHSS.ALASKA.GOV/GCDSE/PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX](http://dhss.alaska.gov/gcdse/pages/default.aspx)

○ About the Council page

- State Plan
- Bylaws
- Council member roster
- Federal laws (DD Act, IDEA)



Join the
GCDSE
Email
Listserv

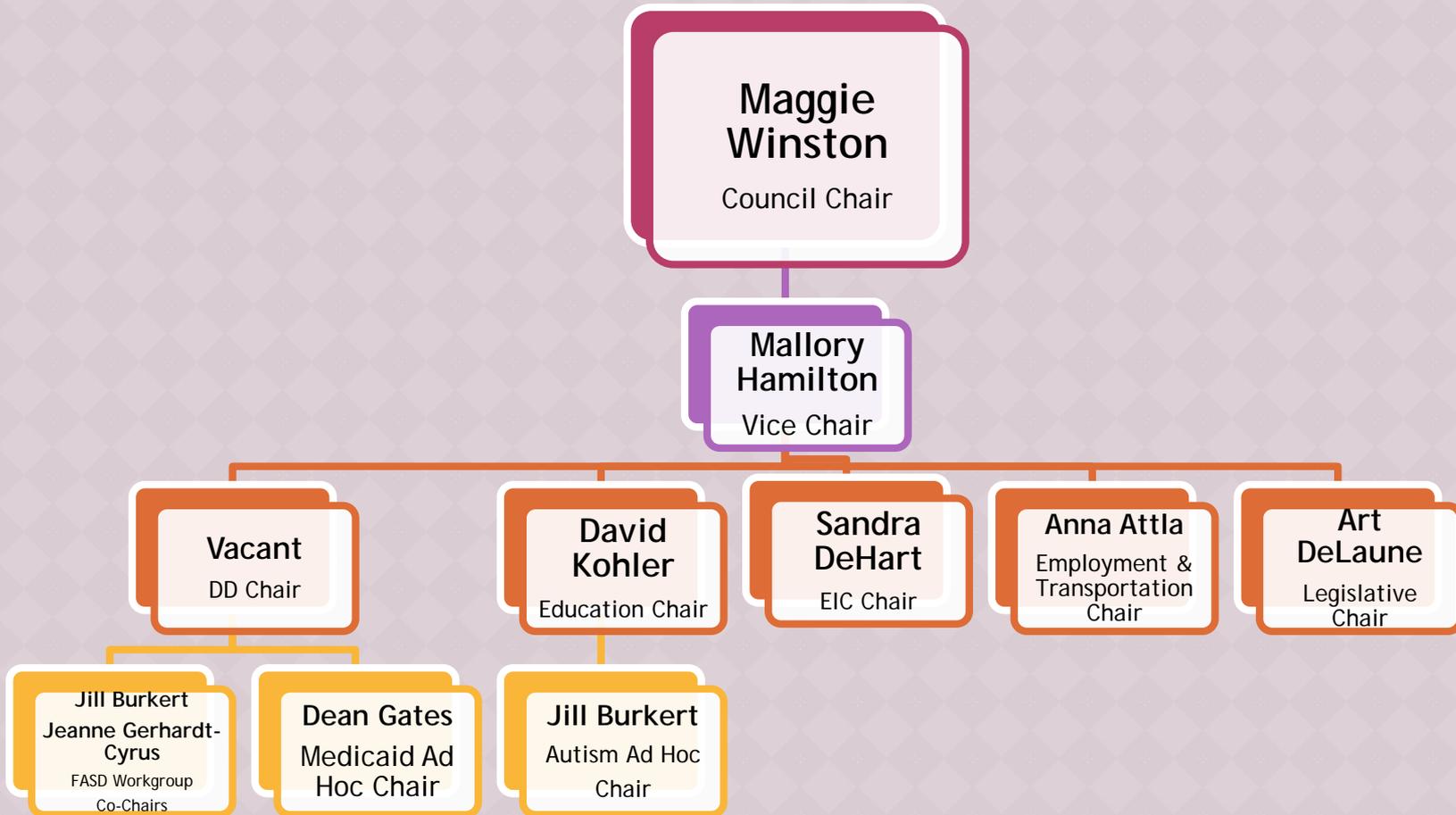
○ Committee pages in column on right of page

- Information about the committee
- Agendas and meeting minutes
- Work plans
- Information and links

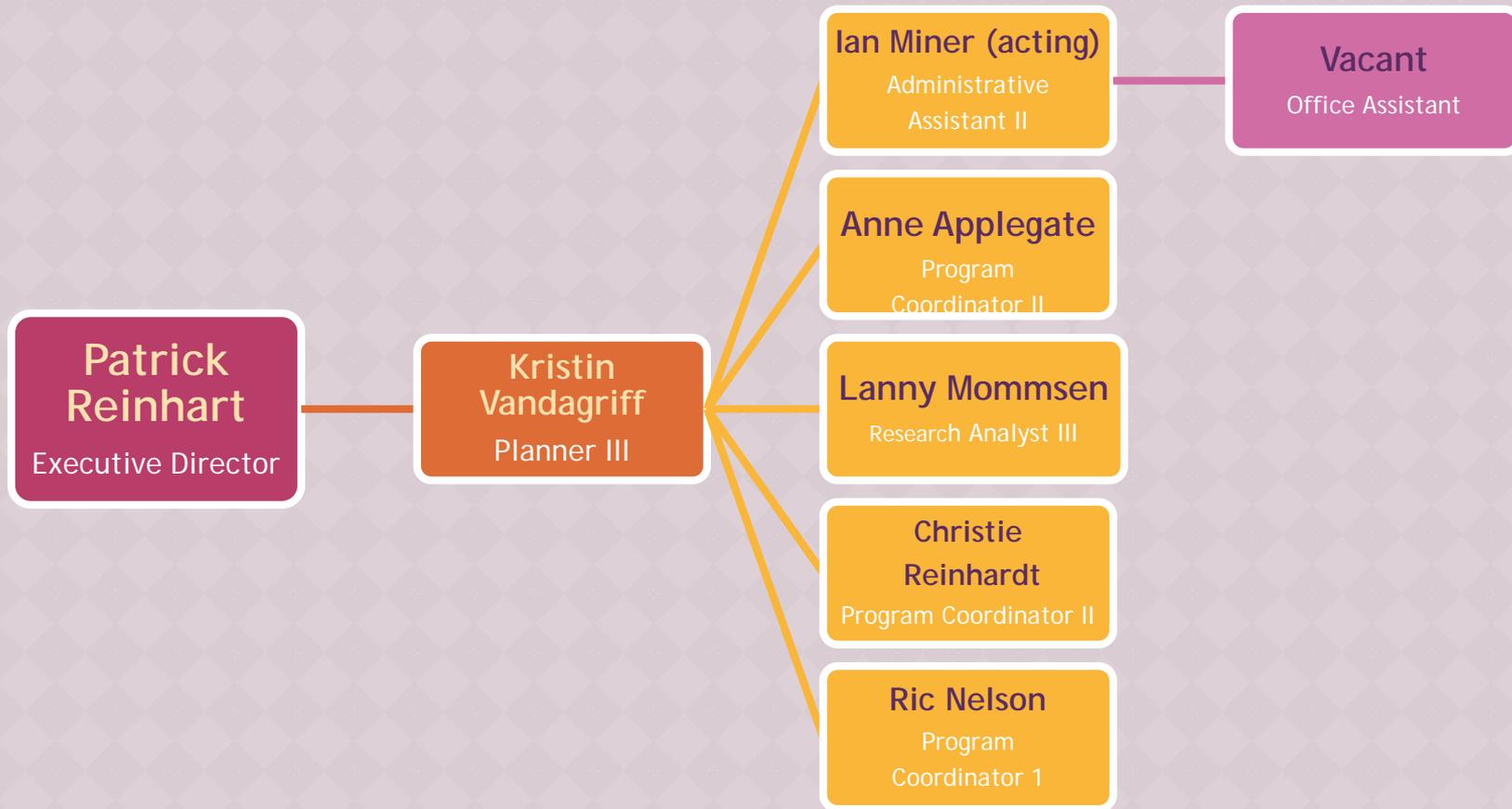


Follow
GCDSE Via
Social Media

COUNCIL POSITIONS



COUNCIL STAFF



COUNCIL MEMBER DUTIES

- Develop, implement, and monitor State Plan
- Set annual priorities and develop annual work plans
- Monitor state systems: regulations, policies, and procedures
- Evaluate Council activities and outcomes
- Focus resources and activities on priorities
- Develop leaders and advocates
- Hire, supervise, and evaluate executive director

COUNCIL MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Attend and participate in Council meetings; prepare for meetings
- Actively participate on at least 1 Council committee
- Complete tasks and respond to email in a timely manner
- Notify the Chair or staff if unable to make a meeting, have to leave early, or will be arriving late

COUNCIL MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Keep track of your travel expenses and turn in required receipts promptly
- Learn about different service systems and issues in your area: seek stakeholder input on priority issues
- Participate in public policymaking activities
- DO NOT represent or speak on behalf of the Council without permission

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

- ◉ Under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act), every state has a Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD Council)
- ◉ The Governor's Council serves as Alaska's DD Council
- ◉ The Developmental Disabilities Committee is the workgroup for the DD Council
- ◉ The Developmental Disabilities Committee is made up of representatives from stakeholder groups



DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

Administration on Intellectual and
Developmental Disabilities

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graph TD; A[Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities] --- B[Projects of National Significance]; A --- C[Councils on Developmental Disabilities]; A --- D[Protection and Advocacy]; A --- E[University Centers for Excellence];
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Projects of
National
Significance

Councils on
Developmental
Disabilities

Protection and
Advocacy

University
Centers for
Excellence

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

- ◎ Current 5-Year Plan: 2016-2022
- ◎ We create 2 year work plans and update annually
 - Community Inclusion and Supports
 - Employment
 - Early Intervention
 - Education
 - Healthcare

STATE 5-YEAR PLAN WORK:





Impact of the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education

- An estimated **13,200 Alaskans have developmental disabilities**; disabilities that are life-long (and often complex).
- **Tens of thousands of Alaskan families are impacted by having a family member that experiences a developmental disability**; often providing care and support.
- Alaskans with developmental disabilities and their families must navigate a complex system; **the Council is their connection to resources, support, peers, and advocacy.**



The Council has Far Reaching Systems Impact:

- Lead and fund innovative projects, in collaboration with organizations who can sustain them.
- Bring together state agencies to work on disability topics that otherwise do not fall into any one agency's purview.
- Advise state agencies in the development of new disability programs.
- Create statewide collaborations between diverse groups of stakeholders.

Stakeholder Survey Quotes About the Council:

"Please keep up the good work. Keep giving people hope and opportunities to get together to work for change...and celebrate change for the better together."

"They do a great job, and are a key partner in advocating for improvements in the quality of life, and systems of care for individuals with disabilities."

"Our lives have personally benefited from all the work, training, and collaboration the council does. It has also enhanced my working knowledge, allowing me to provide for my consumers at a higher level."

"My son wants to live a full life to the best of his abilities but needs some extra help to learn job skills, etc. so having the councils' support and advocacy activities to help him be able to get a job that is meaningful to him is very important."

The Council Connects Citizens to State Government:

- Support private citizens appointed by the Governor as Council members to guide the Council's work.
- Explain regulations and policies to individuals and families.
- Facilitate public comments on regulations and policies based on the feedback of individuals with disabilities, families and other stakeholders.
- Provide opportunities for public forums on disability issues.
- Organize annual advocacy visits for individuals with disabilities and families to meet with their legislators.



Developmental Disabilities Act & Network

The Developmental Disabilities (“DD”) Act was established by Congress, written by families impacted by significant disabilities.

University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs)

- Provide training for professionals
- Advancing research



The DD Act creates 3 programs, the “DD Network”, each addressing the stated needs of families who authored the law.

Protection & Advocacy Systems (P&A)

- Protect rights of people with disabilities
- Prevent abuse
- Provide advocacy, legal services

Developmental Disabilities Act

Councils on Developmental Disabilities

- Improve policies & practices
- Develop disability leaders
- Comprehensive review of state services
- Coordinate cross-agency collaborations
- 60% of the Council's members are private citizens with developmental disabilities or family members



Creating Change that Impacts the Lives of Alaskans with Disabilities!

3601 C Street, Suite 740, Anchorage, AK 99503

1-888-269-8990

<http://dhss.alaska.gov/gcdse>





SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL

- Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), every state has a Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)
- The Governor's Council serves as Alaska's SEAP
- The Education Committee is the workgroup for the SEAP
- The Education Committee is made up of representatives from stakeholder groups



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL

- Advise on unmet needs within the state
- Comment publicly on any rules or regulations
- Advise in developing evaluations
- Advise in developing corrective action plans
- Advise in policies on coordination of services
- Review and comment on completed due process hearing findings



Interagency Coordinating Council

- Under IDEA Part C, every state has an Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities
- The Governor's Council serves as the ICC
- The Early Intervention Committee is the workgroup for the ICC
- The EIC is made up of representatives from stakeholder groups



Interagency Coordinating Council

- ◉ Advise on unmet needs
- ◉ Review and comment on rules and regulations
- ◉ Identification of program supports and services
- ◉ Promotion of interagency agreements
- ◉ Transition of toddlers to preschool
- ◉ Report annually on the status of early intervention programs
- ◉ Advise other agencies about the integration of services

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY

SESA

SESA Mission

SESA provides consultation and training to support the unique educational needs of individuals and the Alaskan communities that serve them

○ SESA Programs

- Low Incidence Disabilities (LID)
- Alaska Autism Resource Center (AARC)
- Educational Transition Support Project (ETSP)
- Alaska Deaf Blind Project (DSI)
- Guiding and Investing in New Special Educators (GAINS)





ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

- Perpetual Trust (like a private foundation)
- Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan and Program
- Trust Beneficiaries
 - Mental illness
 - Developmental disabilities
 - Chronic alcoholism
 - Alzheimer's and related dementia
 - Brain injury

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY

FOCUS AREAS

- ❖ Housing and Long Term Services and Supports
- ❖ Disability Justice
- ❖ Workforce Development
- ❖ Beneficiary Employment and Engagement
- ❖ Substance Abuse, Prevention and Treatment

Mission & Principles

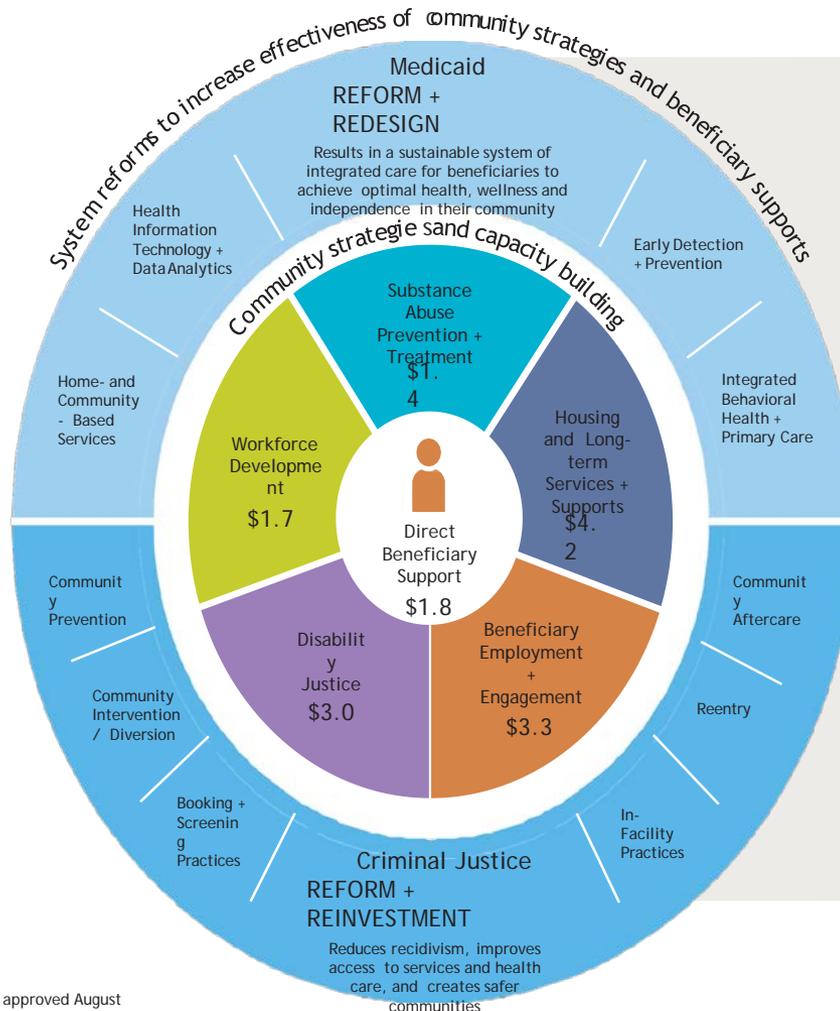
The Trust's mission is to improve the lives of beneficiaries through advocacy, planning, implementing and funding a Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program.

The Trust is committed to:

- Education of the public and policymakers on beneficiary needs
- Collaboration with consumers and partner advocates
- Maximizing beneficiary input into programs
- Continually improving results for beneficiaries
- Prioritizing services for beneficiaries at risk of institutionalization or needing long-term, intensive care
- Useful and timely data for evaluating programs
- Inclusion of early intervention and prevention components

Investments

Beneficiary, Community and System



Key Outputs

Beneficiaries access quality, integrated, whole person health care

Decrease in youth alcohol and substance use and adult binge drinking and illicit substance use

Develop a well-qualified and sustainable workforce to meet the current and future behavioral health and healthcare needs of beneficiaries, their families and communities

Reduce adult and youth involvement in the criminal justice system and reduce criminal recidivism

Beneficiaries achieve integrated employment and have access to quality peer support services

Beneficiaries can access safe and affordable housing with appropriate community-based social services to maintain tenancy

Results

Beneficiaries have improved health

Adults and children are free of the burdens created by alcohol and substance abuse

Alaska's workforce meets beneficiary and employer needs

The criminal justice system effectively accommodates the needs of victims and offenders who are Trust beneficiaries

Beneficiaries are employed or meaningfully engaged in their communities

Beneficiaries maintain stable, safe housing



TRAVEL FOR COUNCIL

- Members often travel to:
 - Council meetings
 - advocate on behalf of the Council
 - conferences
- Forms you need to complete:
 - Travel Worksheet
 - Sign Authorization Form
 - Non-Employee Travel Agreement
 - Personal Care Attendant Estimate Form (if needed)
 - Respite Services Estimate Form (if needed)

TRAVEL FOR COUNCIL

○ Receipts you need to keep:

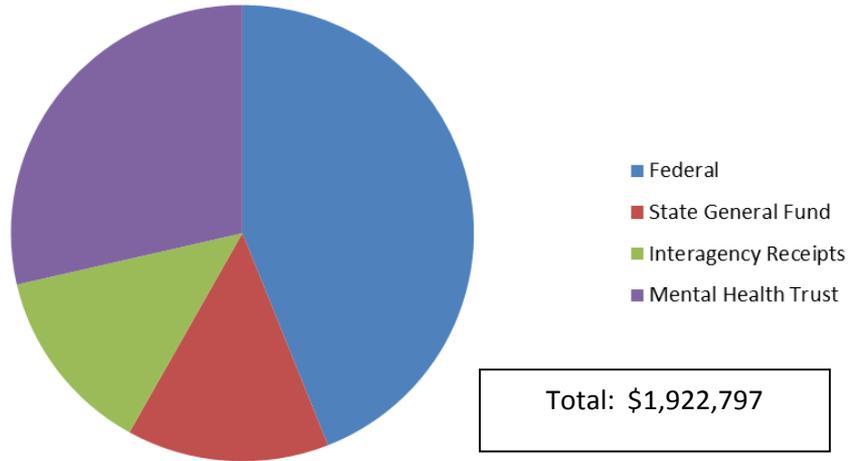
- Boarding passes (must have a paper copy)
- Hotel invoice
- Transportation receipts (taxi, airport shuttle, etc)
- NO FOOD receipts needed
- Receipts need to be turned in 5 days after travel is completed

○ Who to contact:

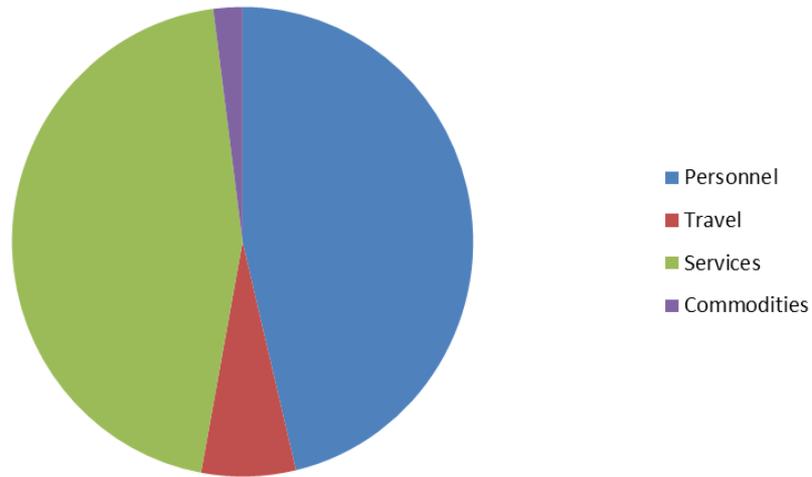
- Ian Miner 269-8990, 1-800-269-8990
- ian.miner@alaska.gov

FY 2018 COUNCIL BUDGET

Revenues



Expenses



PEOPLE FIRST LANGUAGE

- Every individual deserves to be treated with respect
- Emphasizes the person first
- Recognizes the person is not a disability
- Don't use terms that label, generalize, stereotype, devalue, or discriminate
- Unless it is relevant to the conversation, don't refer to the person's disability

PEOPLE FIRST LANGUAGE

○ Examples:

- Use “person with a developmental disability” not “disabled person”
- Say “person who uses a wheelchair” not “wheelchair-bound person”
- Use “accessible parking/bathrooms” instead of “handicapped parking/bathrooms”
- Consider using “diverse ability” instead of “disability”

IS INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY THE SAME AS *DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES*?

“Developmental Disabilities”

=

Umbrella term for disabilities which are severe, chronic, appear before age of 22, and are likely to be lifelong.

Intellectual
Developmental
Disability

Physical
Developmental
Disability

Intellectual
and Physical
Developmental
Disability

ALASKA'S DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY ELIGIBILITY DEFINITION:

- ◉ According to state law (AS. 47.80.900 (7)), the term developmental disability(DD) means a severe, chronic disability that:
- ◉ Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments; is manifested before the individual attains age 22; is likely to continue indefinitely;
- ◉ results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity:
 - self care
 - receptive and expressive language;
 - learning;
 - mobility;
 - self direction; capacity for independent living;
 - economic self-sufficiency;
- ◉ and reflects the person's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic assistance, supports or other services that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.
- ◉ <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dsds/Pages/dd/eligible.aspx>

OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS TO KNOW

○ Acronyms

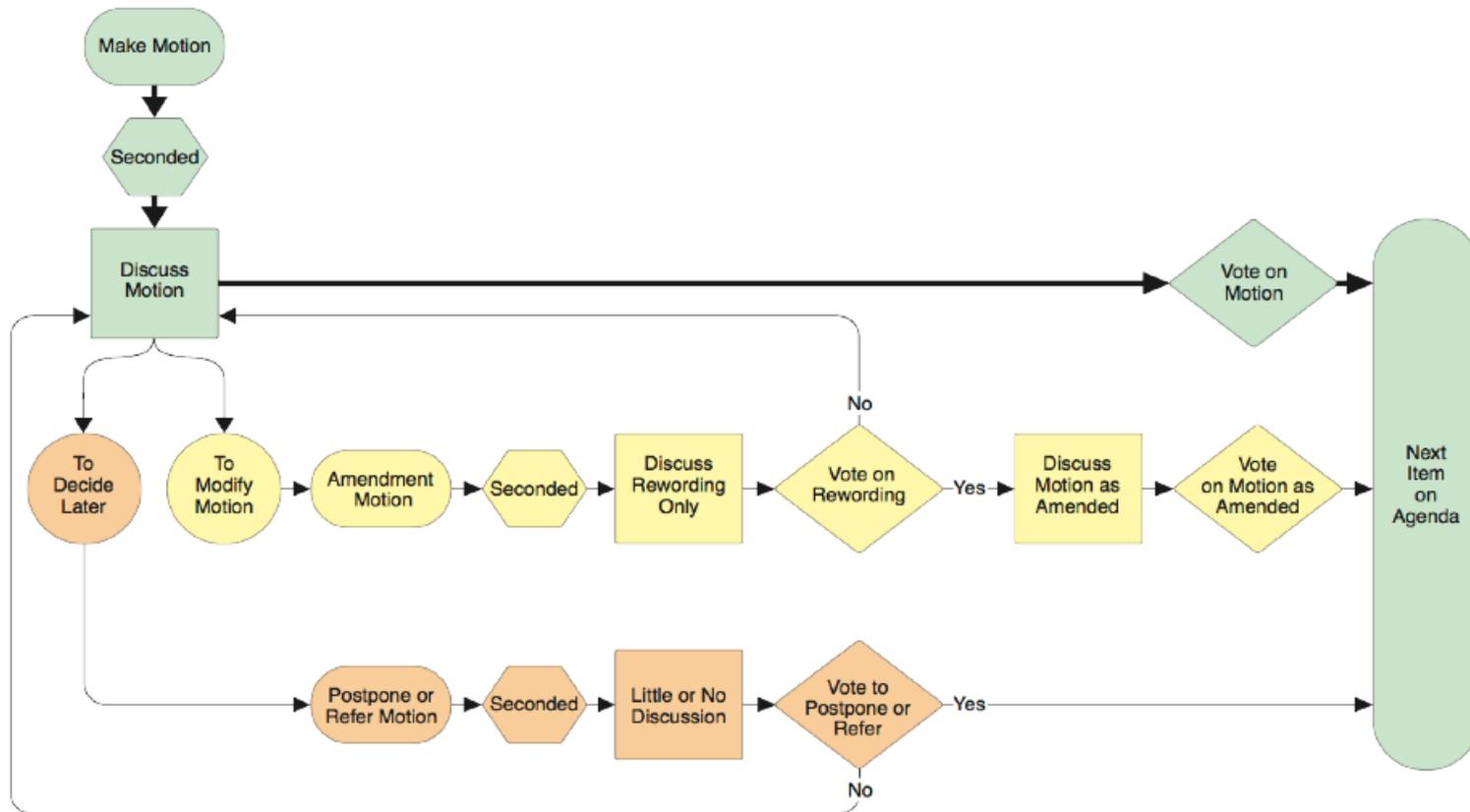


○ Democratic Rules of Order

○ Council history and achievements



FLOW CHART USING DEMOCRATIC RULES OF ORDER



QUESTIONS?

