

2020 Grant Analysis Report

This report contains information on Trust projects funded in fiscal year 2020. The staff analyses in this report were informed by FY19 MHTAAR and Authority grant reports from grantees, FY20 interim reports from grantees when applicable, and through regular communication with grantees, advisory boards, and key partners throughout the year. Projects are organized by focus area. The Table of Contents below contains live links to each project.

The Trust thanks the grantee organizations and their staff who work hard to deploy the Trust funds for projects, services and programs to improve Alaska’s continuum of care for Trust beneficiaries. The time, expertise, devotion and partnership of Trust grantees cannot be overstated.

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Housing & Long-Term Services and Supports

Project Title: Juneau Housing Coordinator		
Grantee: City & Borough of Juneau		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 4	Project Category: Capacity Building	
FY19: \$52,763	FY20: \$110,000	FY21: \$110,000
<p>Project Description: The Housing and Homelessness Coordinator position through the City and Borough of Juneau is a three-year partnership between the Trust and the City of Juneau to work to end homelessness in the community. The Coordinator will act as a liaison between the City of Juneau, the Juneau Housing and Homeless Coalition, the business community, and nonprofits to reduce homelessness in Juneau.</p>		
<p>Analysis: This project has demonstrated positive outcomes. The coordinator position assists with coordinating the local homeless coalition, works with members to enter all required data for federal reporting and identifies projects that will reduce homelessness in Juneau. The coordinator works with City and Borough of Juneau staff across departments to reach solutions for homeless individuals who are sleeping in areas not meant for human habitation. Most recently, a campground was converted for use by people who are homeless and services coordinated on site to serve campers.</p> <p>The three year project period ends at the completion of FY21 and is expected to transition to the City and Borough of Juneau in FY22. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 3.1 Alaskans have stable, safe housing with appropriate, community-based social supports to maintain tenancy.</p>		

Project Title: City of Fairbanks Housing Coordinator		
Grantee: City of Fairbanks		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 4	Project Category: Capacity Building	
FY19: \$111,300	FY20: \$110,000	FY21: \$110,000
<p>Project Description: The Homeless and Housing Services Coordinator position through the City of Fairbanks Mayor's Office is a three-year partnership between the Trust and the City of Fairbanks to work to end homelessness in Fairbanks. The Coordinator will act as a liaison between the City of Fairbanks, the Fairbanks Housing and Homeless Coalition, the business community, and nonprofits to reduce homelessness in Fairbanks.</p>		

For the City of Fairbanks, ending homelessness creates many social and economic benefits. Studies have shown that the top 20% of safety net system users consume approximately 65% of the resources available for homeless services. This will ultimately assist Fairbanks in reducing our homeless population by increasing community capacity for homeless services and housing provision.

Analysis: This project has demonstrated positive outcomes and met its stated deliverables. The coordinator position has formalized partnerships in the Fairbanks area to form a strong local housing and homeless coalition that includes membership from reentry and social services partners. This group has a formal strategic plan and develops charters to create new services in the Fairbanks homeless services continuum.

The coordinator, on behalf of and with the coalition, successfully applied for grants to deliver rapid rehousing, prevention and diversion and a homeless camp outreach program. The coordinator worked with coalition members to enter all required data for federal reporting and coordinated local Point In Time count events. A landlord and service provider liaison workgroup was created to support newly housed people and reduce eviction through supportive services.

The three year project period ends at the completion of FY21 and is expected to transition to the City of Fairbanks in FY22. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 3.1 Alaskans have stable, safe housing with appropriate, community-based social supports to maintain tenancy.

Project Title: DD System Capacity Development

Grantee: Alaska Association On Developmental Disabilities

Fund: Authority Grant

Years Funded: 4

Project Category: Capacity Building

FY19: \$65,000

FY20: \$65,000

FY21: \$65,000

Project Description: Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities (AADD) provider agencies continue to experience the stresses of changing federal regulations, the state budgetary and programming changes. Each one of these changes impact providers in the way services are provided and have significant budgetary ramifications. This funding will work to achieve the following four goals:

- 1) Advocate for a strong system and best practices through involvement with national trends and organization.
- 2) Change management support for leadership in provider organization related to changes within the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) system required by Medicaid Redesign and federal requirements.
- 3) Provide for Agency sustainability through supporting agencies in adapting to costing models needed under the changes to the IDD system.
- 4) Work force development to address training needs of agency staff

Analysis: This project has met its expected deliverables to date. This is a core IDD systems change initiative for the state that corresponds with implementing the DD Vision. AADD advocates for best practices to be implemented by its members and the state system as whole. AADD encourages member to obtain training on both business acumen and service delivery. AADD is active in statewide

workforce initiatives, especially those surrounding direct service professionals. An active participant in the DD Vision, AADD works to implement recommendations made including use of technology, consumer-driven decision making, and implementing recommendations made by self-advocates.

As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with AADD continue to improve the IDD service provider system capacity unless the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objective 9.1: Strengthen workforce capacity with improved recruitment and retention to obtain and maintain knowledge and support innovation and modernization.

Project Title: Office of Integrated Housing		
Grantee: DHSS, Division of Behavioral Health		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 17	Project Category: TBD	
FY19: \$122,000	FY20: \$125,700	FY21: \$125,700
Project Description: Recognizing the challenges of providing adequate assistance to social service providers in the area of Permanent Supportive Housing in Alaska, the Trust advocated for the creation of a focused office for housing for Trust beneficiaries within the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS). At the time, separate mental health and alcohol/substance abuse housing efforts were merging in order to create an integrated housing resource within the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) to develop supported housing and housing opportunities for consumers struggling with mental illness and/or substance abuse. The Division of Behavioral Health and the Trust will develop a plan to implement housing and supportive services for Trust beneficiaries across the Department utilizing the tools available through new Medicaid funding opportunities and coordination of services across Divisions serving Trust beneficiaries.		
Analysis: This position has been a long-standing partnership with DBH to address supported housing needs for beneficiaries. Noted successes include the award and implementation of the ACT and ICM grants, implementation of the Moving Home Voucher Program, coordination and planning efforts around the 811 grant, on-going work and coordination with the Technical Assistance Collaborative to create a long-term strategic housing plan, and working with CMS on the Innovative Accelerator Program to further the implementation of the Permanent Supportive Housing Plan. This position provided the support to include ACT and ICM services into the 1115 waiver to create a more sustainable funding source for these services. Through the implementation of the 1115 waiver in FY21, the Division of Behavioral Health has the opportunity to leverage Medicaid Administrative Claiming and obtain federal reimbursement for a portion of the position improving sustainability. This position has shifted focus from housing to a broader range of recovery services and it is recommended to review the position with the division to identify how Medicaid Administrative Claiming and Trust funding can be paired together for future activities. It is expected that there will be a decrease in Trust funding with cost sharing in place. This project aligns with Comp Plan Goal 7: Trust beneficiaries' behavioral health needs are accurately assessed and met in the least restrictive environment.		

Project Title: System Infrastructure and Capacity Development for ADRD and IDD programs		
Grantee: To be determined		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 6	Project Category: TBD	
FY19: \$100,000	FY20: \$150,000	FY21: \$150,000
<p>Project Description: This funding is identified to further the planning and systems change work for the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias service systems. Past grantees have included, among others, Alaska Association On Developmental Disabilities and Alzheimer’s Resource Association. These service systems have experienced rapid change and budget constraints creating the need to increase capacity to serve new generations with new expectations of what the service system should look like to provide support. Both the State of Alaska and home and community based service providers are grappling with how to use technology, expand workforce, and incorporate person directed care into an already fatigued system.</p>		
<p>Analysis: This funding helps to support infrastructure and capacity development to strengthen the existing home and community based service system. This line item does not have a specified grantee during the initial budget creation. Rather, projects identified are intended to meet a need that arises during the fiscal year.</p> <p>Three projects were funded in FY20:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tailored Care certification training to support an ADRD grant that focuses on supporting caregivers; 2. A HomeMod software update to improve portability and product interaction that supports Trust beneficiaries who need home modifications; and 3. Consultation and facilitation of the DD Vision work to shape IDD services systems change. <p>In light of the state’s fiscal challenges, the transition of this project to SOA GF/MH is not likely in the foreseeable future (2-4 years). As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust’s funding to support capacity development continue until the state’s fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objective 7.2: Increase access to effective and flexible, person-centered, long-term services and supports in urban and rural areas to avoid institutional placement.</p>		

Project Title: Legal Resources for Trust Beneficiaries		
Grantee: Alaska Legal Services Corporation		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 10	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$75,000	FY20: \$75,000	FY21: \$75,000
<p>Project Description: Alaska Legal Services Corporation will provide direct free civil legal assistance to beneficiaries on issues that are critical to preventing homelessness such those that threaten their physical safety, stability, and self-sufficiency and thereby place them at risk of becoming homeless or</p>		

that are contributing to current homelessness. This grant also provides support to train Alaska Legal Services Staff.

Analysis: This is a key project that prevents homelessness through beneficiary education that is not available through any other resource. Many people who receive notice of eviction of have problems with their landlord do not have the resources to hire representation. Alaska Legal Services is able to delay or prevent eviction, reducing homelessness for Trust beneficiaries by providing free legal assistance. This funding is used as match to leverage federal funding opportunities.

As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with Alaska Legal Services Corporation continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 3.1 Alaskans have stable, safe housing with appropriate, community-based social supports to maintain tenancy.

Project Title: Special Needs Housing Grant

Grantee: Alaska Housing Finance Corporation

Fund: MHTAAR

Years Funded: 4

Project Category: Direct Service

FY19: \$200,000

FY20: \$200,000

FY21: \$200,000

Project Description: This project is a partnership with Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) to improve the capacity in rural Alaska by supporting a rural housing coordinator position and provide funding for small projects for this region. The Special Needs Housing Grant as a larger initiative works statewide to implement supportive housing projects including permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing.

Analysis: The Rural Housing Coordinator position through partnership with AHFC and the Alaska Association of Housing Authorities (AAHA) is a three-year partnership with the Trust and the Northwest Region to work to end homelessness in the Arctic Northwest Borough. The Coordinator will act as a liaison between the region's funders, social service agencies, housing agencies, tribal and local governments and departments to establish and facilitate a housing and homeless coalition. This coalition will develop a scope of work to address housing and homeless services needs in the area and work with the coalition to prioritize projects. This position will propose small projects to be funded through the Special Needs Housing Grant.

This project will work regionally to develop the infrastructure and network necessary to implement housing and homeless services. Some areas do not yet have a homeless shelter. Rather than people experiencing the traditional definition of homeless, many areas of rural Alaska have houses that are severely overcrowded. Because of this, some areas do not know how many people are in need of housing, if affordable housing were available to them. Coordinating the funding for shelters and affordable housing projects is complex work made doubly so by the logistics of rural Alaska. This project aims to be a connector with the community and resources through AAHA, AHFC, and others to find a path forward.

This is a core homeless services grant program for the state that has been flat funded for several years. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with AHFC to support the Special Needs Housing Grant continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted

accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 3.1 Alaskans have stable, safe housing with appropriate, community-based social supports to maintain tenancy.

Project Title: Juneau Rapid Rehousing		
Grantee: Family Promise of Juneau		
Funding: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 2	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$150,000	FY21: \$150,000
<p>Project Description: Family Promise Juneau and Saint Vincent de Paul, in partnership with AWARE, propose development of a multi-agency shared Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing program for clients in the Coordinated Entry System. This program will follow the National Alliance to End Homelessness and Supportive Services for Veterans Families standards. The proposed program will work with landlords to help prevent evictions and provide short-term rental assistance and services to those with our housing to obtain housing quickly, increase self- sufficiency, and stay housed. Family Promise of Juneau’s approach is different than traditional HP&RR housing projects in two ways. The proposed program will work with landlords to help prevent evictions in situations where the tenant is interested in remaining in the leased property. This keeps an eviction off the tenant’s record and reduces eviction costs for landlords.</p> <p>The goals of this project are to: Create a network of reliable landlords that are willing to house individuals and families leaving homelessness, assist individuals and families in moving into realistic private market rental units of their choosing, provide goal-oriented case management for up to one year and offer limited tapering financial support that provides housing stability while fostering the client’s independence.</p> <p>Analysis: This funding helps to support infrastructure and capacity development to strengthen the existing housing and homeless service system. Rapid Rehousing is a cost effective housing program to house homeless families and resolve the reasons the family became homeless. This project works with families to improve financial literacy, gain and maintain employment, and access services needed to stabilize family members that need additional help. One example is a child with undiagnosed mental illness that presented as behavior problems in school. The mother missed a significant amount of time responding to her child at school and after school care and lost her job. The two parent family needed both incomes to afford rent and necessities and lost their apartment. Connecting the family to CHIP and obtaining an assessment and treatment has led to significant improvement in behavior and school performance for the child so that the mother was able to return to work. Case management combined with funds for a security deposit helped end this family’s homelessness. A majority of those served have one or more Trust beneficiaries in the family.</p> <p>This project has a three year duration and funding is recommended for the full three years as long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 3.1 Alaskans have stable, safe housing with appropriate, community-based social supports to maintain tenancy.</p>		

Project Title: Homeless Assistance Program - Capital		
Grantee: Alaska Housing Finance Corporation		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 19	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$950,000	FY20: \$950,000	FY21: \$950,000
<p>Project Description: The Homeless Assistance Program is one of Alaska Housing Finance Corporation's (AHFC) core funding programs. The Basic Homeless Assistance Program (BHAP) was established in 1993, and has been a core program for Alaska Housing Finance Corporation to support emergency shelter services, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing efforts as well as capital needs for these grantees. In 2007, AHFC began a restructuring of the Homeless Assistance Program and the Special Needs Housing Program to better serve hundreds of homeless and/or near-homeless families to obtain or retain safe and sanitary shelter each year and to create sustainable supported housing over time. Demand for this program has steadily increased as federal and municipal sources have diminished.</p>		
<p>Analysis: This funding provides direct support to beneficiaries to provide housing and services for the Alaska homeless population, which includes people from all beneficiary groups. This funding is necessary to develop permanent supportive housing for populations that would otherwise go unserved or underserved and to provide emergency shelter. This grant has met or exceeded its performance measures. In addition to direct services, this funding provides key training and staffing to improve the coordination of housing and homeless services statewide. Trust MHTAAR funds are leveraged to add additional grant funds to support this program.</p> <p>In FY19, AHFC awarded BHAP funding to 36 organizations in 20 communities statewide to assist Alaskan's experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness. These organizations provide emergency shelter, re-entry assistance for persons released from corrections, transitional housing, short-term rental assistance, and/or services to prevent homelessness. 2,362 AMHTA documented beneficiaries received services through HAP funded programs.</p> <p>In light of the state's fiscal challenges, the transition of this project to SOA GF/MH is not likely in the foreseeable future (2-4 years). This is a core homeless services grant program for the state that has been flat funded for several years. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with AHFC to support the Basic Homeless Assistance Program continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 3.1 Alaskans have stable, safe housing with appropriate, community-based social supports to maintain tenancy.</p>		

Project Title: Alaska Brain Injury Network – Assessment Clinics		
Grantee: Alaska Brain Injury Network		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 15	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$160,000	FY20: \$160,000	FY21: \$160,000
<p>Project Description: The Alaska Brain Injury Network (ABIN), through its assessment clinic program, will bring clinics to different parts of Alaska to screen and assess for brain injuries and through volunteer medical providers can give a diagnosis to some who are suffering from a brain injury.</p>		

People who have more complex diagnostic needs will be provided referrals. Individuals served at the clinics will receive resource information and information about the day to day impact of having a brain injury. Local providers are engaged in the clinics and have opportunities to connect with specialists and learn how to screen for a brain injury. Partnerships with other agencies in the home and community based services continuum of care will be engaged in this work and connected to the resources ABIN provides. ABIN will work with Senior and Disabilities Services (SDS) to provide applicable Medicaid or grant services, including case management, for people with a TBI.

Analysis: The assessment clinic project has met its expected deliverables to date. There is not another project like it that gives access to communities that would otherwise be without this type of specialty assessment and care. In FY20 two clinics were held out of the four planned. Two were cancelled due to COVID-19 travel and gathering restrictions. Alternative means to provide the assessments will need to be reworked to ensure COVID-19 precautions are implemented. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with ABIN continue unless the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objective 7.2: Increase access to effective and flexible, person-centered, long-term services and supports in urban and rural areas to avoid institutional placement.

Project Title: Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Reform Contract		
Grantee: HCBS Strategies		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 2	Project Category: TBD	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$150,000	FY21: \$150,000
<p>Project Description: This contract is specifically intended to assist Department of Health and Social Services, Senior and Disability Services (DHSS/SDS), the Trust, and the other stakeholders by providing the following assistance in two key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management support: The contract will pay for HCBS Strategies to assist SDS with using the integrated plan to assign work to SDS staff and others, track progress towards meeting plan goals, and update the plan. This will include facilitating weekly meetings with SDS's internal staff and updating the Gantt chart and an online project management tool. • Program operations and policy development support: The contract includes funding for consulting and site visits to assist with the development of operations and policies to include but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development of regulations ○ Development of protocols, tools, and changes to existing operations necessary to change programs ○ Researching national best practices and CMS regulations and guidance ○ Identifying, reviewing, and developing alternative plans that reflect requirements and/or opportunities created by changes at the federal level ○ Facilitating meetings to achieve agreement on policies and operations ○ Stakeholder engagement <p>This support may be provided to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SDS and DHSS 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trust staff and ○ Other key entities identified by SDS and/or the Trust
<p>Analysis: The HCBS Reform Contract continues a long history of partnership between DHSS and the Trust to improve home and community based services in Alaska. Two projects in FY20 that are expected to continue into the future are implementing the interRAI assessment tool for waivers and evaluate how it can include technology as a formal service. Both of these initiatives require extensive knowledge and planning. A consultant who has worked with other states to implement these programs provides the history and perspective necessary to promote efficient implementation.</p> <p>As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with HCBS Strategies continue unless the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objective 7.2: Increase access to effective and flexible, person-centered, long-term services and supports in urban and rural areas to avoid institutional placement.</p>

Project Title: Rural Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Coordinator		
Grantee: DHSS, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 1	Project Category: TBD	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$0	FY21: \$81,000
<p>Project Description: The Rural Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Coordinator will engage in a comprehensive and coordinated approach to long term care development for seniors that address the serious infrastructure gaps in Alaska's smaller communities and rural villages. The goal is to assist with the development of sufficient home and community based services so Trust beneficiaries do not have to leave their community when they have extensive care needs that their families cannot provide. The incumbent in this position will provide outreach, education and intensive community based technical assistance work to assist in meeting the needs of people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and other related cognitive disabling conditions as well as with elders with co-occurring behavioral health conditions and/or addictions.</p>		
<p>Analysis: This funding helps to supports infrastructure and capacity development to strengthen the existing home and community based services system with a focus on rural Alaska. This project begins in FY21 and has a three year duration and funding is recommended for the full three years as long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objective 7.2: Increase access to effective and flexible, person-centered, long-term services and supports in urban and rural areas to avoid institutional placement.</p>		

Project Title: Decision Making Support		
Grantee: Alaska State Association for Guardianship and Advocacy		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 2	Project Category: Capacity Building	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$48,200	FY21: \$48,200

Project Description: Alaska State Association for Guardianship and Advocacy (ASAGA) provides necessary, consistent and vital assistance, education and support to families and providers navigating the guardianship system. ASAGA intends to expand intake sources across the State to include being a formal resource to the Alaska Court System when the courts encounter problematic guardianships. ASAGA will provide information, non-legal consultations and education to family guardians and those serving vulnerable adults. ASAGA provides informational access to a large array of individuals who with no legal background, may struggle with the guardianship system. ASAGA also provides information to guardians and people seeking guardianship about alternatives such as a supported decision making agreements. ASAGA supports the State of Alaska moving toward guardianship best practices and plans to continue to stay engaged with stakeholders after the WINGS (Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders) project ends in FY19. The ASAGA project is recommended for funding as it affects all beneficiary categories for individuals who need support making decisions.

Analysis: This funding helps to support private guardians and family members seeking guardianship to discuss whether or not court intervention is necessary or if another type of decision making support can be utilized. ASAGA also held a conference open to guardians and professionals with topics on supporting individuals with ADRD and a second day that focused on supporting people with mental illness through obtaining proper evaluation and medication review. ASAGA is working to develop an app that aids guardians to track expenses to auto fill into the annual guardianship report required by the court to ease the burden on non-professional guardians.

This project has a three year duration and funding is recommended for the full three years as long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This funding supports Comp Plan Goal 3, by ensuring beneficiaries have access to benefits, supports, and basic needs.

Project Title: Home Modifications and Upgrades - Capital

Grantee: DHSS, Finance and Management Services

Fund: MHTAAR

Years Funded: 19

Project Category: Capital - Equipment

FY19: \$300,000

FY20: \$300,000

FY21: \$300,000

Project Description: This capital project provides housing modifications to persons experiencing a disability, allowing them to remain in their homes and reducing the potential cost of providing supported housing. Funds help to increase the accessibility of current housing so that Trust beneficiaries, and other special needs populations, can move into or remain in their own homes. Home modifications are available to people wherever they reside, regardless if they own or rent and with whom they live. Typical kinds of assistance provided are accessibility modifications or additions (e.g., widen doorways, remodel bathrooms and/or kitchens, install entrance ramps, add bathrooms and/or bedrooms) and related equipment. Funds are awarded to non-profit agencies through a competitive process.

Analysis: Home modifications provide the opportunity for improved accessibility and increase the likelihood of a person with functional assistance needs to remain in their own home. This project has demonstrated positive outcomes and currently has a waitlist for services. To improve statewide efficiencies, it is recommended that a plan for consolidation with Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) home modifications program be explored in FY21. This will also reduce the administrative

burden of non-profit agencies who apply for this funding from both Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) and AHFC to provide home modification services.

As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership continue unless other funding is obtained to replace Trust funds or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 3.1 Alaskans have stable, safe housing with appropriate, community-based social supports to maintain tenancy.

Project Title: Aging and Disability Resource Centers		
Grantee: DHSS, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 13	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$300,000	FY20: \$300,000	FY21: \$300,000
<p>Project Description: Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) serve as a visible, trusted place for people to go to for information and assistance with accessing services that support them in the community. The integration of information about home and community based services can reduce the frustration and feelings of being overwhelmed experienced by people when trying to understand and access available options. ADRC services are unique from other information and referral services because they have the added focus of assisting with streamlining the entrance into all programs administered by Senior and Disabilities Services, in addition to targeted efforts to reach ADRC users who are able to privately pay for services.</p> <p>One critical component of ADRC programs is Options Counseling and decision support. This service focuses on the immediate needs of an ADRC user but is not crisis intervention. Options counseling and decision support is an interactive service that includes information and referral along with education, but also includes an emphasis on building a relationship with the user and developing a plan that allows for choice. ADRC users should be informed of all their services options so they can then make an informed choice about what services best meet their needs. ADRC's also follow up with individuals to ensure they assessed services, and if not what follow up is needed.</p> <p>The ARDCs are actively becoming an entry to the home and community based service delivery system in Alaska and a resource for the Department of Health and Social Services to screen and appropriately refer individuals to available programs. The Aging and Disability Resource Centers are also an important resource for reporting the unmet needs of long term care resources in our state.</p> <p>Analysis: The ADRC is critical community infrastructure for beneficiaries and their families to access and understand the various yet complicated broad array of service and support options. The ADRCs successfully provide information and services and discuss options to multiple different available resources that best support those seeking services. As a conflict free agency, the ADRC's ensure each individual is presented with options and choice to make the informed decisions to best support themselves or their loved ones.</p> <p>The department has implemented the use of Medicaid admin to diversify funding for these services for expansion. The implementation of person-centered intake approach for this service system has also been completed. To further reduce dependence on grants and continue to strive toward regional statewide coverage, it is recommended that the department look at reinvesting savings the ADRCs</p>		

create from right sizing service referrals through the person-centered intake process. It is also recommended that the department review opportunities to co-locate or consolidate information and referral, benefits counseling and system navigation funding/projects to increase visibility and community access. In light of the state's fiscal challenges, the transition of this project to SOA GF/MH is not likely in the foreseeable future (2-4 years). As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes for beneficiaries it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with SDS to support ADRCs continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objective 7.2: Increase access to effective and flexible, person-centered, long-term services and supports in urban and rural areas to avoid institutional placement.

Project Title: Assertive Community Treatment/Institutional Diversion Housing Program		
Grantee: DHSS, Division of Behavioral Health		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 16	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$750,000	FY20: \$750,000	FY21: \$750,000
<p>Project Description: This project has been a replication of successful transition programs used in other states for individuals "cycling" through emergency and institutional settings in the Anchorage and Juneau areas and includes services to people most vulnerable to homelessness and co-occurring disorders contributing to high utilization of institutions and intensive services. This program incorporates both Housing First philosophy, intensive case management principles and a trans discipline approach to demonstrate the effectiveness of institutional discharge programs in Alaska. Institutions that were targeted for re-entry included: Alaska Psychiatric Institution, Department of Correction facilities, Providence Hospital, Bartlett Regional Hospital and other high cost social service and health programs. Data from this project has been provided by Anchorage Community Mental Health Services for the period of 2006-2015 and has shown the effectiveness of availability of affordable housing with subsidies combined with responsive supportive services to stabilize people who formerly cycled through higher levels of care.</p>		
<p>Analysis: The ACT services are a critical part of the behavioral health continuum of care. It is an evidence based practice that utilizes a team of professionals to bring a level of inpatient services to an outpatient, typically on the street setting. Participants are engaged in case management, employment, housing, medical and psychiatric care to name some of the services provided. In FY19 ACT services assisted 87 people. ACT will transition to an 1115 Medicaid Waiver service in FY21.</p> <p>The Trust funds committed to FY21 will be granted out through DBH and used for agencies to assist with startup costs and transition to Medicaid billing. This project has achieved sustainability as a Medicaid service and it is recommended that FY21 be the last year of Trust funding for this project. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objective 7.2: Increase access to effective and flexible, person-centered, long-term services and supports in urban and rural areas to avoid institutional placement.</p>		

Project Title: Develop Targeted Outcome Data	
Grantee: DHSS, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services	
Fund: MHTAAR	
Years Funded: 14	Project Category: Data/Planning

FY19: \$80,000	FY20: \$80,000	FY21: \$80,000
<p>Project Description: The Trust, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services (SDS) and key partners have identified the need to better track outcomes measures for home and community based services, but more specifically, on the person centeredness of our system to achieve the desired impact of the unified vision for each individual receiving publicly funded services and supports. These funds will be used to advance the state's implementation and use of the National Core Indicators (NCI). The National Core Indicators represents a major effort among states to standardize the collection of performance and outcome measures for home and community-based services on a system level. Standard data collection allows states to compare results with other states and providers data for the establishment of national benchmarks but also to report in a more meaningful way than just number served and dollars spent. These specific indicators may look at an individual's access to community, human security, relationships, choices and goals is critical as Alaska undergoes significant systems transformation or others as there has been an increasing effort by the federal partners to make advances in measuring outcomes for home and community based services (HCBS) services.</p> <p>Analysis: SDS has engaged with a community led evaluation and data group that is part of the developmental disabilities (DD) Vision movement to collaborate between state and community based agencies on meaningful program evaluation tools. The consumer survey was initiated in FY20 with permission granted from NCI to conduct surveys using secure videoconferencing. In FY21, the consumer survey will be continued due delays experienced from COVID-19. Based on available funding, an additional survey may be administered.</p> <p>The transition of this project to SOA GF/MH is likely in the foreseeable future (2-3 yrs.). This is a core data collection and analysis element for the state that is expected to be incorporated into existing continuous quality improvement processes and measurements for IDD programs and the state as a whole. NCI has also introduced a suite of surveys for the aging and other disability populations. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with SDS to support implementation of NCI or a similar process continue until the state can operationalize this work or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. The project aligns with Comp Plan Objective 9.5: Encourage a culture of data-driven decision-making that includes data sharing, data analysis, and management to link support services across Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) divisions and other departments.</p>		

Project Title: IT Application/Telehealth Service System Improvements		
Grantee: DHSS, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 6	Project Category: Capacity Building	
FY19: \$37,000	FY20: \$38,100	FY21: \$38,100
<p>Project Description: Senior and Disabilities Services (SDS) will continue its efforts to increase the number of telehealth assessments throughout Alaska. SDS will look at how mobile technology or connections with technology in an applicant's home can be used to meet this goal. SDS will also develop an understanding of how other units within SDS can benefit from telehealth services. SDS will update a State of Alaska telehealth policies and procedures to outline stakeholder involvement in its telehealth process. SDS will explore assistive technology opportunities to improve service delivery and support recipients in their own homes.</p>		

Analysis: This grant has met or exceeded its performance measures and shown a successful on time implementation of telehealth in SDS. This position is critical for capacity building of the agency to implement the use of technology both internally and externally to positively impact beneficiaries. It is used to explore how SDS can provide additional services via distance, engage people needing to be assessed through a direct platform, and continue to maintain current contracts for telehealth to ensure individuals have options to obtain a distance assessment at their local clinic or provider's office.

The transition of this project to SOA GF/MH and Medicaid admin claiming was successful in the amount of \$100,000. It is recommended the remaining Trust funding be used to leverage the development of programs or services to purchase assistive and smart home technologies that will lead to greater beneficiary independence. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with SDS to support telehealth services and technology innovations continue over the next 2-4 years while these innovations are developed into a Medicaid service unless the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 9.4: optimize information technology investments to improve process efficiency and enable innovation.

Beneficiary Employment and Engagement

Project Title: Expand resources that promote successful, long-term employment for Trust beneficiaries		
Grantee: To be determined		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 1	Project Category: To be determined	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$0	FY21: \$335,000
Project Description: FY20 funds related to this project were previously identified as "Targeted Beneficiary Employment & Engagement (BEE) Strategy Implementation" at \$335,000 and were nearly fully expended over a variety of programming opportunities through active community partnerships related to beneficiary employment and engagement. Identified service and systems building activities for this funding include implementation of supported employment services (specifically Individual Placements & Supports model), youth supports related to Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), and peer support capacity building.		
Analysis: Funds were used to support agencies such as Polaris House (Juneau), Interior AK Center for Nonviolent Living (Fairbanks), and South Peninsula Behavioral Health (Homer) working to implement supported employment strategies to directly improve access to Individual Placements and Supports (IPS) services for beneficiaries with SMI and SUD. These services have been proven to be effective when implemented to fidelity, and Trust staff continues to work with DHSS/DBH staff to work towards statewide and systemic implementation of this model. Funds were also allocated to agencies such as SAIL and SERRC to support statewide promotion of Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-		

ETS) activities and supports, particularly for rural student beneficiaries. Peer support capacity building activities were also funded to increase access to this critical and expanding service.

This project has demonstrated positive outcomes. Trust staff recommends continued funding for FY21 to build additional infrastructure and services for BEE related activities aligned with the projects described above. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objectives 3.2 and 3.3 related to competitive integrated employment for Trust beneficiaries.

Project Title: BPI Program Grant – CHOICES, Inc.		
Grantee: CHOICES, Inc.		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 14	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$440,170	FY20: \$404,170	FY21: \$440,170
<p>Project Description: CHOICES is a mental health service provider that offers beneficiaries strategies, opportunities, resources and supports for personal growth, recovery, peer support and successful community integration. CHOICES promotes a stigma free environment, supporting individuality and self-determination. Supports and services are provided primarily by people who have experienced recovery from mental health challenges. People who participate with CHOICES, Inc. experience an improved life as evidenced by success in working, living, school, and personal relationships. Trust funding supports the Recovery Coordination Program of CHOICES, Inc. The program strives to work with beneficiaries to prevent hospitalizations, improve transitions from psychiatric hospital care and to provide intensive case management and wrap around supports in the community. Trust funding complements DHSS funding to operate the Assertive Community Treatment program focused on beneficiaries who experience homelessness and chronic mental illness. With continued Trust funding, CHOICES proposes to continue current recovery-oriented peer support services and Recovery Coordination activities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer Support: workers fulfill a critical role in the CHOICES continuum of services by providing wellness education classes and ongoing support groups to CHOICES program participants. • Outreach and engagement: CHOICES peer staff will continue to work with community partners by providing information and assistance accessing community services, as well as wellness education and recovery support to beneficiaries as requested. • Individual Case Management (Recovery Coordination): Recovery Coordination offers less intensive but individualized case management services to adults living with severe mental health and substance use issues. Like peer support staff, all Recovery Coordination case managers will be trained individuals who self-identify as living with behavioral health issues. • Advocacy and Community Education: CHOICES will continue to work with the state in their efforts to formalize the certification process for peer support including training, testing, certifying, marketing and service availability. 		
<p>Analysis: CHOICES Recovery Coordinator program complements other community-based services to meet a specific beneficiary need in Anchorage through an intensive community outreach model that includes psychiatric and peer delivered case management supports. The program is reducing hospitalizations, helping beneficiaries access stable housing, and having a positive impact on quality of life for Trust beneficiaries. CHOICES currently operates the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) program for homeless chronically mentally ill beneficiaries as well as the Peer Bridger Program,</p>		

funded through DHSS/DBH for in-reach at the Alaska Psychiatric Institute to support community transitions.

CHOICES has experienced challenging leadership transitions since late 2018 and as of June 2020 is working to stabilize with a new executive director (hired late 2019) and through analysis of funding and programming in the wake of shifting resources and priorities related to state organization and COVID-19. In the meantime, interim leadership reports increased access to Medicaid billing which will help diversify the agency's revenue and should have the effect of reducing reliance on Trust and other grant funding.

This project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes for beneficiaries and staff recommends that Trust funding continue at a level commensurate with agency need depending on programs and services offered (service array may change during FY21). This project aligns with Comp Plan Objective 4.3 and 4.4 related to improved treatment and recovery support services (including peer support services) to reduce the impact of mental health and substance use disorders.

Project Title: BPI Program Grant – Alaska Mental Health Consumer Web		
Grantee: Alaska Mental Health Consumer Web		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 16	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$333,600	FY20: \$333,600	FY21: \$333,600
Project Description: This grant provides funding to support the Alaska Mental Health Consumer Web (the Web), the only peer run recovery oriented drop-in and engagement center in Anchorage. The Web serves individuals who experience life challenges including mental illness, addiction issues, homelessness, and other Trust beneficiaries who encounter an array of negative life circumstances. The prevailing philosophy at The Web is the development of relationship through the use of peer mentors and their experiential knowledge of mental illness, substance abuse, homelessness and other similar life experiences. The Web endeavors to utilize the relationship established through the peer-to-peer connection to meet the individual needs of each person. Individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and co-occurring substance abuse disorders and mental illness tend to be the hardest to reach because they do not integrate easily into the conventional behavioral health system. Because of the difficulty integrating, at times the Web is the last service option for many of these individuals, as they may have burned bridges within the traditional social service agencies. Partnerships with and referrals to other community organizations and affordable housing organizations continues to be a key area of focus for the Web to streamline access to supports and services for participants. Additionally, Web leadership continues to be engaged in the multi-year peer support certification work of the Division of Behavioral Health in partnership with the Trust.		
Analysis: The Web meets a critical need in Anchorage, providing direct service to more than 1,600 individuals who visit the Web's drop in and engagement center annually. There are more than 2,000 monthly visits for services which include sober recovery supports (AA/NA meetings), housing assistance, job/employment preparation and search as well as peer delivered wellness and recovery support meetings and linking to other key services and resources. Roughly 70% of participants are male, 90% experience mental illness and/or substance use disorders and more than half are homeless or currently housed in a shelter. The Web also serves a large number of veterans. The Web provides a critical safety-net service to Trust beneficiaries, linking them with help needed, connecting them to the proper resources and aiding in obtaining housing and employment. There are limited outreach		

and engagement services in Anchorage and currently no reimbursement mechanism through Medicaid.

This project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes for beneficiaries as a critical safety net support agency and staff recommends that Trust funding continue. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objectives 3.1, 3.3, 4.3 and 4.4 related to housing, employment, and improved treatment and recovery support services (including peer support services) to reduce the impact of mental health and substance use disorders.

Project Title: BPI Program Grant – Alaska Youth and Family Network		
Grantee: Alaska Youth and Family Network		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 16	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$208,650	FY20: \$208,650	FY21: \$208,650
Project Description: Alaska Youth and Family Network (AYFN) is a family-run, non-profit, organization that provides comprehensive support, education, advocacy and behavioral health peer-support and rehabilitative services to Trust beneficiaries throughout Anchorage and the Mat-Su. All AYFN's programming and services are peer provided, strength-based, culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and family and youth driven. AYFN serves families (parents, children, and youth) or emancipated young people to age twenty-five who are experiencing the challenges of living with mental health, substance use disorder, or intellectual and developmental disabilities or caring for a child who experiences those challenges. AYFN serves approximately 700 families annually. Services are focused on families with one or more members who are involved in Alaska's behavioral health and other family and child-serving systems (juvenile justice, special education, child welfare, intellectual and developmental disabilities, medical, legal, etc.) or at risk for involvement in those systems. AYFN's Family and Youth Peer Navigators engage families using a strength based, shared-decision making model. Navigators provide support and services rooted in their lived (peer) experience of being a family member of a person addressing mental health or substance use recovery, as well as achieving successful recovery themselves. Lived experience is enhanced by professionally developed knowledge and skills, gained in both formal training settings and work experience. Navigators address recovery and support needs of the entire family in a holistic manner focused on relieving internal and external stressors and improving the family member's recovery, resilience, and overall health.		
Analysis: AYFN's work is critical to the Trust's investment in beneficiary engagement and the peer support model of recovery and employment. Additionally, there continues to be a general lack of home- and community-based services willing or able to work with the population currently served by AYFN. AYFN's primary services include counseling and support, case management and family preservation, and stabilization for families at risk for out-of-home care or with youth that are returning home from residential psychiatric treatment placements. AYFN currently serves families in the Anchorage and Mat-Su communities and hopes to expand services to other communities if sustainable funding can be identified. In light of the state's current fiscal challenges, the transition of this project to additional state general funds or federal funding is not likely in the foreseeable future. AYFN is working to develop Medicaid billing infrastructure to leverage opportunities presented by the 1115 Medicaid Behavioral Health Waiver.		
This project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes for beneficiaries as a critical safety net support agency and staff recommends that Trust funding continue. This project aligns with Comp Plan		

Objectives 4.3, 4.4, 6.2 and 6.3 related to improved treatment and recovery support services (including peer support services) to reduce the impact of mental health and substance use disorders, and early intervention and supports for families involved with the child welfare systems due to maltreatment.

Project Title: BPI Program Grant – Polaris House		
Grantee: Polaris House		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 16	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$182,959	FY20: \$182,959	FY21: \$182,959
<p>Project Description: This grant provides funding to support the Polaris House Clubhouse which through an evidenced based model provides Trust Beneficiaries in Juneau with rehabilitation services and supports (employment, housing and recovery supports). Beneficiaries with severe mental illness and challenged with other disabilities including traumatic brain injuries, developmental disabilities and addiction benefit from engagement, training and support provided to successfully obtain employment, obtain stable housing and receive daily supports through the supportive structure of Polaris House. All beneficiaries served by Polaris House are in an employment oriented environment that supports all members who choose paid work. Members who state they are not ready for paid employment, participate to create self-directed plans for community involvement, which in most cases lead to paid work or volunteer positions.</p> <p>Polaris House strives to assure no member is homeless thorough a complete array of supports to beneficiaries to secure, maintain or improve housing circumstances. Polaris House will continue to support beneficiaries for integration into local education opportunities such as; GED classes, obtaining Food Worker Cards, participation in Food Safety Manager Training, and the Computer Learning Center. Polaris House advocates for beneficiaries in securing and maintaining relative benefits such as; Medicaid, Social Security, Food Stamps, housing vouchers, Trust mini-grants, APA, PFD's, etc. and facilitates beneficiary access to Trust funded mini-grants through the Trust Authority.</p>		
<p>Analysis: Polaris House provides a critical safety net of direct service for difficult to serve Trust beneficiaries in Juneau and is a nationally accredited Clubhouse (an evidenced based model, which provides a comprehensive and dynamic program of support and opportunities for people with severe and persistent mental illnesses). Polaris House participants are called “members” and restorative activities focus on their strengths and abilities, not their illness. Members of Polaris House and staff work side by side to manage clubhouse operations, providing opportunity for members to contribute in significant and meaningful ways. Polaris House seeks to aid its members to live productive lives and work in the community, regardless of the nature of severity of their mental illness. Polaris House serves many members who are also clients of JAMHI and recipients of other services in Juneau and continues to enhance partnerships with other community agencies. Trust funds are critical to ensure Clubhouse services are maintained in order to adequately serve Trust beneficiaries.</p> <p>This project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes for beneficiaries as a critical safety net support agency and staff recommends that Trust funding continue as budgeted for FY21 with a potential increase in FY22-23. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objectives 3.1, 3.3, 4.3 and 4.4 related to housing, employment, and improved treatment and recovery support services (including peer support services) to reduce the impact of mental health and substance use disorders.</p>		

Project Title: BPI Program Grant – NAMI Anchorage		
Grantee: NAMI Anchorage		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 14	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$154,071	FY20: \$154,071	FY21: \$154,071
<p>Project Description: NAMI Anchorage is a local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. The agency provides support, education, and advocacy to individuals living with mental illness (consumers), their families, and the larger community. NAMI Anchorage serves beneficiaries and families in Anchorage and throughout the state. NAMI Anchorage offers instrumental education and training for families experiencing mental illness, providing both direct advocacy and support to beneficiaries and their families and also leveraging key partnerships to further educate and advocate on behalf of Trust beneficiaries living with mental illness.</p> <p>NAMI Anchorage provides family to family/peer to peer education and support to individuals struggling with mental illness and family members who are caring for loved ones with mental illness through direct service, advocacy and outreach. NAMI Anchorage uses evidenced-based and promising practices (NAMI Family-to-Family Education, NAMI Connection Recovery Support Groups and Family Support Groups) to aid families in navigating mental illness and the myriad of services that can be daunting. NAMI Anchorage has forged strong collaborations with the Veteran’s Administration, community agencies throughout Anchorage and the Anchorage Police Department in support of the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) academy, and is an active participant in Anchorage’s suicide prevention efforts. The agency provides education to consumers and families about diagnoses, symptoms, medication management; NAMI Anchorage engages consumers and families in case management assistance, skill-building and socialization, daily living and personal care, referrals to the mental health court, crisis intervention, hospitalization support, and more.</p> <p>Analysis: NAMI Anchorage leadership continues to struggle with data collection and timely reporting of Trust funding and activities. The agency has struggled to increase community giving through fundraising and donor contributions. In light of the state’s current fiscal budget situation, the transition of this project to federal funding and state general funds is not likely in the foreseeable future. NAMI Anchorage continues to provide critical education, peer support and coordination services to Trust beneficiaries with mental illness, their families, and the community. Therefore, as long as this project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes for beneficiaries, it is recommended that Trust funding continue while concurrently working with the program to address sustainability by increasing fundraising and local contributions.</p> <p>Despite administrative challenges, this project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes for beneficiaries as an advocacy and support agency and staff recommends that Trust funding continue as budgeted for FY21 with further analysis during FY21 to determine appropriate funding for future years. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objectives 4.3 and 4.4 related to improved treatment and recovery support services (including peer support services) to reduce the impact of mental health and substance use disorders.</p>		

Project Title: BPI Program Grant – NAMI Juneau		
Grantee: NAMI Juneau		
Fund: Authority Grant		

Years Funded: 13	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$100,550	FY20: \$100,550	FY21: \$100,550
<p>Project Description: This grant provides funding to support NAMI Juneau, the only agency in Juneau that provides free, peer (family) driven educational and support programs for families caring for a loved one with mental illness. NAMI Juneau currently offers three signature programs for family members, including Family to Family, the NAMI Family Support Group and more recently NAMI Basics- all signature NAMI National programs. NAMI programs empower individuals to be more informed and effective advocates for their family member, reducing the threat of negative outcomes such as suicide, homelessness, emergency and institutional care. NAMI provides vital support, education and advocacy skills for Trust beneficiaries and their families for families in Juneau and other southeast communities.</p> <p>NAMI Juneau serves as a central community voice on mental illness and serves a unique role in the community providing peer-driven and peer-led education and support programs to individuals living with mental illness (primary beneficiaries), and their family members (secondary beneficiaries). The agency is the local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the mission is to help individuals affected by mental illness build better lives through education, support and advocacy. The office continues to provide soft navigation services, linking individuals affected by mental illness to needed services and supports. NAMI programs take the form of recurring mutual support groups, advocacy training, and 6, 9 and 12-week Biopsychosocial education classes. NAMI's evidence-based programs empower participants to be more informed and effective advocates for themselves or a family member. These programs have been shown to improve mental health outcomes, promote family engagement in treatment, and reduce the threat of negative outcomes, such as hospitalization, incarceration and suicide.</p> <p>Analysis: NAMI Juneau focuses on family to family/peer to peer education and support to family members who are caring for loved ones with moderate to serious mental illness (direct service, advocacy and outreach). Offering a number of educational and support groups, NAMI uses evidenced-based and promising practices to aid families in navigating mental illness and the myriad of services that can be daunting. NAMI Juneau and their advocacy plays a key role in the Juneau Community action Plan, the Juneau Suicide Prevention Coalition as well as the Juneau Reentry Coalition as a standing steering committee member. The agency partners with the local hospital to provide regular educational forums to practitioners and community members focused on various facets of mental illness. Program evaluation activities continue to reveal positive outcomes, including access to services and increased community awareness of beneficiary needs. NAMI Juneau is an exemplary grantee with consistent and high quality reporting of financial and program activities.</p> <p>NAMI Juneau has been successfully increasing the percentage of matched funds over the years due to intentional and effective community outreach and fundraising. In light of the state's current fiscal budget situation, the transition of this project to federal or state general funds is not likely in the foreseeable future. NAMI Juneau continues to provide critical education, peer support and coordination services to beneficiaries with mental illness, their families, and the community.</p> <p>This project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes for beneficiaries as an advocacy and support agency and staff recommends that Trust funding continue as budgeted for FY21 with further analysis during FY21 to determine appropriate funding for future years. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objectives 4.3 and 4.4 related to improved treatment and recovery support services (including peer support services) to reduce the impact of mental health and substance use disorders.</p>		

Project Title: Peer Support Certification		
Grantee: DHSS, Division of Behavioral Health		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 2	Project Category: TBD	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$125,000	\$125,000
<p>Project Description: The need to develop a Behavioral Health Peer Support Worker Certification for Alaska has been identified for a number of years. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has strongly encouraged States to develop a certification in conjunction with adding Peer Support Services to their Medicaid plan. Provider agencies have promoted the development of a certification to provide greater assurance of the capabilities and qualifications of their peer support staff. Peer support workers have advocated for a certification to acknowledge the training and experience they possess. Of particular importance is the fact that the 1115 Medicaid Waiver now calls for the certification of peer support workers for participation in those particular services.</p> <p>The Division and the Trust have made a concerted effort to lay the groundwork for a Peer Support Worker Certification through an extensive stakeholder process including peers, peer support workers, agency providers, State staff, and others interested in the topic. The result was a detailed set of recommendations on a framework for the certification as well as other recommendations of promoting a recovery orientation in the public behavioral health system.</p> <p>Central to the recommendations was funding for an independent Certification Body to do the work of actually creating the certification. DBH recently awarded a competitive contract to the Alaska Commission for Behavioral Health Certification to become the certification body through guidance of a multidisciplinary advisory council. Additionally, stakeholder recommendations call for the development of a training program for new Peer Support Workers which would be one of the requirements for individuals to achieve certification. Funding will be used to support training for prospective peer support workers, including a potential peer support conference event in FY21 depending on social distancing recommendations related to COVID-19.</p>		
<p>Analysis: The second year of funding for this multiyear project (FY21) moves from planning further into implementation towards a long-anticipated system change effort related to peer support workforce certification. Through strong partnership with the Trust and many community stakeholders committed to recovery oriented services including peer support, DBH has committed significant staff and other resources to accomplishing the goal of engaging an independent certification body capable of creating and maintaining a certification for the peer support workforce. Trust staff remains actively engaged in ongoing planning and implementation of activities related to this project to ensure alignment with programmatic goals focus area goals.</p> <p>This project is key to building systems capacity and the continuum of care for Trust beneficiaries experiencing behavioral health needs. The Alaska Commission for Behavioral Health Certification will continue to engage the Trust and other key partners as certification development progresses. Additionally, training opportunities and other educational opportunities for peers (including a potential FY21 conference) will support the necessary systemic cultural shift for peer support to</p>		

become more fully integrated into the behavioral health system. Additionally, staff will recommend future funding for this work through the FY22-23 Trust budgeting process to extend the reach and scope of foundational systems infrastructure developed in FY21. This project aligns with Comp Plan Objectives 4.3 and 4.4 related to improved treatment and recovery support services (including peer support services) to reduce the impact of mental health and substance use disorders.

Project Title: Micro Enterprise Funds		
Grantee: University of Alaska Anchorage, Center for Human Development		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 18	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$150,000	FY20: \$150,000	FY21: \$150,000
<p>Project Description: Prior to COVID, Alaska's economy was increasingly moving towards small business ownership. Data from a 2019 Alaska Small Business Development Center report shows 73,354 small businesses in Alaska (from Ketchikan to Utqiagvik) and 141,147 Alaskans employed by small businesses. However, individuals with disabilities are seldom provided with the option to own their own businesses. As a result of the Trust funding for the Economic Development Alliance, a mechanism to train and support individuals with disabilities to own their businesses is in place.</p> <p>The development of individual micro-enterprises is an integral part of the movement for Self Determination. The concept of 'employment' must be challenged by individuals who experience multiple and severe disabilities for whom the idea or possibility of holding a 'regular' job is often out of reach. This should not deny a person from earning income. Through micro-enterprise development, it is possible for people to have income that offsets costs usually borne by public funds. More importantly, for the individual, earning money gives a person a sense of worth and value.</p> <p>These funds will be primarily used for Trust beneficiaries to start their own businesses and receive ongoing business/self-employment coaching to sustain and grow their businesses. In addition, the CHD will use these funds to leverage funds from individual entrepreneurs, families and State agencies such as the Department of Community and Economic Development and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.</p> <p>The need for targeted additional support (i.e. peer support, substance abuse, mental health, unforeseen business expenses, additional training or other brief intervention) has been identified for some past Microenterprise beneficiaries in order to successfully maintain self-employment and wellness. A portion of FY21 Microenterprise project funds may be designated to identify and provide supports and referrals to other services as needed for identified beneficiaries or to support self-employed beneficiaries negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Program evaluation design will be modified to measure effectiveness of additional supports and services received.</p> <p>Availability of these additional supports and services will be on a first come, first served basis, with supports prioritized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health or substance use counseling or rehabilitation services • Unforeseen business expenses critical to sustaining a viable business • Continuing Education (conferences or trainings related to business needs) 		

Analysis: The Micro Enterprise project is a long standing partnership with the Center for Human Development, the Governor’s Council on Disabilities and Special Education, Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Small Business Development Center, Senior and Disabilities Services, Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation and other partners to support beneficiaries to achieve self-employment. The collaborative work of multiple agencies and individuals in support of the microenterprise work demonstrates positive outcomes and provides an innovative and successful strategy to financially empower and engage beneficiaries. Microenterprise opportunities highlighted through video production and shared through social media are regularly discussed in Trust partner meetings and events.

This project directly supports beneficiaries through access to self-employment opportunities and continues to be a core element of the Beneficiary Employment and Engagement focus area. The grantee and partner agencies are recognized for their knowledge and accessibility and have ensured the strategy is effective and engaging to directly support beneficiaries. As long as this project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust funding continue at the current level to ensure ongoing beneficiary access to funds and related supports. This project aligns with Comp Plan Goal 3 related to beneficiary economic and social well-being.

Project Title: Beneficiary Employment Technical Assistance and Program Coordination		
Grantee: DHSS, Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 9	Project Category: Data/Planning	
FY19: \$100,000	FY20: \$200,000	FY21: \$100,000
<p>Project Description: Beneficiary Employment & Engagement (BEE) Technical Assistance activities continue to assist the Trust with planning, coordination, expansion and implementation of the BEE focus area. The focus of FY21 activities will support the Trust and partners in COVID-19 response related to the pandemic impacts on beneficiary employment, and provide ongoing assistance to further develop systems that will result in more beneficiaries seeking, securing and maintaining competitive, integrated employment. Technical assistance and coordination will build provider and state agency capacity to ensure beneficiaries have greater access to employment, related support services, and accurate resources and information on how paid employment impacts Social Security and other benefits (health, housing, food, etc.).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Provide technical and administrative assistance to the Trust Program Officer to assist with planning, development and implementation of activities to improve employment outcomes for Trust beneficiaries; 2) Work with the Departments of Education & Early Development, Labor & Workforce Development, Health & Social Services and the office of the Governor to create a task force to develop and implement clear guidelines and reporting procedures to provide the Trust with the annual report on implementation of the Employment First Law; 3) Improve access to information on Social Security work incentives, Ticket to Work program and benefits planning including implementing the Disability Benefits 101 website. 4) Coordinate with business and industry organizations and leaders to dispel myths, increase awareness on the services and supports for hiring Trust beneficiaries and create linkages with providers to improve employment outcomes; 		

- 5) Work with state agencies and providers to determine policy and regulation barriers and facilitate amending and/or developing new policy to reduce or eliminate those barriers;
- 6) Train state agencies, providers, beneficiaries and the general public on employment services and supports for individuals with disabilities;
- 7) Increase awareness of Alaska's ABLE Act and provide support for implementation efforts.

Analysis: The grantee provides technical assistance and coordinate training and events statewide for beneficiaries and service agencies in support of the Trust's Beneficiary Employment and Engagement focus area. A variety of activities from previous years served to increase awareness and implementation of relevant legislation. Extensive training and outreach through planned activities and partnership served to increase awareness and capacity of critical employment related services statewide.

The level of Trust funding has fluctuated for this work over the past three years following shifting federal funding access and will be reassessed through the Trust budget process for FY22-23 to ensure continuity of key activities that enhance beneficiary employment and engagement opportunities. In light of the state's fiscal challenges, the transition of this project to SOA GF/MH is not likely in the foreseeable future (2-4 years). This statutory advisory board partnership facilitates key activities in support of the Trust's Beneficiary Employment and Engagement focus area. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust funding continue until the state's fiscal health improves, federal funds are identified, or the project fails to meet stated goals. This project aligns with Comp Plan Goal 3 related to beneficiary economic and social well-being.

Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment

Project Title: Recover Alaska		
Grantee: Sultana New Ventures LLC dba The Foraker Group		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 6	Project Category: Capacity Building	
FY19: \$100,000	FY20: \$100,000	FY21: \$100,000
<p>Project Description: Recover Alaska (RA) is a partnership of private and nonprofit funders who have come together to pool resources to fund strategies guided by a governing body comprised of the Trust, Mat-Su Health Foundation, Rasmuson Foundation, ANTHC, Southcentral Foundation, Providence Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services. The overarching goal of this partnership is to reduce the negative impacts of alcohol abuse in Alaska. Key strategies for implementation in FY15-17 and carried forward into FY19 primarily focused on changing statewide cultural norms around alcohol use and readying the state to shift policy to reduce consumption. The five (with lead partners accountable for strategy completion noted) are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Positive Social Norms Campaigns: Development of a positive community norms campaigns for youth that highlights healthy behaviors; 2. Create/mobilize Advocacy Coalitions: Building advocacy coalitions to advance local and state policy changes; 3. Polling: to determine how Alaskans think and feel about alcohol; 		

4. Partnering with Media: Raise overall awareness of the consequences of excessive alcohol consumption; and
5. Pilot a One-Stop-Shop: Create a resource center for all Alaskans to obtain accurate, reliable information about prevention and treatment.

Analysis: RA successfully moved forward on a number of the primary strategies outlined above. Recover Alaska continued to focus substantial energy, advocacy and staff time on the Title 4 Alcohol Statute rewrite, which is a comprehensive review and update of the statutes that govern the licensing, sale, and distribution of alcohol in Alaska. By the end of legislative session, SB52 moved through Senate Labor & Commerce and Judiciary but did not move through House Labor & Commerce. During 2020 session, SB52 was held until next calendar when the legislature adjourned sine die. The recommendations were derived from 7 plus years of work with participation from different alcohol industry representatives, public health and public safety.

Recover continued work on positive social norms with the Day 001 season 2 anti-stigma campaign which have been highly impactful relaying the stories of recovery. Initial evaluation of the Day 001 season 2 videos, through focus groups, indicated that people came away learning all people are vulnerable to addiction and that addiction can happen to anyone and that everyone's story is different. Focus group members had improved relatability and compassion with people struggling with alcohol use disorders, they achieved a better understand of the normalcy of return to use during the recovery process, and their belief that recovery is possible increased.

Another key Recover Alaska initiative: in November 2018 the Anchorage Assembly voted to include Proposition 9, an alcohol tax, in the municipal elections. The tax was narrowly defeated, two primary challenges being the large influx of "outside" money from the alcohol industry to pay for an opposition campaign, and a disjointed campaign run by the Municipality. Recover Alaska took another stab at support for a local alcohol tax which passed in 2020. RA took lead in organizing a community wide effort to identify priorities to propose for spending of the estimated \$15 million revenue anticipated from the alcohol tax and will be presenting these priorities during key assembly committee hearings and other forums to seek alignment on priorities for spending.

RA is effectively leveraging political and funding capital to innovatively tackle alcohol addiction and its consequences in Alaska. RA will continue to progress on existing strategies and develop new strategies that fit within the broad categories identified by the operations/oversight committee and the Governing Board. This unique partnership initiative is recommended to receive continued Trust funding to maintain effective coordination to combat the negative impacts of alcohol in Alaska and to leverage the influential leadership to support strategies that will result in long term reduction in Alaska's high alcohol abuse rates, cost and associated negative harms. This partnership with Recovery Alaska aligns with Goal 4 of the Comp plan which is focused on prevention and treatment for drug and alcohol misuse through collaboration, effective and informed strategies- specifically Objective 4.1, increased awareness and improved knowledge to reduce impacts of drug and alcohol use.

Project Title: Treatment Access		
Grantee: To be determined		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 9	Project Category: Workforce Development/Training	
FY19: \$600,000	FY20: \$750,000	FY21: \$750,000

Project Description: The Trust has approved funding for unallocated authority grant funds toward a broad strategy within the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment focus area targeting projects and initiatives that increase, improve or enhance beneficiary access to appropriate treatment interventions. This funding, while not designated for specific agencies but available for a targeted variety of projects which may include: capital projects that create service capacity expansion; implementation of evidenced based treatment models; implementation of harm reduction strategies and programs; implementation of integrated and collaborative care models within health care settings and behavioral health programs; and start-up of innovative practices that target multiple health and social needs such as recovery programs paired with employment partnerships that assist beneficiaries in recovery and employment stabilization.

Analysis: Availability of designated authority grant funding for a variety of strategies targeting improved treatment access enables the Trust to engage in a variety of innovative and effective strategies that assist beneficiaries with treatment access, improved quality of intervention, improvements in social determinants of health (i.e., housing), as well as local intervention and enhanced capacity and competency of systems to better serve beneficiaries. During FY20, this strategy supported:

Set Free, Homer Residential Treatment expansion- \$300,000: Set Free Alaska received Trust funding to support launching a 16 bed men's level 3.5 residential treatment center in Homer, Alaska. This project is focused on increasing statewide capacity to serve beneficiaries struggling with mental health and substance abuse problems. This project will serve beneficiaries and families primarily from the Kenai Peninsula and Mat-Su Boroughs as well as statewide. Set Free secured a facility and is on track to complete renovations and open in June of 2020. This investment expands access to residential treatment for men in a new location in the state.

Sultana, Health Tie- \$45,000: The Health TIE (Testbed for Innovative Enterprises) is a business accelerator/innovative hub that is working with social service agencies, associations, university, and DHSS partners to find strategic ways to have a qualified healthcare workforce who can improve the lives of Trust beneficiaries. By bringing together industry leaders from the medical, behavioral health, university, entrepreneurs, and technology fields, Health TIE is able to bring funding streams together to support solutions of improved care that are to related "wicked" problems in the industry. The Direct Service Professional "Hire" app is a great example of how experts in technology with guidance from AADD were able to design an app that streamlines the recruitment, hiring, and deploying of DSP staff to ID/DD agencies across the state of Alaska. Health TIE will ultimately work with Trust partners to improve the lives of AMHTA beneficiaries.

Availability of strategy funding is critical to offer continued support towards improvement of the system. Improving access to treatment strategy is recommended for continued funding FY21 as it is anticipated the Trust may support start up and expansion of 1115 SUD services and other innovative approaches to prevention and treatment of addiction, which will ultimately expand treatment access. Improving access to treatment aligns with Comp Plan Goal 4 Prevention and Treatment for drug and alcohol misuse, specifically Objective/strategy 4.3, increasing access to community based outpatient services and 4.4, increased access to residential treatment services.

Project Title: Crisis Continuum of Care

Grantee: Multiple

Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 1	Project Category: Non Focus Area initiative in FY20	
FY19: 0	FY20: \$900,000	FY21: \$2,600,000
<p>Project Description: The Trust along with other partners have been evaluating the existing crisis system of care, and working to identify models which can demonstrate improved outcomes for those in mental health crisis. The lack of the proper levels of care in the community contributes to psychiatric boarding of patients in hospitals and other institutions, and diverts critical public safety resources away from crime prevention and other law enforcement activities. Public safety engagement in mental health emergencies further stigmatizes mental illness and addiction. Trust funding for this strategy is intended to support efforts towards improvement in crisis response to psychiatric emergencies and reduce the role of law enforcement and Hospital emergency rooms.</p>		
<p>Analysis: Funding for this strategy supported efforts to expand and enhance crisis stabilization services in Juneau. Bartlett Hospital was granted \$200,000 towards their expansion of a new crisis stabilization program which will provide 8 additional stabilization beds, 4 for adults and 4 for adolescents. The Trust is assisting Bartlett to raise other revenue for the project by pulling funding partners in. Due to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, the timeline for the project has been extended by a year. In the meantime, Bartlett is working with other community agencies to improve the community's response to psychiatric crisis and have implemented principles of the model on their campus.</p> <p>Additionally, in partnership with DHSS and other community partners, the Trust has been working to conceptualize the implementation of the <i>Crisis Now</i> model in three Alaska communities: Anchorage, the Mat-Su, and Fairbanks. Recognizing that Alaska's current system to manage individuals in crisis is not adequately meeting the need, the Crisis Now model seeks to best apply existing resources, to expand the psychiatric crisis continuum to improve outcomes for those in crisis, and to ease stress on first responders, public safety officers, and hospital emergency rooms. Additional projects supported with these funds include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A consultation contract with RI, International. RI International operates and consults on implementation of crisis response programming operating within the Crisis Now framework. This contract resulted in the Alaska Crisis Now Consultation Report, which identifies 13 broad recommendations for Alaska to address to implement the Crisis Now model. 2) Two studies completed by the McDowell Group on the economic cost of alcohol and drug abuse in Alaska. 3) A grant to Southcentral Foundation to support Southcentral Foundation and Providence Health Services to conduct site visits of crisis stabilization programs in Texas. This funding is assisting these agencies assess how these services operate in anticipation of potentially standing up new crisis intervention services in the near future. 4) Contract support for Project Management of the Crisis Now initiative over three years. This contract will provide organization, facilitation and accountability of the Crisis Now Initiative, facilitating a state project management workgroup as well as community planning/implementation workgroups for Anchorage, Mat-Su and Fairbanks. 5) Travel costs for a Trust led Alaska delegation site visit to Phoenix Arizona to see programs operating within the Crisis Now framework. As part of the Trust's effort to rally support for implementation of the model, the Trust sponsored 26 Alaskan's to visit the programs together and see operations first hand. 		

Each of these activities supported the Trust's work on improving the behavioral health system of care and to mobilize the Trusts initiative to implement the Crisis Now model in Alaska.

These strategies align with the Comp Plan Goal 5, by which individuals, families, communities and governments take ownership to prevent suicide through coordination of prevention efforts and to support and improve the system to assist individuals in crisis.

Disability Justice

Project Title: Alaska Justice Information Center (AJIC)		
Grantee: University Of Alaska Anchorage		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 6	Project Category: Data/Planning	
FY19: \$225,000	FY20: \$225,000	FY21: \$225,000
<p>Project Description: Alaska Justice Information Center (AJiC) is to be Alaska's resource for compiling, analyzing, and reporting criminal justice data to policymakers and practitioners to improve public safety and health, increase criminal justice system accountability, and reduce recidivism.</p> <p>Within three years, AJiC will create an integrated data platform from key criminal justice agencies such as the Alaska Department of Public Safety, the Alaska Department of Law, and the Alaska Department of Corrections as well as related state agencies such as the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. The data platform will support many kinds of research in Alaska. With an integrated data platform AJiC will be able to conduct criminal justice related research and will be able to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) A cost benefit analysis of programs and services aimed at reducing criminal recidivism inb) Population measures to globally assess how well the Alaska criminal justice system is holding offenders accountable and protecting public safetyc) Answers to data questions from state agencies and legislatorsd) Report on the status of Trust beneficiaries with the criminal justice system ande) Annually produce a State of Alaska Criminal Justice System report. <p>Over time, additional data will be compiled, analyzed, and reported to support additional state initiatives and interests. Building this capacity and having up-to-date information will help inform the Trust's disability justice focus area and assist the state in assessing the impact of current and future recidivism reduction strategies on Trust beneficiaries, allowing for data driven adjustments to strategies over time.</p>		
<p>Analysis: In the short time since the Integrated Justice Data Platform has been operational, AJiC was invited to participate in – the United Way of Anchorage's <i>Anchored Home</i> permanent supportive housing project. The United Way asked AJiC to serve as the project's data warehouse and integration hub specifically because of the Integrated Justice Data Platform. This project will integrate data from Alaska's homelessness management information system (HMIS), crisis intervention data from the Municipality of Anchorage (police, fire, and community service patrol), jail/prison admission data from</p>		

the Alaska Department of Corrections, and emergency medical service provision data from the Department of Health and Social Services.

Other AJiC accomplishments in FY 2019 include publication of a four Fact Sheets examining the intersection of illicit drugs and crime as well as the AK-2S (Alaska's pre-trial risk assessment tool) revalidation, a project that is being led by AJiC Associate Director Dr. Troy Payne. Utilizing AJiC's new data infrastructure capabilities, the project will to the extent to which the AK-2S accomplished its primary objective – to predict the likelihood that arrestees *failed to appear* at their next court appointment/hearing during their pre-trial release period, and the likelihood that arrestees *committed new criminal offenses* during their pre-trial release period. This project integrates data from the Alaska Department of Corrections, the Alaska Department of Public Safety, and the Alaska Court System. A full report of findings will be provided to the Alaska Department of Corrections in June 2019.

This is a core data collection and analysis element for the state that has not existed to date. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with UAA to support AJiC continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 9.5, encourages a culture of data-driven decision-making that includes data sharing, data analysis, and management to link support services across Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) divisions and other departments.

Project Title: Public Guardian Position		
Grantee: Department of Administration, Office of Public Advocacy		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 3	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$86,700	FY20: \$89,300	FY21: \$91,500
Description: These funds will increase the capacity of the Office of Public Advocacy (OPA) by creating a new public guardian position. Public Guardians serve some of the most vulnerable Trust beneficiaries. When compared to other states, national standards and guidelines the public guardian caseload significantly exceeded the best practice standard for client-guardian ratio 20:1, and has been identified as among the highest caseloads at 100:1 in the country. Of great concern, is that public guardians are unable to accurately or adequately support and protect the clients. As a result, Trust beneficiaries are at risk of harm or exploitation. This additional capacity will assist in addressing these concerns and improving the services provided to Trust beneficiaries.		
Analysis: FY19 is the first year of Trust funding to OPA for an additional public guardian position. The OPA public guardian served as guardian and/or conservator for clients in the Bethel and Dillingham regions. This includes a range of activities from applying for benefits to having full authority over finances, housing and medical care. The Public Guardian must communicate constantly with her wards, the wards' service providers, family members of the wards', the court system, financial institutions, and others who play a role in the lives of our wards. OPA will continue to provide guardianship and conservatorship services to clients in the Dillingham and Bethel Judicial Districts as it is appointed to do so by the court. The Public Guardian will meet the statutory visitation requirement for visiting clients. Now that a single public guardian is able to focus		

on these cases, in addition to the greater number of in-person visits, we anticipate overall increased client contact that is possible with the reduced caseload. It is important, especially in these smaller hubs, to also create and foster relationships with the resource agencies in the area to promote improved outcomes for these clients. Such relationships will be able to be fostered through the increased communication as well.

This project was new in FY19 but is expected to provide positive outcomes to beneficiaries. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that the Trust support OPA securing GF/MH funding for the position or if required continue with Trust funding support until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 6.5, and ensures vulnerable Alaskans understand their rights and responsibilities.

Project Title: Crisis Intervention Training – Anchorage, Juneau, Other		
Grantee: Anchorage Police Department, Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Police Standards Council		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 13	Project Category: Workforce Development/Training	
FY19: \$75,000	FY20: \$185,000	FY21: \$200,000
<p>Project Description: This grant supports a key strategy of the focus area: training law enforcement personnel on disorders experienced by Trust beneficiaries. The Trust has collaborated with law enforcement, NAMI, community foundations and other local funders, and community treatment providers to coordinate and provide Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training to law enforcement and other first responders. This week-long intensive training increases law enforcement personnel's knowledge of and skills to effectively interact with Trust beneficiaries. Thus, increasing likelihood of positive interactions between CIT-trained law enforcement personnel and Trust beneficiaries and decreasing the likelihood of the beneficiary being charged with a crime and booked into a correctional facility.</p>		
<p>Analysis: The initial interaction between law enforcement personnel and a Trust beneficiary is critical. If the situation is managed appropriately it reduces the likelihood of harm to the beneficiary, law enforcement personnel, and the public – and potentially reduces the need for arrest. Since 2001, Anchorage Police Department has provided CIT training to over 198 of its personnel and 413 other personnel statewide. Since 2016, the Juneau Police Department has provided CIT training to 25 of its personnel and 5 other personnel statewide. And, in 2017, the joint effort of the Department of Public Safety, Wasilla and Palmer Police Departments provided CIT training to 19 personnel from the Mat-Su Valley area (16 Alaska State Troopers. 2 Wasilla patrol officers and 1 Palmer patrol officer) and 11 other personnel statewide.</p> <p>CIT is nationally recognized and a core strategy for diverting beneficiaries out of the criminal justice system. As long as these projects demonstrate positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnerships with local law enforcement and other entities to support CIT continue until the state's economy improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan</p>		

Objective 9.1: strengthen workforce capacity with improved recruitment and retention to obtain and maintain knowledge and support innovation and modernization.

Project Title: Training for Therapeutic Court Clinical Staff		
Grantee: Alaska Court System		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 8	Project Category: Workforce Development/Training	
FY19: \$15,000	FY20: \$15,000	FY21: \$15,000
Project Description: Trust funding is used to train teams from therapeutic courts statewide on the core principles and elements of therapeutic courts and/or on the disorders experience by Trust beneficiaries and the associated treatments. These trainings will assure that judicial officers, attorneys and other team members of the therapeutic courts are kept informed of current issues, concerns, and best practices regarding their target population. The goals of this project are three-fold (1) Increase judicial officers' and other team members' knowledge base for understanding the problems and issues associated with mental health and other related disorders; (2) Assist judicial officers and attorneys in the structuring of bail/sentencing conditions that appropriately match the Trust beneficiary's cognitive capacity and circumstances, and (3) Increase the ability of the legal system to accommodate, support, protect, and provide just treatment for offenders and victims who are Trust beneficiaries.		
Analysis: Legal professionals receive little or no training on disorders experienced by beneficiaries, treatments for those disorders, or how an underlying mental health disorders might factor into legal cases. Training on legal issues impacting Trust beneficiaries as well as how to effectively work with Trust beneficiaries is critical to legal professionals working in the criminal justice system.		
In July 2019, the therapeutic court project coordinator for Anchorage Wellness Court and a senior public defense attorney for OPA, attended the NADCP (National Association of Drug Court Professionals) annual conference using funding from this grant. Upon returning they disseminated what they learned to colleagues around the state, as well as to Wellness Court team members.		
State departments historically have been challenged to have funds available for staff training, this will be even more challenging in light of the state's fiscal challenges. As long as these training are an identified need and demonstrate positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's support continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 9.1, strengthens workforce capacity with improved recruitment and retention to obtain and maintain knowledge and support innovation and modernization.		

Project Title: Training for Department of Corrections Mental Health Staff		
Grantee: Department of Corrections		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 9	Project Category: Workforce Development/Training	
FY19: \$25,000	FY20: \$25,000	FY21: \$25,000
Project Description: This grant provides funding for Department of Corrections (DOC) Mental Health staff training and conference participation on a select basis. Department training will target topics		

pertinent to DOC mental health clinicians, psychiatric nurses, counselors, Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs), and psychiatrists statewide. These staff are located in facilities from Bethel to Seward to Juneau and serve some of Alaska's most severely ill Trust beneficiaries. The in-service training component will involve a two-day conference that will be attended by multidisciplinary personnel.

Analysis: The FY19 funds were used to continue the Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training initiative. The training include 120 correctional officers, 12 support staff, 8 contract SUD staff, 37 probation staff, and one Director along with statewide municipal corrections staff.

The MHFA initiative has provided an excellent opportunity for the department to align its entry level mental health training with the training that other community agencies, first responders and public safety agencies. This has provided an opportunity for everyone to speak the same language when working with mentally ill individuals. The department has a limited number of certified trainers to provide MHFA training. This limits the rate and number of staff that are able to train.

State departments have historically been challenged with having funds available for staff training, this will be even more challenging in light of the state's fiscal challenges. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's support continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 8.3, enhances and expand access to clinical and case management resources for Alaskans who are incarcerated.

Project Title: Specialized Skills & Services Training on Serving Criminally Justice Involved Beneficiaries		
Grantee: UAA-Center for Human Development (CHD)		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 16	Project Category: Workforce Development/Training	
FY19: \$72,500	FY20: \$72,500	FY21: \$72,500
Project Description: This project will provide community providers training opportunities specific to issues that impact Trust beneficiaries at risk of committing crimes. Training will be provided through a statewide conference in Anchorage with recognized professionals with expertise in best practices that reduce recidivism amongst Trust beneficiaries. The focus of the conference will be on training in specific interventions and support strategies targeting the needs of Trust beneficiaries involved in the criminal and/or juvenile justice systems.		
Analysis: This statewide conference focuses on: (1) educating the community service providers about the reentry efforts underway within the Department of Corrections and at a state policy level and (2) providing skills training to direct service workers on best practices for assessing risk and need and direct service provision when working with criminal justice involved beneficiaries. FY18 conference was the 13 th annual conference and focused on successful reentry planning for returning adult and juvenile citizens from adult correctional and youth facilities. The conference is a unique and key in-state training opportunity that educates providers statewide on best-practices and information about Alaska's criminal justice reform efforts. It targets attendees who are working directly with criminally justice involved Trust beneficiaries. Forty four percent of the attendees had not attended the conference previously. Over 80% of attendees who completed the satisfaction survey (76% on Day 1 and 85% on Day 2) reported they were likely to incorporate the training into their daily work.		

On March 7 & 8, 2019, the CHD Alaska Training Cooperative, in partnership with 23 representatives from stakeholder groups who served on the FY 19 Planning Committee, successfully implemented the 14th Annual “Reducing Recidivism: Smart Justice in Alaska” Conference training.

Training Access Funds: \$13,850 travel funds were distributed to (25 participants) to be able to attend the conference.

This project has a demonstrated history of providing positive outcomes to beneficiaries. Staff will continue to monitor this project and work with CHD staff to identify alternative sustainable funding. Or, if the project outcomes for beneficiaries are not achieved staff will work with CHD to adjust accordingly or recommend that Trust funding be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 9.2 by advancing the competencies of the healthcare, behavioral health, and public health workforce.

Project Title: Interpersonal Violence Prevention for Beneficiaries		
Grantee: UAA-Center for Human Development		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 16	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$80,000	FY20: \$80,000	FY21: \$80,000
<p>Project Description: This project builds community behavioral health provider skills and capacity by using a train-the-trainer model to deliver a 10-week Friendships & Dating (FDP) social skills curriculum to Trust beneficiaries. This project focuses on building capacity within the provider community to prevent interpersonal violence in the lives of youth and adults with cognitive disabilities. On-going clinical technical assistance and support is provided to the trained facilitators on a bi-monthly basis to address issues on delivering the training to beneficiaries and on community capacity building to support beneficiaries to apply what they learn in their everyday lives.</p> <p>The Center for Human Development staff use the train the trainer model to deliver the curriculum and provide technical assistance to those agencies and staff delivering the course. Sixty-seven percent of the agencies that have worked with CHD have implemented the curriculum and 25 facilitators were trained, in three communities, at 12 different agencies. CHD used face to face and distance delivery to offer three trainings in FY18. Five of the 12 agencies did have challenges providing the 10-week curriculum due to staff turnover, scheduling and other circumstances.</p> <p>Analysis: This project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes for beneficiaries, agency staff serving beneficiaries, and raises awareness about interpersonal violence experienced by beneficiaries. The curriculum developed by the Center for Human Development (CHD) for this project is considered an evidence based program with “documented statically significant behavioral outcomes for program participants.</p> <p>In FY19 a Friendships & Dating Program (FDP) facilitator training event was held in October with IDD agencies. Three agencies participated and a total of six new facilitators were trained. Technical assistance has been provided to trained agencies from this year and previous years to assist with implementation of the program. Over 40 beneficiaries have participated in FDP groups this year and several more groups are being planned for implementation during the spring and summer. Recruitment has begun for spring facilitator training with IDD and SED agencies. CHD program staff</p>		

were asked to present on FDP at the Alaska State Association for Guardianship & Advocacy (ASAGA) conference in the fall.

This project has a demonstrated history of providing positive outcomes to beneficiaries. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's partnership with the Center for Human Development continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 9.2, and advances the competencies of the healthcare, behavioral health, and public health workforce.

Project Title: Juneau Mental Health Court		
Grantee: Alaska Court System		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 13	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$204,400	FY20: \$204,400	FY21: \$126,100
Project Description: This grant funds the Juneau Mental Health Court, a therapeutic court alternative for Trust beneficiaries involved with the criminal justice system. The Juneau Mental Health Court serves a critical component of the Disability Justice Focus Area and will expand the presence of mental health courts to the Southeast region. Through partnerships with community treatment providers, the underlying reasons for an individual's contact with the criminal justice system will be identified, addressed, and monitored through an individualized court ordered treatment plan.		
Analysis: Due to SB91, the limited availability of housing, and the turnover experienced by the Juneau Mental Health Court the average 12 month utilization rate was 35%. Also, due to the turnover of the project coordinator the court was unable comply with performance measure three (Provide outcome data) due to not having access to the information. At the end of FY18 the new court team was beginning to assess eligibility criteria and the admission process in an effort to increase capacity utilization. In the FY19 project update the court reported continued difficulty receiving referrals; however, at the time the report was written the court had received six new referrals and the project coordinator and team attorneys were pro-actively seeking more potential participants. With the addition of a new project coordinator, a local probation officer, and dedicated team attorneys the participation rate has increased from the low to mid-twenties up to 40% in April with 0 participants discharged and/or returning to regular court to date for 2019. This project has a demonstrated history of providing positive outcomes to beneficiaries. Staff will continue to monitor this project and work with Alaska Court System staff to shore up its operations. It is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with the Alaska Court System continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska's criminal justice or juvenile justice system.		

Project Title: Flexible Funding for Therapeutic Court Participants (Anchorage, Juneau, Palmer)		
Grantee: Partners for Progress		
Fund: Authority Grant		

Years Funded: 13	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$155,000	FY20: \$214,500	FY20: \$229,500
<p>Project Description: This project is to provide financial resources to assist therapeutic court participants meet basic or emergent needs in order to maintain or progress in recovery and self-sufficiency, and to comply with court-ordered conditions.</p> <p>Partners for Progress will disburse funds as authorized under policies and procedures developed jointly with the Alaska Court System to assist therapeutic court participants. Priority in the use of funds will be accorded to participants of the mental health courts. Disbursement of funds will be authorized by the mental health court Project Coordinator in accordance with established policy and procedures.</p> <p>Analysis: These funds are critical and positively impact individual Trust beneficiaries participating in a therapeutic court who often have few financial resources available to meet emergent needs such as housing, transportation, medication etc. This can impede the ability of beneficiaries to meet court-imposed conditions and can also precipitate crises and periods of instability which hinder their recovery, rehabilitation and can potentially lead to re-incarceration.</p> <p>In FY19 to date, the Anchorage Therapeutic Court has ran at an average capacity of 62% and utilized 74% of its fiscal budget. Sixty three percent of the flex fund expenditures were related to housing. In FY19 to date, the Palmer Therapeutic Court has ran at an average capacity of 92% and utilized 97% of its fiscal budget. Seventy two percent of the flex fund expenditures were related to housing. In FY19 to date, the Juneau CRP Court has ran at an average capacity of 34% and utilized 59% of its fiscal budget. In FY19 to date, the Palmer Families with Infant and Toddlers (FIT) Court has ran at an average capacity of 89% and utilized 27% of its fiscal budget. Due to an increase in rents for the Palmer CRP court participants flex funds from the Palmer FIT court were used to bridge the funding gap for the Palmer CRP. The demand and need for this type of direct support to individual beneficiaries participating in therapeutic courts is expected to continue. Staff are monitoring the Palmer flex funds for a possible increase in the FY21 budget if rents continue to increase as housing is the top expenditure for all therapeutic courts receiving flex funds.</p> <p>As long as these therapeutic courts demonstrate positive outcomes and the needs of their respective participants exist, it is recommended that Trust's funding partnerships continue until the state's economy improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska's criminal justice or juvenile justice system.</p>		

Project Title: Palmer Family Infant Toddler (PFIT) Treatment Access & Training		
Grantee: Mat-Su Health Foundation		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 3	Project Category: Capacity Building	
FY19: \$75,000	FY20: \$75,000	FY21: \$75,000
<p>Project Description: Since 1998, as part of a broad-based approach to reduce the incidence of beneficiaries in Alaska's justice system, the Trust has fully supported the development, implementation and expansion of therapeutic courts. The Palmer FIT court uses alternative justice models to address the underlying reasons for contact with the justice system, increase public safety,</p>		

and prevent future contact with the justice system and to keep families and support networks intact. Alaska's current recidivism rates, particularly for Alaskans experiencing mental health and substance use disorders, demands approaches like the Palmer FIT court.

The Palmer Families with Infants and Toddlers (FIT) court is a therapeutic court for families with children, many if not all of whom are Trust beneficiaries, ages zero to 36 months, with an open child welfare case before the court. The Palmer FIT court is a collaborative effort designed to provide participants intensive services and support. The mission of the court is to recognize the unique developmental needs of young children. The primary goals are to achieve permanency within twelve months and to reunify young children with their families of origin. Whenever possible, the Palmer FIT court seeks to reduce repeat maltreatment by building strong supports around the family.

In FY19, these grant funds will pay for Early Childhood Mental Health Counselor Services provided by Co-Occurring Disorders Institute (CODI) for families who are not covered or only partially covered by Medicaid. The funding would also be used for expenses related to FIT Court activities (family team meetings, court hearings, and team education opportunities).

Analysis: The FIT court is a therapeutic court focused on families with children involved in the child welfare system also and the goal of the FIT court is to maintain or reunify the family unit. It has been established that a parent involved in the criminal justice system or a child's involvement in the child welfare system increases the risk of the child abusing substances and or developing a mental health disorder. This project aligns with the Trust's established Disability Justice focus area and criminal justice reform and reinvestment priorities and is recommended for continued funding in FY20. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska's criminal justice or juvenile justice system.

Project Title: Centralized Competency Calendar

Grantee: Alaska Court System

Fund: MHTAAR

Years Funded: 3

Project Category: Capacity Building

FY19: \$19,400

FY20: \$78,300

FY21: \$78,300

Project Description: During 2014, the Alaska Court System (ACS) issued a standard order creating a Centralized Competency Calendar in Anchorage. This was initiated in an effort to ensure hearings for Trust beneficiary defendants presenting with competency concerns were: (1) scheduled expeditiously, (2) tracked, and (3) these cases did not unnecessarily languish in the criminal justice process. Additionally, the Centralized Competency Calendar was intended to improve communication between the parties involved in the case (the Alaska Court System, the Alaska Psychiatric Institute, the Department of Corrections, and the prosecuting and defense attorneys). Currently, the Anchorage Mental Health Court staff assume many of the tasks associated with these additional cases. This includes maintaining a database to track the cases and regular communication with API to expedite or continue hearings (dependent upon when evaluations can be scheduled, beds are available at API for restoration or people are restored and need a finding made by the court to move them back to DOC). This detracts from the necessary work and attention required to facilitate smooth operations of the Anchorage Mental Health Court.

Since the Anchorage Mental Health Court staff assumed these tasks, the number of competency cases has increased exponentially, with even longer waiting periods for services from API. There is now a

backlog of cases awaiting services at API (competency evaluations or beds for restoration) resulting in an increased amount of staff time spent rescheduling hearings and communicating with parties as defendants await services – often while in DOC custody.

ACS understands the importance of assuring Trust beneficiaries receive timely needed treatment services versus being incarcerated, and intends to continue to facilitate access to these critically-needed services. However, due to the increased number of cases, the Anchorage Centralized Competency Calendar needs additional staff resources. ACS is requesting that some of the funds currently allocated for the Juneau Mental Health Court in FY19 be reallocated for a new staff position to assist in this process.

Analysis: Trustees approved a total of \$204,400 in FY19 MHTAAR funding to fund the Juneau Mental Health Court, a therapeutic court alternative for Trust beneficiaries involved with the criminal justice system. The Juneau Mental Health Court serves a critical component of the Disability Justice Focus Area and has expanded the presence of mental health courts to the Southeast region.

At this point in time, the Alaska Court System (ACS) projects there will be \$86,700 of unexpended funds from the \$204,400 previously approved for the Juneau Mental Health Court. ACS is requesting these funds be re-allocated to address a present issue with their Centralized Competency Calendar.

Support of the position managing the ACS Centralized Competency Calendar in Anchorage is needed to ensure that Trust beneficiaries who are in need of the competency evaluation as well as restoration are not forgotten or lost in the system. In light of the state's fiscal challenges, the transition of this project to SOA GF/MH is not likely in the foreseeable future (2-4 years). As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with ACS continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska's criminal justice or juvenile justice system.

Project Title: Holistic Defense Model

Grantee: Public Defender Agency (Dept. of Administration) & Alaska Legal Services

Fund: MHTAAR & Authority Grant

Years Funded: 6

Project Category: Direct Service

FY19: \$283,800

FY20: \$373,800

FY21: \$373,800

Project Description: Funding will be used to support the following components of the Bethel Holistic Defense Model: a social worker position in the Bethel Public Defender Agency (PDA) office; and data and research staff. Any expenditures of Trust funds outside of these areas must receive prior approval from the assigned Trust staff overseeing the project grant.

The Public Defender Agency and the Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) will pilot the Holistic Defense model in Bethel. The target population will be Trust beneficiaries not participating in the Bethel Therapeutic court or other diversion projects and will be randomly selected from clients assigned to the public defender in the Bethel region.

Project participants criminal legal needs will be addressed by a criminal attorney, a social worker will be continue to assist with participants unmet social support needs, and a civil legal aid attorney will work with the team to address project participants' civil legal needs. All program services are

designed to address participant obstacles to successful reintegration and thus participant recidivism will be reduced.

Analysis: In FY19 the PDA and ALSC has experienced a complete transition with local HDP program staff: a new supervising attorney, social worker, and client specialist for the PDA and a new attorney for ALSC. Beyond FY19, the PDA and ALSC plan to perfect the implementation of the HDP model in Bethel and expand the program or program components to other jurisdictions with discussions focusing on other rural arctic locations that have both PDA and ALSC offices. The PDA and ALSC will be working towards teaching and refining current data collection with new staff and working towards the development of data collection standards.

In light of the state's fiscal challenges, the transition of this project to the State of Alaska General Fund is not likely in the foreseeable future (2-4 years). This project has a demonstrated history of providing positive outcomes to beneficiaries. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's partnership with the PDA to support this pilot continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 6.5, ensuring vulnerable Alaskans understand their rights and responsibilities.

Project Title: Mental Health Clinician Oversight in Youth Facilities

Grantee: DHSS, Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)

Fund: MHTAAR

Years Funded: 10

Project Category: Capacity Building

FY19: \$157,700

FY20: \$162,400

FY21: \$81,200

Project Description: This grant funds a Mental Health Clinical (MHC) director clinical director position to provide clinical oversight and support to Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) mental health clinicians in areas such as clinical service delivery, case consultation, development of training plans, and expertise related to confidentiality and ethical issues. The position will also work with DJJ senior management to further the integration and development of statewide behavioral health services within the 24/7 secure juvenile facilities, as well as the probation services of DJJ. This position will work closely with the Office of Children's Services (OCS) and the Alaska Psychiatric Institution (API) to improve service coordination and individual beneficiary outcomes.

Analysis: The Mental Health Clinical director (MHC) position is critical to ensuring quality clinical services as well as policies and procedures for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). The position supervises DJJ's mental health clinical staff, oversight of mental health services statewide, and provides clinical services directly to beneficiary youth. Absent this position, a decreased focus and emphasis on mental health services within DJJ could result, negatively impacting beneficiary youth and increasing the likelihood of continued juvenile justice involvement and potential future criminal activity in adulthood. The position has been critical in ensuring no other treatment option is available before transferring a beneficiary youth to API or out-of-state placement. The position has also been critical to representing DJJ and assisting in the treatment planning for beneficiary youth who are involved with DJJ and the Office of Children's Services (OCS).

DJJ has seen an increase in the acuity of youth we served, this is due in part to API not taking adolescents into their program. In addition to the complex behaviors exhibited by the youth, many youth also experience FASDs and/or chronic trauma. MHCs and staff could also benefit from other

evidence based therapies for trauma and working effectively with individuals who experience FASDs. Resources needed for these evidenced based therapies and programs include funding for the training.

This project has a demonstrated history of providing positive outcomes to beneficiaries. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that the Trust support DJJ secure General Fund Mental Health funding for the position or if required continue with Trust funding support until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Objective 8.3, enhancing and expanding access to clinical and case management resources for Alaskans who are incarcerated.

Project Title: Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative: Reentry Coalition Capacity Development - Mat-Su

Grantee: Valley Charities, Inc.

Fund: Authority Grant

Years Funded: 6 **Project Category:** Capacity Building

FY19: \$100,000

FY20: \$100,000

FY21: \$100,000

Project Description: One of the most important aspects of implementing the Alaska Community Reentry Program, is the local capacity of any given community to effectively support the needs of all returning citizens, including Trust beneficiaries, as they transition back into our communities. Local reentry coalitions consist of a cross section of people representing the services or supports available to reentrants in the community. Reentry coalitions:

1. Educate the community about the criminal justice system and the reentry program;
2. Identify local challenges facing reentrants;
3. Identify local gaps in services and identify collaborative solutions to build capacity in the community, and;
4. Serve as the local point of contact for the DOC and its partners in reducing recidivism.

The Mat-Su Valley Reentry Coalition Coordinator works closely and collaboratively with the its Reentry Coalition membership, the Trust, the Department of Corrections and Health and Social Services and other key state and community stakeholders as a partner in the Alaska Community Reentry Program. Establishing and maintaining strong, and effective partnerships is critical to the success of the Alaska Community Reentry Program and the individual reentrants.

Analysis: The Mat-Su Valley Reentry Coalition is a network of diverse organizations and individuals working together to build clear and supportive pathways for individuals to success reenter the Mat-Su Valley community after incarceration. This issue is too large and complex or large for any one person or organization to solve alone. The Mat-Su Valley Reentry Coalition Coordinator worked with the Mat-Su Valley coalition to:

1. Progress towards the Coalition's goals outlined in the Comprehensive Community Reentry Plan.
2. Conduct community outreach and education activities.
3. Identify system and/or local community based service/support challenges for returning citizens.

The Coalition Coordinator and three Steering Team members organized the Prisoner Reentry Summit on January 9 and 10, 2019, at Mat-Su College. Funding was secured from the Alaska Mental Health

Trust Authority, Valley Charities, and Mat-Su Health Foundation. The event featured a nationally recognized keynote speaker, Dr. Ed Latessa, on what does and does not work in reducing recidivism. The day also featured breakout sessions with these topics: housing, youth offenders, the court system, public safety, victim's services, children of incarcerated parents, and behavioral health.

Continued community service coordination, in-reach to correctional facilities and public education about reentry and criminal justice reform efforts is critical. It is recommended that Trust's funding support continue until the state's economy improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Goal 7, Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska's criminal justice or juvenile justice system.

Project Title: Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative: Reentry Coalition Capacity Development - Fairbanks		
Grantee: Interior Alaska Center For Non- Violent Living		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 6	Project Category: Capacity Building	
FY19: \$100,000	FY20: \$100,000	FY21: \$100,000
<p>Project Description: One of the most important aspects of implementing the Alaska Community Reentry Program, is the local capacity of any given community to effectively support the needs of all returning citizens, including Trust beneficiaries, as they transition back into our communities. Local reentry coalitions consist of a cross section of people representing the services or supports available to reentrants in the community. Reentry coalitions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educate the community about the criminal justice system and the reentry program, 2. Identify local challenges facing reentrants, 3. Identify local gaps in services and identify collaborative solutions to build capacity in the community, and 4. Serve as the local point of contact for the DOC and its partners in reducing recidivism. <p>The Fairbanks Reentry Coalition Coordinator works closely and collaboratively with the its Reentry Coalition membership, the Trust, the Department of Corrections and Health and Social Services and other key state and community stakeholders as a partner in the Alaska Community Reentry Program. Establishing and maintaining strong, and effective partnerships is critical to the success of the Alaska Community Reentry Program and the individual reentrants.</p>		
<p>Analysis: The Fairbanks Reentry Coalition is a network of diverse organizations and individuals working together to build clear and supportive pathways for individuals to success reenter the Fairbanks community after incarceration. This issue is too large and complex or large for any one person or organization to solve alone. The Fairbanks Reentry Coalition Coordinator worked with the Fairbanks coalition to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitate coalition activities; 2. Conduct a <i>Coalition Capacity Assessment</i> to assess coalition's ability to work as a collaborative team and identify areas for the coalition to make improvements to strengthen the coalition; 3. Conduct a <i>Community Readiness Assessment</i> to assess the degree to which a Fairbanks is ready to act and be responsive to the needs of individuals after incarceration; 		

4. Conduct (and update as needed) the *Community Resource Assessment* to assess the Fairbanks community's service and support capacity to meet the needs of individuals after incarceration and provide the coalition with a unified understanding of its community's resource needs, instead of multiple individual perceptions and experiences;
5. Develop the Fairbanks Coalition's *Comprehensive Community Reentry Plan* (strategic plan);
6. Conduct institutional presentations about the Alaska Community Reentry Program and facilitate presentations by community providers about available resources and services, and;
7. Educate the Fairbanks community about reentry and criminal justice reform efforts.

The Fairbanks reentry coalition coordinated and hosted the first forensic peer support training in the State of Alaska. At the conclusion of two weeks of training 18 Alaskans were certified as forensic peer support specialists, peer support trainers, and peer support program supervisors. Also, since February 2017 the recidivism rate in Fairbanks is approximately 23.07% which is much lower than the State's recidivism rate of 61%.

Continued community service coordination, in-reach to correctional facilities and public education about reentry and criminal justice reform efforts is critical. It is recommended that Trust's funding support continue until the state's economy improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Goal 7, Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska's criminal justice or juvenile justice system.

Project Title: Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative: Reentry Coalition Capacity Development - Juneau		
Grantee: JAMHI Health and Wellness		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 6	Project Category: Capacity Building	
FY19: \$100,000	FY20: \$100,000	FY21: \$100,000
<p>Project Description: One of the most important aspects of implementing the Alaska Community Reentry Program, is the local capacity of any given community to effectively support the needs of all returning citizens, including Trust beneficiaries, as they transition back into our communities. Local reentry coalitions consist of a cross section of people representing the services or supports available to reentrants in the community. Reentry coalitions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educate the community about the criminal justice system and the reentry program, 2. Identify local challenges facing reentrants, 3. Identify local gaps in services and identify collaborative solutions to build capacity in the community, and 4. Serve as the local point of contact for the DOC and its partners in reducing recidivism. <p>The Juneau Reentry Coalition Coordinator works closely and collaboratively with the its Reentry Coalition membership, the Trust, the Department of Corrections and Health and Social Services and other key state and community stakeholders as a partner in the Alaska Community Reentry Program. Establishing and maintaining strong, and effective partnerships is critical to the success of the Alaska Community Reentry Program and the individual reentrants.</p>		
<p>Analysis: The Juneau Reentry Coalition is a network of diverse organizations and individuals working together to build clear and supportive pathways for individuals to success reenter the Juneau</p>		

community after incarceration. This issue is too large and complex or large for any one person or organization to solve alone. The Juneau Reentry Coalition Coordinator has worked with the Juneau coalition to:

1. Facilitate coalition activities;
2. Conduct a *Coalition Capacity Assessment* to assess coalition's ability to work as a collaborative team and identify areas for the coalition to make improvements to strengthen the coalition;
3. Conduct a *Community Readiness Assessment* to assess the degree to which a Juneau is ready to act and be responsive to the needs of individuals after incarceration;
4. Conduct (and update as needed) the *Community Resource Assessment* to assess the Juneau community's service and support capacity to meet the needs of individuals after incarceration and provide the coalition with a unified understanding of its community's resource needs, instead of multiple individual perceptions and experiences;
5. Develop the Juneau Coalition's *Comprehensive Community Reentry Plan* (strategic plan);
6. Conduct institutional presentations about the Alaska Community Reentry Program and facilitate presentations by community providers about available resources and services;
7. Educate the Juneau community about reentry and criminal justice reform efforts.

A recent undertaking of the coalition that was not specifically targeted during the planning of their comprehensive goals but grew out of an identified community need was that of the connecting of justice system practitioners to behavioral community resources. Late in the FY18 cycle, Juneau's Reentry Coalition (JREC) Behavioral Health and Wellness Workgroup facilitated a community meeting on mental health service and treatment options available in the community. One of the discoveries during this meeting was that justice system practitioners were not necessarily aware of the scope and availability of mental health resources. To address this issue the JREC embarked on a community mental health resource identification and information compilation project that would allow a user to quickly access mental health service availability information. The envisioned project goal is to have justice system personnel, such as a case manager, quickly access a mental health service provider through information exchange. This work is ongoing in FY19, however, completed stages of the project have been the cataloging of community mental health service and treatment options and the compilation of this data into an easily searchable dataset. Yet to be accomplished is a query system so that a case manager will have this information at their fingertips and the necessary connections between practitioner and provider to enhance mental health treatment utilization by reentrants.

Continued community service coordination, in-reach to correctional facilities and public education about reentry and criminal justice reform efforts is critical. It is recommended that Trust's funding support continue until the state's economy improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Goal 7, Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska's criminal justice or juvenile justice system.

Project Title: Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative: Reentry Coalition Capacity Development - Anchorage		
Grantee: NeighborWorks Alaska		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 6	Project Category: Capacity Building	
FY19: \$100,000	FY20: \$100,000	FY21: \$100,000

Project Description: One of the most important aspects of implementing the Alaska Community Reentry Program, is the local capacity of any given community to effectively support the needs of all returning citizens, including Trust beneficiaries, as they transition back into our communities. Local reentry coalitions consist of a cross section of people representing the services or supports available to reentrants in the community. Reentry coalitions:

1. Educate the community about the criminal justice system and the reentry program,
2. Identify local challenges facing reentrants,
3. Identify local gaps in services and identify collaborative solutions to build capacity in the community, and
4. Serve as the local point of contact for the DOC and its partners in reducing recidivism.

The Anchorage Reentry Coalition Coordinator works closely and collaboratively with the its Reentry Coalition membership, the Trust, the Department of Corrections and Health and Social Services and other key state and community stakeholders as a partner in the Alaska Community Reentry Program. Establishing and maintaining strong, and effective partnerships is critical to the success of the Alaska Community Reentry Program and the individual reentrants.

Analysis: The Anchorage Reentry Coalition is a network of diverse organizations and individuals working together to build clear and supportive pathways for individuals to success reenter the Anchorage community after incarceration. This issue is too large and complex or large for any one person or organization to solve alone. The Anchorage Reentry Coalition Coordinator has worked with the Anchorage coalition to:

1. Facilitate coalition activities;
2. Conduct a *Coalition Capacity Assessment* to assess coalition's ability to work as a collaborative team and identify areas for the coalition to make improvements to strengthen the coalition;
3. Conduct a *Community Readiness Assessment* to assess the degree to which Anchorage is ready to act and be responsive to the needs of individuals after incarceration;
4. Conduct (and update as needed) the *Community Resource Assessment* to assess the Anchorage community's service and support capacity to meet the needs of individuals after incarceration and provide the coalition with a unified understanding of its community's resource needs, instead of multiple individual perceptions and experiences;
5. Develop the Anchorage Coalition's *Comprehensive Community Reentry Plan* (strategic plan)
6. Conduct institutional presentations about the Alaska Community Reentry Program and facilitate presentations by community providers about available resources and services;
7. Educate the Anchorage community about reentry and criminal justice reform efforts.

The Anchorage Reentry Coalition collaborated with the US Attorney's Office to host two reentry simulations where participants had the opportunity to experience the difficulties and complications facing reentrants who are returning to their community after leaving incarceration. The first simulation was well attended and had a waiting list with more community members wanting to attend. The second simulation is scheduled for the month of June and is expected to have more participants.

Continued community service coordination, in-reach to correctional facilities and public education about reentry and criminal justice reform efforts is critical. It is recommended that Trust's funding support continue until the state's economy improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At

which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Goal 7, Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska’s criminal justice or juvenile justice system.

Project Title: Implement the APIC (Assess, Plan, Identify and Coordinate) Discharge Planning Model		
Grantee: Department of Corrections		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 16	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$260,000	FY20: \$260,000	FY21: \$290,000
<p>Project Description: The Department of Corrections (DOC) used the evidenced-based reentry model, “Assess, Plan, Identify, Coordinate (APIC), for Trust beneficiary release and community re-entry planning system from correctional institutions. This project assures continuity of care for Trust beneficiaries transitioning from the correctional system back into the community while maintaining public safety and increasing the ability of the criminal justice system to accommodate, support, protect, and provide treatment for offenders who are Trust beneficiaries. To succeed in the community, the APIC model has identified the following key service and treatment elements as predictors of success: (1) coordinated clinical care across criminal justice, mental and behavioral health systems; (2) medication management; (3) coordinated safe sober housing; (4) application, maintenance and reinstatement of entitlements and support benefits; (5) vocational rehabilitation and supported employment; and linkages for food, clothing, transportation and child care. The ultimate goal is to decrease the risk of inappropriate or avoidable re-arrest, prosecution, and incarceration of Trust beneficiaries and the associated high costs of managing these populations in the criminal justice system.</p>		
<p>Analysis: Through FY19 there have been approximately 500 referrals for APIC services. APIC partners with 35 vendors in several categories. These include: 2 care coordination agencies and one payee to do preparation work prior to release; 8 treatment providers of which about half have provided services in the jails and one pharmacy which provides interim medications. In addition to these services, APIC funds have paid for bus passes, IDs, neuropsychological evaluations and emergency evaluations to aid individuals in successfully transitioning into the community. One area that APIC had to provide additional coverage was for housing high need and vulnerable individuals in 7 assisted living homes (ALH) due to General Relief (GR) losing funding in February and 10 transitional housing locations that could not be covered in the Discharge Incentive Grant (DIG) due to excess needs. DOC MH/APIC staff have done outreach within and outside of Anchorage to encourage the use of the funds to supply the bridge between jail and the community for treatment services to occur within the institutions and then upon release to the communities.</p>		
<p>Continued support and partnership in this area is critical to reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries in Alaska’s correctional facilities and overall rates of criminal recidivism. This project has a demonstrated history of providing positive outcomes to beneficiaries. As long as this project continues to demonstrate positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust’s funding partnership with DOC to support APIC continue until the state’s fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Goal 7, Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska’s criminal justice or juvenile justice system.</p>		

Project Title: Discharge Incentive Grants		
Grantee: Alaska Housing Finance Corporation		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 16	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$100,000	FY20: \$100,000	FY21: \$100,000
Project Description: This grant provides funding for a key strategy of the Trust's Affordable Housing initiative and the Disability Justice workgroup. The Discharge Incentive Grant program is consistent with the Housing workgroup's focus on community reentry by targeting beneficiaries exiting Department of Corrections (DOC) settings who are challenging to serve and will require extended supervision and support services to avoid repeat incarceration and becoming public safety concerns. The supportive services shall be provided in collaboration with DOC and local behavioral health provider agencies. This project will be referenced in the Supported Housing Office Annual Work Plan as a priority for coordination of Trust-funded efforts.		
Analysis: This is a specialized housing voucher for the state that is critical for successful return to the community. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding partnership with Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) to support Discharge Incentive Grants continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Goal 7, Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska's criminal justice or juvenile justice system.		

Project Title: Re-entry Transition Supports		
Grantee: TBD		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 14	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$150,000	FY20: \$150,000	FY21: \$150,000
Project Description: The Flexible Special Needs Housing Project is funding which provides housing support for returning beneficiaries who are confronted by barriers to housing due to their criminal history, mental illness, or other complicating factors.		
Analysis: A variety of different housing options are needed to support people returning to the community from incarceration. This project provides another option to the available transitional housing, focusing specifically on supporting people with a substance use disorder who are leaving corrections.		
<p>This is a new approach to re-entry housing for the state that has not existed to date. As long as this project demonstrates positive outcomes it is recommended that Trust's funding of the Flexible Special Needs Housing project continue until the state's fiscal health improves or the project fails to meet stated goals. At which point, the project will be adjusted accordingly or Trust funding may be discontinued. This project aligns with the Comp Plan Goal 7, Objective 7.3, reducing the number of Trust beneficiaries entering or becoming involved with Alaska's criminal justice or juvenile justice system.</p>		

Priority Initiatives

Project Title: The Alaska Training Cooperative		
Grantee: UAA-Center for Human Development		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 14	Project Category: Workforce Development/Training	
FY19: \$984,000	FY20: \$984,000	FY21: \$984,000
<p>Project Description: The Alaska Training Cooperative (AKTC) is responsible for providing non-academic trainings, professional development, technical assistance and continuing education to direct service providers who serve Trust beneficiary populations, and to identify and meet additional training needs identified through Medicaid expansion, redesign and reform and criminal justice reinvestment. Program services include statewide training coordination, marketing available training opportunities, technical assistance to address identified training gaps and need, understanding rural perspectives and cultural attunement, as well as training delivery and accessibility. The AKTC provides evidenced-based, culturally attuned training through state of the art delivery models to remote, rural and urban areas of Alaska.</p> <p>The AKTC works to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitate and maintain coordination and collaboration of training entities. 2. Provide technical assistance support to address training opportunities, training needs and gaps identified by providers serving Trust beneficiaries. 3. Document and report training data. 4. Increase evidenced-based training delivery. 5. Increase availability of training that equips the home and community-based and behavioral health workforce to provide culturally attuned services throughout Alaska and for our unique Alaska Native populations. 		
<p>Analysis: The Alaska Training Cooperative (AKTC) continues to serve the Alaska behavioral health (BH) care industry workforce as the lead training and technical support entity. The AKTC equips the BH workforce using a variety of training modalities with evidenced-based curricula, which are tailored to Alaska's culturally diverse communities. The AKTC is housed at the University of Alaska, Anchorage Center for Human Development (CHD), which gives them the advantage of the statewide University of Alaska system of support. CHD also provides AKTC an advantage, as they are a University of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities in Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD), which means they are part of the national network of university centers on disabilities. Being housed in the UCEDD gives the AKTC staff access to the latest best practices and research on community support for individuals with physical and mental health disabilities.</p> <p>The AKTC met and exceeded all of its performance measures. The AKTC provided 236 trainings in 117 communities to 7,556 individuals during FY 19. The number of beneficiaries impacted is in the thousands, as everyone trained works in one of 548 provider entities, which all serve Trust beneficiaries. As Medicaid reform and Disability Justice continue to move ahead, the AKTC has played a pivotal role in meeting the needs of these reforms. This was achieved through training evidence-based curriculum; distance learning using the zoom platform, and traveling to 117 communities for face-to-face delivery and technical support. In FY 20, as COVID-19 moved across the state, the AKTC</p>		

was able to maximize its infrastructure of technology to shift from face to face conferences and trainings, to on-line platforms like zoom. This has provided the needed support for agency staff statewide to continue accessing evidenced-based curricula such as Safety Planning, AK Core competencies, SBIRT, All Patients Safe, and MHFA. The Full Lives Conference, which is a three-day training event for Direct Service Professionals (DSPs) and Care Coordinators, was switched to zoom, and provided for free in a live format. The event was also recorded and moved to an anytime training platform through their online Learning Management System. This is a great example of how the AKTC did not miss a step in continuing to provide high-level support and training to DSPs.

The AKTC is able to manage a statewide training and technical support delivery system through the Learning Management System (LMS), which is an on-line database used for registration, marketing trainings, and managing individual profiles. This system gives the AKTC flexibility for offering their own classes, as well as linking to existing entities who are doing their own community courses. An example of this is a new partnership between the AKTC and the University of Washington's Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (TTC). The TTC has a five-year funding stream to support Alaska with mental health training and technical support. In order to maximize this opportunity, the AKTC has an agreement to support the TTC with the LMS and to provide staff to facilitate an infrastructure for deliverables. The TTC has access to the University of Washington School of Medicine's expertise, and the AKTC has the knowledge of Alaska providers and needs. The TTC will utilize the AKTC's LMS to offer their classes, on-line and in-person. The AKTC is organizing the venues for training, and marketing of the classes. Currently, trainings offered include *Safety Planning Intervention* and *All Patients Safe*. These are excellent examples of collaborative partnerships to provide the latest evidenced-based knowledge for direct care staff across Alaska, which translates into improving care for Trust beneficiaries.

Goal 9 of the Alaska Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program outlines two objectives with 13 strategies that support the capabilities and competence of the healthcare workforce. The AKTC meets the objectives of Goal 9 by developing trainings and workshops that prepare direct support staff and their supervisors to be more competent in delivering quality care to Alaska Trust beneficiaries. The AKTC is closely aligned with Trust partners in working towards the recruitment and retention of healthcare staff. Given the current fiscal situation in Alaska, many of our health care providers are facing cuts, and training can be one of those first business related costs to be eliminated. It will be important for the Trust to continue funding the AKTC in FY 22-23.

Project Title: Providing Support for Service to Health Care Practitioners (SHARP)		
Grantee: DHSS, Division of Public Health		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 14	Project Category: Direct Service	
FY19: \$200,000	FY20: \$200,000	FY21: \$200,000
Project Description: The Department of Health and Social Services has partnered with the Trust to apply for a National Health Services Corps State Loan Repayment grant that requires matching funds from the state. This loan repayment and incentives program allows DHSS to bring in additional funds for loan repayment and incentives for health professionals who work with Trust beneficiaries which will also impact Alaska's Medicaid Expansion, Reform and Redesign and the Criminal Justice Reinvestment reentry and reducing recidivism efforts.		

SHARP-1 is derived from a federal HRSA partnership grant entitled “State Loan Repayment Program,” which Alaska has now competitively received five times. This program provides two-year support-for-service awards in the form of loan repayment for selected clinicians. These practitioners are found in a broad range of medical, dental and behavioral health occupations. Participating clinicians receive education loan repayment in partial exchange for the provision of outpatient clinical care within federal professional shortage areas.

Analysis: Out of all the public-private partnership models that exist, SHARP 1 is one of the best collaborative examples of helping the health care workforce improve recruitment and retention outcomes. The Trust puts \$200,000 into this project with DHSS, which brings in a \$1,000,000 match annually from the federal government. These funds are leveraged to match funds at various need levels with private/tribal health organizations, which brings in annually another \$3,000,000 match. This gives the DHSS Commissioner-appointed 15 member SHARP Council the ability to use these funds for student loan and direct incentive payments for health professionals who have gone through an extensive application process. The \$200,000 in Trust funds leverages an additional 4 million dollars. Without the Trust money, the state of Alaska would not be able to administer this program through the Division of Public Health.

In the last eleven years, these funds have been used to secure 349 SHARP practitioner service contracts. Sixty six percent of these 328 contracts are for professionals who work in rural/remote locations, and all the employers pay a match - so everyone is contributing to this system, and no one entity is paying for it all. This collaboration is another reason SHARP has been so successful, and has promise for continued functionality into the future. Making health care accessible to all Trust beneficiaries around Alaska is a difficult task, but one that is made easier through the sponsorship of the SHARP program. Trust beneficiaries often fall into the Medicaid, Medicare, low income, or uninsured categories, which is not a detractor for SHARP funded health clinicians, since it is a requirement of the program to serve community members in these areas. Accountability for maintaining this program is high, and is scrutinized by staff within the Division of Public Health, which ensures consistency and quality.

Goal 9 of the Alaska Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program outlines the 9.1 objective of strengthening the workforce capacity through recruitment and retention strategies. SHARP fulfills this objective by recruiting professional staff with student loan repayments and direct incentives. This method also retains staff as they can utilize this program for up to six years. This is a vital workforce recruitment and retention tool, which has a foundation of working in Alaska for the last 11 years. For these reasons and more, it is recommended that this project be funded in the FY 22-23 budget.

Project Title: Alaska Area Health Education Centers		
Grantee: University Of Alaska Anchorage		
Fund: MHTAAR		
Years Funded: 5	Project Category: Workforce Development/Training	
FY19: \$55,000	FY20: \$55,000	FY21: \$55,000
Project Description: The Alaska Health Education Centers (AHEC) program will implement summer career pathways programming to expose and engage youth into behavioral health careers. Students will explore careers including social workers, counselors, behavioral health aides, psychologists, psychiatrists, and other positions within the field of behavioral health and social services. The program will also include Mental Health First Aid training for students; opportunity to earn dual credit; presentations from local Elders, clinicians, substance abuse counselors, and behavioral health		

aides; tours of the Behavioral Health facilities; and featured regional sessions specific to the community of implementation.

Analysis: The AHEC programs receive funds from the Trust that support the “Preparing Alaskans for Training in Health” (PATH) Academies across the AHEC network. This network exists to improve the primary care health workforce through engagement, training, recruiting, and retaining staff in the healthcare field across the state. Trust funding supports the AHEC PATH Academies, Scholars, and Professional development programs.

The PATH Camps and Academies fulfill several of the strategies contained within the Alaska Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program Plan. The Comp Plan Objective 9.1 deals with engaging and preparing Alaska youth for health careers. That is exactly what the PATH Academies do through holding 1-3 week camps across the state for youth 15-19. These camps expose the students to various health related careers, provide certification trainings, and give them actual experience working in hospitals and clinics. The following gives some data from the previous PATH Academies:

- Over 300 youth have participated in the AHEC behavioral health camps since 2015
- 98% completed one college credit during the Path Academies and Camps
- 97% reported increased knowledge in behavioral health
- 100% of the participants certified in Mental Health First Aid

The AHEC PATH Academies are one of Trust’s most impactful programs of investment in regards to “Grow Your Own” initiatives. Finding and retaining quality staff for the health care industry will always be a challenge in Alaska due to reasons such as geography, population numbers, and lack of educational opportunities. It is critical to fund the AHEC program as it plays a vital role in teaching and introducing our youth to health careers available in Alaska. Based on the success of this program it is recommended to continue funding for the FY 22-23 fiscal years.

Comp plan objective 9.2 utilizes a strategy for creating an attractive career path for those entering into health careers, which is something the AHEC does by providing evidenced-based curriculum certifications and on the job experience in hospitals and clinics.

Project Title: Supported Employment Workforce

Grantee: University Of Alaska Anchorage, Center for Human Development

Fund: MHTAAR

Years Funded: 1

Project Category: Workforce Development/Training

FY19: \$0

FY20: \$0

FY21: \$100,000

Project Description: The Center for Human Development (CHD) at the University of Alaska Anchorage will continue to expand workforce development and educational opportunities related to Trust Beneficiary Employment and Engagement strategies. A highly trained workforce is critical to ensure access to supported employment and related services as beneficiaries seek competitive integrated employment. CHD will respond to supported employment workforce needs identified in an FY20 needs assessment. CHD will also continue to implement a multi-level approach to benefits counseling to ensure service providers have the capacity and skills to assist Trust beneficiaries and their families to fully understand how earned income will affect their benefits as they work towards self-sufficiency. In addition, CHD collaborates and supports a statewide infrastructure that includes training,

credentials and certification for Community Rehabilitation Providers (CRP's) to provide quality employment placement and retention services.

Analysis: CHD continues to be a valuable partner and leader in promoting the Trust Beneficiary Employment and Engagement focus area. The agency's participated in planning and hosting the 2019 Empowerment Through Employment conference led by the Trust and used the opportunity to field a supported employment workforce needs assessment to better define the training and professional development needs of this unique beneficiary provider group. FY21 activities will include a revised offering of training opportunities based on the needs assessment results as follows:

- National Certificate in Employment Services – 3 times a year (fall, early spring and late spring)
- Customized Employment – 2 times per year (fall and spring)
- Self-Employment – 2 times per year (fall and spring)
- Plan to Achieve Self Support – 2 times per year (fall and spring)
- Work Incentives – 2 times per year (fall and spring). CHD has an online on demand course on Financial and Work Incentives
- Assistive Technology in the Work Place - this is a new course. CHD will develop and offer 1 time per year.
- Individual Placement Support – this is a new course. CHD will investigate developing an IPS course that augments the NCES course. IPS is supported employment targeting individuals with psychiatric disabilities. Supported employment is the main focus of the NCES class.

Staff recommends FY21 funds as budgeted to allow for recommended training as proposed based on needs assessment results. The proposed training regimen is responsive to partner requests and emerging best practice in Alaska's supported employment workforce. Supported employment workforce efforts have been supported in the past with funds from the Beneficiary Employment and Engagement focus area. This project supports Comp Plan Objectives 3.2 and 3.3 related to improving competitive, integrated and long-term employment outcomes for Trust beneficiaries. It also supports workforce related objectives including 9.1 and 9.2.

Project Title: Reform Implementation Support

Grantee: To Be Determined

Fund: Authority Grant

Years Funded: 1

Project Category:

FY19: \$0

FY20: \$0

FY21: \$150,000

Project Description: These funds are intended to provide additional capacity and resource towards efforts to aid the behavioral health system with successful implementation of behavioral health reform, specifically related to implementation of the 1115 Behavioral Health Waiver services and service operation and alignment with the Administrative Service Organization. Funds are intended to remain flexible and may be granted directly to agencies to address operational and technological impediments to successful implementation of new waiver services.

Analysis: N/A

Project Title: Bring the Kids Home Maintenance and Monitoring		
Grantee: TBD		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 4	Project Category:	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$80,000	FY21: \$80,000
<p>Project Description: Previous years of funding related to former Trust focus area “Bring the Kids Home” (BTKH) focused on maintenance of DBH provider agency connection to relevant activities of the focus area. Such activities included support for national conference participation of treatment foster care providers, sponsorship of statewide children’s mental health conferences, and other stakeholder events to monitor and guide the work of DBH related to children’s mental health.</p>		
<p>Analysis: With the development and impending implementation of the 1115 behavioral health waiver as well as cancellation of activities and events due to COVID-19, FY20 funds for this project category were underspent. A successfully funded project within this category was with the Family Focused Treatment Association - Alaska Chapter to support provider participation in the annual national event to gain knowledge and skills to advance beneficiary access to high quality treatment foster care services.</p>		
<p>DBH plans to engage with the Trust and other partners during FY21 to develop a plan and budget for FY21 funding and to plan future activities that will enhance children’s mental health systems opportunities related to the 1115 waiver and other initiatives described in Comp Plan Goal 1 that focuses on early childhood, and Goal 6 pertaining to preventing child trauma and maltreatment.</p>		

Project Title: Universal Development Screening Integration and Capacity Building		
Grantee: TBD		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 1	Project Category:	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$0	FY21: \$100,000
<p>Project Description: This is a new funding category for FY21 consistent with Comp Plan Objective 1.1 related to promotion of practice informed universal screening and creation of a centralized registry for collecting developmental screening data using a standardized developmental screening tool. The All Alaska Pediatric Partnership is a likely partner for award of these funds in connection with the agency’s Help Me Grow program which prioritizes universal developmental screening, provider and community outreach as well as care coordination through a centralized call center accessible statewide for beneficiary families seeking information and referral for potential early intervention and prevention services.</p>		
Analysis: N/A		

Project Title: Integration of Pediatric Primary Care and Behavioral Health		
Grantee: TBD		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 1	Project Category:	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$0	FY21: \$61,000

Project Description: This is a new funding category for FY21 consistent with Comp Plan Objectives 1.2 and 1.3 related to trauma informed services and reducing the instances and impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences. This best practice of integrated care is also named under Objective 4.4 in the context of recovery support services to end the cycle of substance misuse for both children and adults. The goal of these funds are to increase access to behavioral health services in the pediatric primary care setting through an integrated and seamless approach that improves individual and family connection to supports and reduces stigma.

Analysis: N/A

Project Title: Partnership Access Line – Pediatric Alaska (PAL-PAK)

Grantee: DHSS, Division of Behavioral Health

Fund: MHTAAR

Years Funded: 2

Project Category: Capacity Building

FY19: \$0

FY20: \$89,000

FY21: \$89,000

Project Description: Seattle Children’s Hospital’s (SCH) Partnership Access Line team will continue to implement and expand the Alaskan pediatric psychiatric program, Partnership Access Line – Psychiatry AK (PAL-PAK). SCH contracts with the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership who oversees the Help Me Grow – AK (HMG-AK) programs. SCH and HMG will be the contractors that manage the PAL-PAK program. The PAL-PAK program will be comprised of the University of Washington (UW) psychiatrists, and HMG-AK outreach and care coordination services.

SCH will promote statewide behavioral health integration in pediatric primary care settings through distance delivered consultations, training and technical assistance to primary care medication prescribers. SCH will ensure that the HMG contract will include telehealth health options for behavioral health in their on-line data referral system, plus, primary care outreach and engagement to promote PAL-PAK. To promote the PAL-PAK program, while educating primary care providers, SCH will collaborate with HMG to provide in-state trainings, present at in-state conferences, and host webinars. The program will continue to promote the Alaska based treatment care guide and ensure that HMG-AK referral database is enriched by the PAL-PAK program.

The PAL-PAK team is comprised of ten licensed pediatric psychiatrists based in the state of Washington, plus, Alaska based HMG care coordinators to facilitate referrals and coordinate ongoing supports as needed. SCH provides a staffed toll-free call line for Alaska medication prescribers, from 7am to 4pm Alaska Standard Time, Monday through Friday. The provider hotline is answered by an administrative team member, who records basic caller and case information before transferring the primary care provider to a consulting child psychiatrist. If a child psychiatrist is not immediately available, call-backs occur as quickly as possible, preferably on the same day. The child psychiatrist works with Help Me Grow to ensure that the primary care provider or family receives care coordination and referrals to recommended local services.

Analysis: Early stakeholder feedback and data from launch of this project in early 2019 to date indicate a highly successful and collaborative approach to a long-standing systems gap related to pediatric mental health consultation access for Alaskan primary care providers. Project data to date has shown a significant increase in call volume and telephone consultations (2019 = 17; Jan-May 2020 = 77) with 43% of patients covered by state funded insurance, signifying potentially substantial savings to the Alaska Medicaid budget as children receive needed psychiatric support earlier and with

fewer barriers. Actual cost savings analysis will be conducted in future years of the project. Finally, multiple educational events were held which focused on treatment of pediatric behavioral health conditions in the primary care setting were hosted by Seattle Children's Hospital contractors on topics ranging from depression, anxiety, ADHD, Motivational Interviewing, as well as topics specific to pediatric mental health and service delivery during COVID.

Staff recommends continued Trust funding to match federal funds for the duration of this five-year project (through FY23) and will continue to work with DBH and partners to identify opportunities for program sustainability and quality improvement during that time. This project is consistent with Comp Plan Objectives 1.2 and 1.3 related to trauma informed services and reducing the instances and impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences. This best practice of integrated care is also named under Objective 4.4 in the context of recovery support services to end the cycle of substance misuse for both children and adults.

Project Title: Trauma Informed Practice Promotion		
Grantee: TBD		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 1	Project Category:	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$0	FY21: \$100,000
Project Description: This is a new funding category for FY21 consistent with Comp Plan Objectives 1.2 and 1.3 related to trauma informed services and reducing the instances and impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences. The goal of these funds are built on prior investment related to trauma-informed care (the adoption of practices that promote a culture of safety, empowerment, and healing). Primary strategies related to this category could include expansion of trauma-informed training for early care and education teachers (i.e. childcare settings), school district staff, as well as clinical and other behavioral health support staff. Strategies should focus on culturally sensitive approaches to trauma-informed practice.		
Analysis: N/A		

Project Title: Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Capacity Building		
Grantee: TBD		
Fund: Authority Grant		
Years Funded: 1	Project Category:	
FY19: \$0	FY20: \$0	FY21: \$150,000
Project Description: This is a new funding category for FY21 consistent with Comp Plan Objectives 1.2 and 1.3 related to trauma informed services and reducing the instances and impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences. Funds will also support Objectives 6.1 and 6.2 through strategies related to prevention of child maltreatment and neglect. The goal of these funds is to build on prior investment related to infant and early childhood mental health capacity building, sometimes referred to as "social and emotional health," which relates to the developing capacity of the child from birth to five years of age to form close and secure adult and peer relationships. This is a critically formative period for Trust beneficiaries experiencing developmental disabilities, and effective supports during this time period		

can help mitigate and prevent children experiencing trauma from developing chronic behavioral health issues such as mental illness and substance use disorders later in life.

Primary strategies related to this category could include statewide workforce related efforts consistent with those in progress with the Alaska Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (AK-AIMH) as well as regional efforts such as those occurring with REACH Infant Learning Program (Juneau-Southeast) and others.

Analysis: N/A

Project Title: Improve Social Determinants of Health for Families and Young Children; Peer Support/Parenting Policy, Data and Programs

Grantee: TBD

Fund: Authority Grant

Years Funded: 1

Project Category:

FY19: \$0

FY20: \$0

FY21: \$203,700

Project Description: This is a new funding category for FY21 consistent with Comp Plan Objectives 1.2 and 1.3 related to trauma informed services and reducing the instances and impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences and specifically focused on improving social determinants of health for families and young children. Funds will also support Objectives 6.1 and 6.2 through strategies related to prevention of child maltreatment and neglect. This funding category allows the Trust to be flexible and responsive to stakeholder and community partner strategies to fill identified gaps in services and explore systems issues that perpetuate inequality in access to supports and services for young Trust beneficiaries and their families. Primary strategies related to this category could include family and peer support service development to improve family resilience, parenting skill development, and other systems related work to improve trauma-informed practice through policy development.

Analysis: N/A

Project Title: Research Analyst III

Grantee: TBD

Fund: MHTAAR

Years Funded: 1

Project Category:

FY19: \$0

FY20: \$0

FY21: \$96,300

Project Description: The Alaska Mental Health Board and the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse are requesting funding for a long-term, non-permanent position to be based in Anchorage. This position will be a Research Analyst II/III to support the work of the Boards on expanding data analysis capacity of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) links to health outcomes and trends. The position will be housed in partnership with the Division of Public Health to develop methodology for more accurate beneficiary prevalence estimates. Additionally, the position will support and create additional analysis linking data to systems and eventually lead to strategy development and planning of potential policy changes.

Thousands of Trust beneficiaries have their very status as a beneficiary related to early life events which are only partially understood:

- Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorder has been linked with child trauma in an Alaskan study suggesting that up to 60% of the issues around memory loss later in life are tied back to early life events.
- Various substance abuse conditions and their links to early life events range from a low of 28% for heavy drinking to 67% for intravenous drug use.
- Developmental delays which are tied back to potentially preventable early events range from 22% for speech and language delays to 39% for having a diagnosed developmental delay.
- Mental illness also has a range depending on the diagnostic category. Up to 80% of youth suicide attempts are tied back to early life factors and even ADHD may be as much as 40% linked to preventable exposure to stressors.
- For TBI the link may be as high as 20% of exposure is tied back to early life trauma.

In addition to typical daily stressors, COVID-19 has directly and indirectly impacted all Alaskan families. With the implementation of various mandates multiple jobs were lost, schools closed, and isolation increased. These stressors all have a significant association with increased child abuse and neglect. If history repeats itself, the impact of these stressors will be manifested in increased abuse and neglect. We have an immediate need to understand the impact of these various stressors on the family resulting from COVID-19 mandates. The ALCANLink project has a unique data system and ability to measure population level impacts of child maltreatment, the RAIII position is critical to ensure that ALCANLink project can help fill this gap in knowledge and support our many families with children who are at an increased risk of abuse.

Analysis: This personnel investment has yielded high preliminary value in the previous year of funding through Authority Grant funding and was converted to MHTAAR for FY21 to improve administrative processes related to the Long-Term Non-Permanent position. The RAIII position serves as a liaison between DHSS (including Public Health, Infant Learning Programs, Public Assistance, Medicaid, etc.) and Department of Education and Early Development programs within the state in support of new data linkages to explore the relationship between Trust beneficiary services and outcomes in various state funded settings. FY21 work of this position will focus on development of methodology for more accurate and replicable population estimates of Trust beneficiaries, and will conduct analysis and develop publications and presentations to more clearly identify areas of opportunity for prevention and early intervention.

Staff recommends continued Trust funding of this project as recommended by statutory advisory boards and will continue to work with AMHB/ABADA and the Division of Public Health to further identify near and long term goals for this area of Trust investment during that time. This project is consistent with Comp Plan Objectives 1.2 and 1.3 related to trauma informed services and reducing the instances and impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences. The project also support Objectives 6.1 and 6.2 through identification and promotion of strategies related to prevention of child maltreatment and neglect.

