

Putting Values into Practice

We're Making Progress

MEANINGFUL LIVES

- Over 20% of individuals served (469 individuals) are employed or working towards employment
- 44% of individuals live on their own or with their families
- Young adults (age 18 to 49) with developmental disabilities receive an average of 27 hours per week of unpaid support from family and friends

SKILLED WORKFORCE

- The Alaska Training Cooperative provided training to 3,753 direct support professionals in 2017

INTEGRITY

Myers and Stauffer Audits

- **2010:** 89.63% of claims are supported by verifiable documentation, 7 developmental disabilities providers included (impacted by one outlier now decertified)
- **2011:** 96.41% of claims are supported by verifiable documentation, 9 developmental disabilities providers included
- **2012:** 92.04% of claims are supported by verifiable documentation, 8 developmental disabilities providers included

YEAR AT A GLANCE

- ABLE Accounts: 101 open accounts, 86 are funded, Total assets: \$347,165
- Alaska Disability Benefits 101 work calculator: <https://ak.db101.org>
- Alaska Transition Handbook: Pathway to Adulthood and Employment: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/gcdse/Documents/TransitionsHandbook.pdf>
- Secured funding to increase assistive technology related activities
- Statewide DD Vision strategic planning process with 70 people actively participating
- Working Interdisciplinary Networks of Guardianship Stakeholders (WINGS) begun to focus on supported decision making
- National Core Indicator data (N = 138)
 - Full guardianship: US - 55%, Alaska - 96%
 - Support workers have the right skills to meet the family's needs: US - 57%, Alaska - 42%

UPCOMING SYSTEM CHANGE:

INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORTS WAIVER

For many individuals and their families this will be a significant change to how their services have been provided under the grant program. The Individualized Supports Waiver is targeted to begin in CY2018. Highlights of the new program include:

- 600 individuals who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities to be served
- Eligibility is the same as the IDD waiver
- Individuals selected for the waiver have been previously served by the Community Developmental Disabilities Grant program
- The Individualized Supports Waiver will have a maximum of \$17,500 available for a limited menu of services
- Individuals will be placed on a registry for services until eligibility and level of care are determined and a care coordinator is identified to develop the service plan
- The individualized supports waiver will draw down additional federal Medicaid funds

"Developmental Disabilities" is an umbrella term for disabilities which are severe, chronic, appear before the age of 22, and are likely to be lifelong.



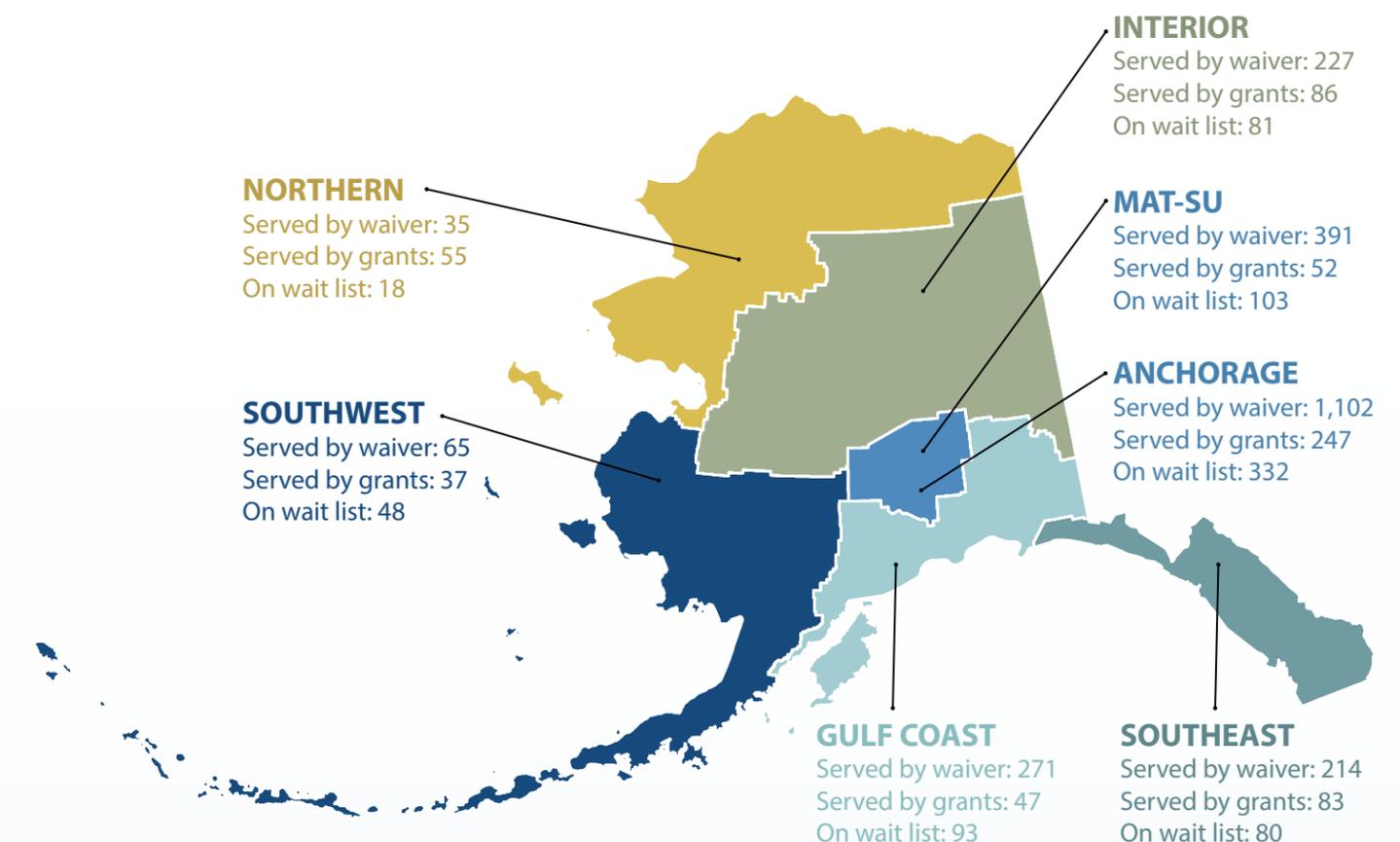
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 - Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Office of Rate Review, SFY16.
 - Alaska Department of Health and Human Services, Senior and Disabilities Services, Research and Analysis Section, as of 1/18.
 - Caregivers of Younger Adults: A Focused Look at Those Caring for Someone Age 18 to 49*. (2015, June). NAC and AARP Public Policy Institute.
 - University of Alaska Anchorage, Center for Human Development, Alaska Training Cooperative, SFY17.
 - Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities, as of 12/17.
 - Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Medicaid Program Integrity, as of 12/17.
- Produced in cooperation by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, Key Coalition of Alaska, Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities and the Alaska Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education.*

Alaska's Developmental Disabilities System in 2018



IMPACT: \$138 Million in wages were paid to staff supporting Alaskans with developmental disabilities.



Moving Forward Together: Alaska's Developmental Disabilities System

A clear, unified vision ensures values are upheld during both strong and weak economic times.

AN EVOLVING SYSTEM

From Institutions

Harborview Developmental Center closes in 1997.

To Communities

Home and community based waivers began in 1994.

**1/3
THE
COST**

If Harborview were open today, it would cost \$252,427 per resident – **the average home and community based waiver costs just one third that!**

To Meaningful Lives

The future!

HOW WILL WE GET THERE?

- Full collaboration with system partners
- Transformation efforts align with the vision
- Ensure the system is person-directed
- Measure outcomes
- Be good stewards of resources
- Recruit and retain skilled workforce
- Safeguard program integrity
- A system that is flexible and simple to navigate

MEANINGFUL LIFE

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

PERSON-DIRECTED

FLEXIBLE SERVICES

SKILLED WORKFORCE

OUTCOME-DRIVEN

Shared Vision:

Alaskans share a vision of a flexible system in which each person directs their own supports, based on their strengths and abilities, toward a meaningful life in their home, their job and their community. Our vision includes supported families, professional staff and services available throughout the state now and into the future.

Living with Meaning

Meet the People



MEET COREY, JUNEAU

Corey Gilmore, originally from Maine, moved to Juneau in 2012 to be with his girlfriend. He was introduced to his girlfriend through a mutual friend. Corey and his girlfriend had a long-distance relationship through social media avenues for over a year before a friend helped him with a crowd funding site to help cover the costs of moving to Alaska. Corey and his girlfriend live a very full life. They volunteer two days per week at an integrated pre-school and teach a youth group at church. They live in a house they hope someday to own. Corey was recently appointed to the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education and believes strongly that his role in life is to make a positive difference in someone else's life. Corey wants to go to school to become a youth pastor. Corey appreciates the support he receives so he is able to get out in the community to be able to give back.



MEET DENNIS, DILLINGHAM

Dennis Bernard Pete has lived in Dillingham for about 20 years. The group home he lives in benefits from a subsistence lifestyle including fishing in the summer, berry picking, successful fall moose camp and productive bird hunting. Fresh frozen seafood from the cannery adds to the variety of locally resourced food supplies. The home has raised garden beds that Dennis helped build and as soon as they can get good dirt they have plans for a vegetable garden. Dennis is very active in the local community. He volunteers at the senior center every day by cleaning up after lunch and visiting with the seniors. He enjoys shopping, going out to eat for hamburgers, riding sno-go's, taco Tuesday, playing pool, listening to music and watching basketball. Dennis is a good woodworker. He has helped build a kayak from dropping the tree to pounding the nails, makes birdfeeders and wind chimes to sell at holiday bazaars and is currently working on a dog sled. Family is very important to Dennis. He stays in touch with family by phone, especially with his mom and favorite sibling. His family lives in a remote area and the Dillingham community has often come together to support and assist Dennis in making the long trip to visit.



MEET HARLEY, FAIRBANKS

Harley Hogan is a triplet. He and his brothers were placed in institutions in the lower 48 as adolescents when their behaviors became unmanageable in the family home. Harley was in and out of institutions for about five years. Previous efforts to bring him back to Alaska had failed. His last institutional placement reached out to Alaska with a plea for an alternate placement due to his behaviors. They provided video footage of a very destructive young man, living in a bare-bones setting with no quality to his life. A provider organization in Fairbanks saw the video and decided to serve Harley. His return to Alaska was accompanied with out of control behaviors that resulted in about \$80,000 worth of damage to his house in the first year. This led to hospitalization at API where he met two young staff who discovered that Harley did well when his environment had limited stimulus and instructions were given with no more than 3 steps. His house staff tried this approach and it has worked. Harley has not been hospitalized for two years. He still requires a high level of staff support but now he's able to go out to eat at a restaurant once a week and he goes grocery shopping with his Sunday newspaper coupons. Harley's life is moving in a positive direction.



MEET MAGGIE, KENAI

Maggie Winston is a mom of twin adolescent boys. When Maggie's boys were one year old, her life changed in a matter of hours when she experienced a rare auto immune disorder that left her with no use of her arms and legs. Fast-forward twelve years and we find Maggie working at the Soldotna Independent Living Center as a Systems Advocate. She lives in Kenai in a 3-bedroom, fully accessible house with her boys that was built with sweat equity of her brother and other family members through the help of the Rural Cap program. She has a lift equipped van that was purchased through fundraising and the grace of an anonymous donor. She also completed a degree in Psychology and is the Chair of the State of Alaska's Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education. She's an ardent advocate for disability awareness and advocates for the developmental disability system to be good stewards of service dollars. Maggie says she has a really great life because of the services she receives. She is able to be as independent and autonomous as possible by choosing and training her staff, making choices that are right for her and her family and continuing to live a full life.



MEET REBECCA, PALMER

Rebecca Allely is the proud owner of Becca's Alpacas in Palmer. Her nine alpacas require daily feeding, watering and mucking out of their stalls. Rebecca does this every morning without fail. She's hoping three more alpacas will be born next summer. Once a year, her alpacas are sheared and the lengthy process of turning the fleece into useable yarn begins. The fleece must be picked, tumbled, washed, dried, hand spun, and packaged for sale at local crafts fairs and markets. Rebecca has faced the challenges of every entrepreneur and start-up company of developing a sound business plan, accessing capital for purchase of her alpacas and keeping track of ongoing business expenses like hay. The alpacas can graze in the summer but winter time requires a lot of hay to be purchased. Rebecca continuously explores new product lines. Her felted dryer balls sell like hot cakes and hand-dyeing wholesale purchased yarn has expanded her customer base. Rebecca lives with two other self-employed entrepreneurs who share her desire to be independent business owners. Rebecca's alpacas keep her close to home but she still finds time for fun through archery, fishing, hiking and bowling. Rebecca hopes her story can inspire others.



MEET TRAVIS, ANCHORAGE

Travis Noah came to Alaska as a little boy with his family. His father retired from his last duty station in Fairbanks and the family settled outside of North Pole. After graduating from high school, Travis went on to several customer jobs in the Fairbanks area but for health reasons needed to relocate to the warmer climate in Anchorage. Travis lives in an apartment with a service dog and technology that offers him the ability to move freely from his bedroom to bathroom with a ceiling track, voice activated lights and other auto-controlled devices such as door locks and window blinds. Travis liked his previous jobs but when it comes to his current job as a peer advocate, he's totally animated as he talks about having a job where he can combine his love for disability politics with his appetite for helping other people with disabilities and their families. Travis's employer offers him flexibility to get his job done and understands the constraints earned income can place on benefit eligibility. Travis is eloquent and comfortable whether speaking to the Anchorage zoning commission about accessibility issues or with an individual with a disability on ways to be heard. Travis is an asset to our community.