



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of
Health and Social Services**

DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
Director's Office

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April 22, 2022

Dear Valued Partners,

I am proud to share that Governor Dunleavy's Executive Order 121 (EO 121) to restructure the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) into two departments has now become law, official as of March 19, 2022.

The services previously provided by DHSS will be separated and offered in two newly named departments, effective July 1, 2022.

- Department of Family and Community Services (DFCS) consisting of:
 - Office of Children's Services (OCS)
 - Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)
 - Alaska Pioneer Homes (AKPH)
 - Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API)

- Department of Health (DOH) consisting of:
 - Division of Public Assistance (DPA)
 - Division of Public Health (DPH)
 - Division of Behavioral Health (DBH)
 - Division of Health Care Services (HCS)
 - Division of Senior and Disabilities Services (SDS)

The services and programs provided by the divisions of DHSS will not change. The divisions and their programs will just be housed in new departments, with two separate commissioners.

We want to make clear that there are no actions currently being asked of you.

This is an informative email to make you aware of what has occurred and to share additional resources which can be found on the DHSS Reorganization website at reorg.dhss.alaska.gov. On the website you will find [FAQs](https://dhss.alaska.gov/Commissioner/Pages/reorganization/faq.aspx) (dhss.alaska.gov/Commissioner/Pages/reorganization/faq.aspx), [documents and resources](https://dhss.alaska.gov/Commissioner/Pages/reorganization/resources.aspx) (dhss.alaska.gov/Commissioner/Pages/reorganization/resources.aspx), and an [implementation plan](https://dhss.alaska.gov/Commissioner/Documents/reorganization/DHSS%20EO%20121%20Transition%20Plan%20(2-6-22).pdf) (dhss.alaska.gov/Commissioner/Documents/reorganization/DHSS EO 121 Transition Plan (2-6-22).pdf.) The website will be regularly updated, so please check back for new information.

Communication will continue over the next couple months of this transition, and you can expect more information to be shared by your usual department contacts.

Thank you for your ongoing participation as we set the two departments up for success, and then have time to redesign our systems of care, together.

If you have questions about the reorganization, please email dhsreorg@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Renee Gayhart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Renee Gayhart
Director