



Statutory Advisors Update

- Denise Daniello, Executive Director, Alaska Commission on Aging
- Kristin Vandagriff, Executive Director, Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education
- Bev Schoonover, Acting Executive Director, Alaska Mental Health Board / Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

Alaska Commission on Aging



- **Who We Are** - The Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA) was established in 1981 for the purpose of assisting older Alaskans to maintain good health, independence and dignity. ACoA meets the federal requirement as described in the Older Americans Act that each state establish an advisory council to advise the State on aging matters. The Commission has eleven members (mostly of senior age), two paid staff, and one part-time Mature Alaskans Seeking Skills Training Program participant.
- **What We Do** - By statute, ACoA has four primary responsibilities that include planning, advocacy, education, and interagency collaboration. In partnership, the Commission and the Division of Senior and Disabilities Services assist the Department of Health and Social Services to carry out its State Unit on Aging responsibilities.
- **Statutory Advisory Role:**
 - **Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority** - The Commission is a statutory advisor to the Trust concerning the needs of "Senior Trust Beneficiaries." This role includes providing recommendations on budget and policy involving use of the mental health trust settlement account, collaborating on the integrated comprehensive mental health plan, serving on the Trust's Nominations Committee and CEO hiring committee, among other projects as requested.
 - **Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) Senior Housing Office** – Collaborate with AHFC Senior Housing office to address the housing needs of seniors statewide.

Alaska Commission on Aging



Alaska Commission on Aging Board Roster

Gordon Glaser, Chair, Public Member, Anchorage

Mary Shields, Vice Chair, Public Member, Anchorage

David Blacketer, Previous Past Chair, Kodiak

Bob Sivertsen, Public Member, Ketchikan

Linda Combs, Public Member, Palmer

Anna Frank, Public Member, Fairbanks

Michael Coon, Public Member, Palmer

Nona Safra, Provider Seat, Anchor Point

Rosemary Hagevig, Chair, Pioneer Home Advisory Board,
Juneau

Deb Etheridge, DHSS Designated Seat, Juneau

Katie Abbott, DCED Designated Seat, Anchorage

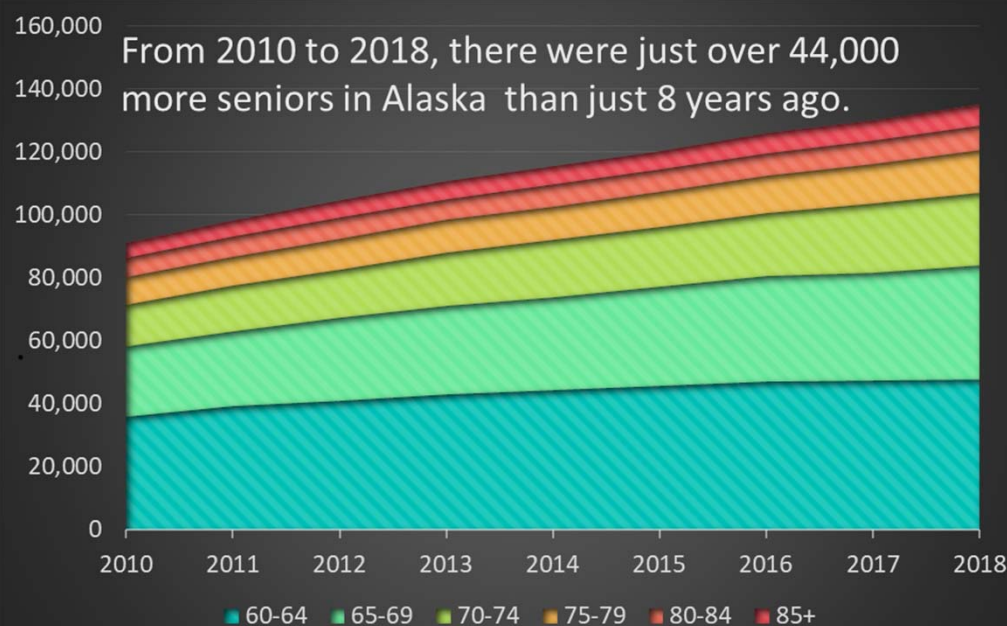


The mission of the Alaska Commission on Aging is to ensure the dignity and independence of all Older Alaskans, and to assist them to lead useful and meaningful lives through planning, advocacy, Education, and interagency cooperation.

Older Alaskans and Senior Trust Beneficiaries: Population Estimates

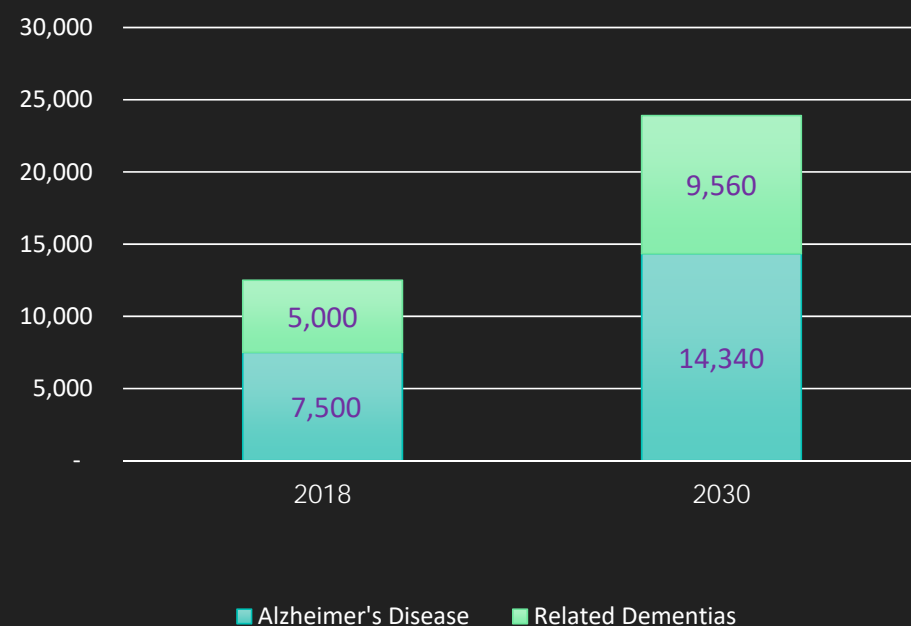
Alaska Senior Population, 2010 to 2018

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Population Estimates, 2010-2018



Alzheimer's Disease Projections in Alaska, Age 65+

Source: 2019 Alzheimer's Facts and Figures; Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development; Agnew::Beck analysis, 2019



Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education



○ <http://dhss.alaska.gov/gcdse/>

○ *Mission: Creating change that improves the lives of Alaskans with disabilities*

Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education



The mission of the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education (the Council) is to create change that improves the lives of Alaskans with disabilities. The Council was first established in 1978 through the Alaska Legislature to meet the requirements of several state and federal laws. The Council combines the expertise and experience of many stakeholders throughout the state into one unique Council. The Council works to make **systems change** in the following ways: recommend changes in statute, regulation, policy and/or procedures, build **capacity**, and coordinate **advocacy** activities.

1. As the **State Council on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities**, the Council works with Senior and Disabilities Services and other state agencies to ensure that people with disabilities and their families receive the services they need and participate in the design of those services.
2. As the **Special Education Advisory Panel**, the Council advises the Department of Education and Early Development on the provision of special education and related services for children with disabilities from age 3 through age 21.
3. As the **Interagency Coordinating Council on Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities**, the Council advises the state's early intervention program on the coordination and provision of quality early intervention services for children with disabilities from birth to age 3.
4. The Council also serves as the majority of the **governing board for the Special Education Service Agency** which provides training and consultation to Alaska school districts serving children with low incidence disabilities.
5. Additionally, the Council serves as a **beneficiary board** of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority advising the Trust on the status, conditions and needs of Alaskans with **intellectual and developmental disabilities** and their families.

Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education

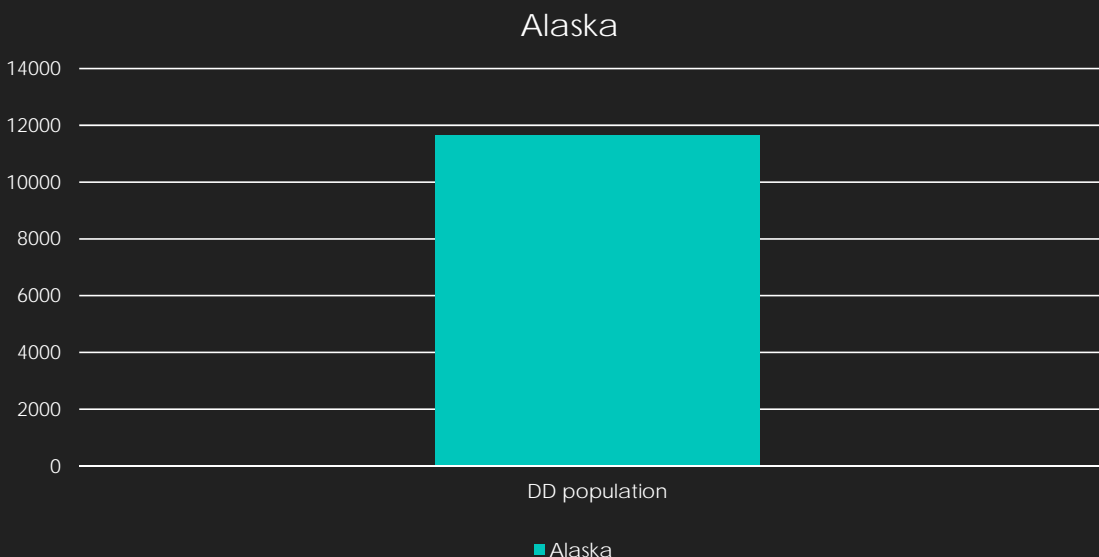


26 Council members:

- Marlene "Anna" Attla (Anchorage)
- David Boswell (Fairbanks)
- Meghan Clark (Anchorage)
- Art Delaune (Fairbanks)
- Lyle Downing (Palmer)
- Don Enoch (Juneau)
- Margaret Evans (Anchorage)
- David Fleurant (Chugiak)
- Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus (Kiana)
- Joshua Gill (Bethel)
- Corey Gilmore (Juneau)
- Alex Gimarc (Anchorage)
- Maureen Harwood (Fairbanks)
- Elizabeth Joseph (Kongiganak)
- Heidi Lieb-Williams (Anchorage)
- David Kohler (Anchorage)
- Sydney Krebsback (Juneau)
- Duane Mayes (Anchorage)
- Molly McManamin (Anchorage)
- Sen. Peter Micciche (Kenai)

- Christian Muntean (Anchorage)
- Nona Safra (Anchor Point)
- Charlene Tautfest (Soldotna)
- Shelly Vendetti-Vuckovich (Anchorage)
- Mary Wilson (Willow)
- Maggie Winston (Kenai)

7 staff



***Note:** The actual rate may be much higher! This is an old formula which is being reviewed nationally.*

Alaska Mental Health Board / Advisory Board on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse

- AMHB/ABADA are statutorily charged with advising, planning, and coordinating with state and private stakeholders on behavioral health issues in Alaska.
- The joint mission of AMHB/ABADA is to advocate for programs and services that promote healthy, independent, productive Alaskans.
- For over twenty years these citizen-led advisory boards have connected the voices of Alaskans with mental health and substance use disorders to the Governor, Legislature and state agencies.
- This community based work has led to projects such as the creation of the Opioid Policy Taskforce, the concept paper for the 1115 Behavioral Health Medicaid Waiver, the Streamlining Initiative which reduced burdensome reporting requirements for behavioral health providers, and statewide data and trainings on trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Alaska Mental Health Board / Advisory Board on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse

- Our Boards are comprised of providers, educators, members of the military, faith-based leaders, and business leaders. Half of each board must represent people with either a mental health diagnosis (or their family members) or people in recovery from drug and alcohol disorders.
- There are 32 BOD members total and 6 full time staff. The Statewide Suicide Prevention Council is also co-located with the Boards with 18 members and 1 full time staff.
- AMHB/ABADA are partner advisory boards to the Trust, as well as grantees.
 - AMHTA grant supported work includes data collection and research, advocacy coordination, planning support and fostering interagency/community collaboration.
 - Statutory advisory role includes collaboration on the integrated comprehensive mental health plan, advising on the use of money in the mental health trust settlement account, vetting of Alaska Mental Health Trustees, and on the hiring committee for Trust CEO (among other projects).

FY20 Budget Impacts – Individual Boards

- ACoA:
 - Restored funding for Senior Benefits - GOOD NEWS!
 - Medicaid Reductions: Adult Dental and Provider Rate Reductions
 - Increased resident rates for the Alaska Pioneer Homes and adoption of the new 5 level of service model
 - Restored funding for Alaska Civil Legal Services – GOOD NEWS!
- GCDSE:
 - Medicaid Reductions
 - Provider 5% rate reduction (HCBS and ILP)
 - Elimination of Adult Dental
 - 50% Executive Branch Travel Reduction
 - Early Childhood Programs – GOOD NEWS!
- AMHB/ABADA:
 - Medicaid Streamlining Initiatives/ Medicaid Reform
 - Behavioral Health Grants
 - Treatment Supports and Services



FY20 Budget – Joint Impact Items

- Items of cross-beneficiary concern:
 - Transportation
 - Housing
 - Behavioral Health
 - Beneficiary safety and well-being
 - Increasing numbers of beneficiaries at risk for higher care settings
 - Workforce Shortages
 - Declining Caregiver Ratio Projections

FY21 Most Critical Budget Considerations

- Feedback from providers
- Feedback from beneficiaries and families
- Possible implications of future Medicaid changes and/or reductions:
 - State running out of Medicaid money to pay provider claims
 - Additional provider rate reductions
 - More emergency regulation packages
 - Medicaid block grants or other financing changes
 - More narrowing of service eligibility or increases in service caps
 - Pending legislation to implement Medicaid work requirements



Alaska Commission on Aging Update



“Getting old is like climbing a mountain; you get a little out of breath, but the view is much better!” ~Ingrid Bergman

Alaska Commission on Aging: New Developments

- Alaska State Plan for Senior Services, FY2020-2023, final approval pending
- “Strengthen Alaska’s Workforce by Employing the Older Worker,” a partnership initiative of the Department of Labor and ACoA
- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) Subjective Cognitive Module, application pending
- ACoA Rural Outreach to Tok and surrounding communities and board meeting, September 10-13, 2019
- Transitions ahead...

Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education - Board Update



Council News!



○ New Council Chair & Vice Chair

- Corey Gilmore
- Heidi Lieb-Williams



○ New Council Members

- Duane Mayes, DVR
- David Boswell
- Lyle Downing
- Joshua Gill
- Alex Gimarc
- Mary Wilson
- Charlene Tautfest

○ Council Staffing (Planner position)

○ Next Council Meetings

- Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 2019 – Anchorage
- Feb 5-7, 2020 – Juneau (Key Campaign)
- May 2020 – Anchorage (Day TBD)

We Moved
to the
Atwood
Bldg.

State of Alaska myAlaska My Government Resident Business in Alaska Visiting Alaska State Employees

STATE of ALASKA
Department of Health and Social Services

Governor's Council on
Disabilities & Special Education

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Health and Social Services > Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education > Developmental Disabilities Shared Vision

**Developmental Disabilities
Shared Vision**






Self-Advocate



Family



Service Provider



Direct Support Professionals

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



DD Shared Vision Website:
<http://dhss.alaska.gov/gcdse/Pages/ddsharedvision/default.aspx>

I AM YOUR

FRIEND
CO-WORKER
TEAM MATE
SELF-ADVOCATE
'CHUNJIA NANI'
(ELDER)
CLASSMATE
TEACHER
CHURCH MEMBER
ASSISTANT
TUNIKENGKAA
(GOOD FRIEND)
FAMILY

EMPLOYEE
ELDER
GUNA' (FRIEND)
NEIGHBOR
VOLUNTEER
AVAILAITQAN
(FRIEND)
ATHLETE
ARTIST
APPRENTICE
MUSICIAN
CLUB MEMBER
VOTER

Disability Pride Celebration

Events in:

- Juneau
- Kenai
- Kodiak
- Anchorage
- Fairbanks



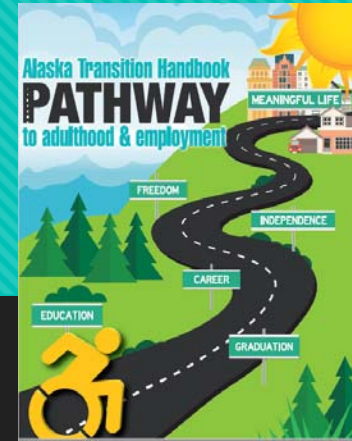
4th of July Parade



Council Committee Update: DD Committee

- I/DD Registry # = 649 individuals
 - Significant number of whom have been offered the ability to receive the Individualized Supports Waiver (ISW)
- ISW: 234 fully approved, 277 plans in process, almost 500 levels of care completed.
- Beginning workgroup with SDS on the DDDR
 - Looking at question wording and weighting for developing Registry score
- Public comment
 - Submitted: emergency regulation package (5% provider rate reduction)
 - In process: Day Habilitation
- ACL Living Well federal grant is going into Year 2

Self-Advocacy & Employment Updates:



Self-Advocacy

- Peer Power Summit (September 27-29)
- 169 individuals have applied for the 2019
 - 104 self advocates (remainder are PCA/family supporters)
 - Geographic diversity: applications came in from across the state!
- \$50,000 total was raised
 - Thanks to the Trust for helping to fund this important self-advocacy event!



Employment

- Revised Transition Handbook was printed
 - To be disseminated across the state in Fall/Winter with lots of new content
- Partnering with the Trust and boards on Empowerment Through Employment Conference (Oct. 24-25)
 - Leading high level leadership meeting on policies October 23rd with SEED team
- Looking at SDS regulations around supported employment regarding enhancements.
- National Disability Employment Awareness Month (Oct)

Supported Decision Making Agreements (SDMA) Update

- Videos for SDMA website <http://dhss.alaska.gov/gcdse/Pages/projects/SDMA>
- Guide for Service Agencies
- New content in on the Students, Parents, Educators section of website
- Self-Advocacy webinar in September
- SDMA webinars for mobile SDMA-writing clinic preparation in August/early September
- Developing older adult content for website
- SDMA Professionals Symposium November 15th
 - Speaker, venue, & panel members

The screenshot shows the website for the State of Alaska Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education. The page is titled "Supported Decision-Making Agreement (SDMA)" and features a banner image of silhouettes of people with various disabilities. Below the banner, there is a section for "SDMA Links & Resources" with a list of links including "SDMA Home Page", "Decision Makers, Supporters, and Family Guardians", "Lawyers, Paralegals and Non-Lawyer Advocates", "Policy Makers and the Alaska Court System", "Public Guardians and Court Visitors", "Service Providers and Care Coordinators", "Students, Parents and Educators", "SDMA Overview", "Step-By-Step Training Videos", and "Contact Information". To the right of the links is a video player for a "Supported Decision-Making Agreement (SDMA)" video, showing a play button and a progress bar. Below the video player is a text box explaining what SDMA is: "Supported Decision-Making Agreements are written agreements that give people the help they need to make choices about their lives. These choices could be about where to live, what to do during the day, how to spend money, or when to see a doctor." It also includes a paragraph about the role of supporters and a link to "Read more about SDMA". At the bottom of the page, there are six circular icons representing different groups: "Service Providers and Care Coordinators", "Decision-Makers, Supporters, and Family Guardians", "Lawyers, Paralegals and Non-lawyer Advocates", "Public Guardians and Court Visitors", "Policy Makers and the Alaska Court System", and "Students, Parents and Educators".

Council Committee Update: Education

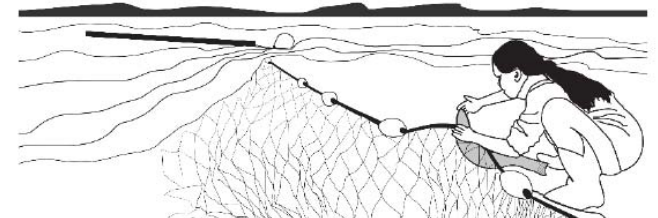
- Authentic Rural Transitions Curriculum: done with Introduction and first unit; starting pilot in Dillingham City School District
 - Sharing nationally at Native American/Alaska Native Special Education Conference
- SDMA Guide for Educators and IEP Teams
 - Group meets in September to write guide; done in November
- Restraint and Seclusion:
 - Partner requesting public information and missing data for report on recommendations
 - Task Force/Round Table on Restraint & Seclusion

Traditional Alaska Transition Skills

Rain Van Den Berg and Robyn Chaney
UAA Center for Human Development
2019

Developed for the Dillingham School District and surrounding regions as a demonstration project to show how subsistence skills can be supported and integrated into transition planning for youth with IEPs.

These materials were created through the Developmental Disabilities Act partnership of the Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education and the Center for Human Development, with funding from the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority.



Nova Picks a Fish graphic by Rain Van Den Berg, based on photo by Robyn Chaney.

Traditional Alaska Transition Skills 2019 Van Den Berg Chaney UAA Center for Human Development

Council Committee Updates:

Autism Ad Hoc:

- Continued support **Tiered Model in diagnosing Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)**
 - Neurodevelopmental workgroup formed to eliminate barriers and share resources, meeting throughout year
- Partnered with the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopment and Related Disabilities (LEND) program fellows-creators of an autism-related website on developing **centralized repository of regional Autism resources for families and providers**
- Supported the 2019 Adults with Autism Survey conducted by the Center of Human Development (CHD)

Early Intervention Committee:

- Alaska Part C Program met federal requirements
- Workgroup formed to conduct an **ILP salary and benefits study** working towards better workforce retention.

Council Committee Updates:

Health:

- Inclusive play
 - Inclusive playground map from Anchorage Park Foundation (GCDSE is on the inclusive play committee that gave feedback/recommendations for this)
 - <https://anchorageparkfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Anchorage-Play-Map-Full-Map-Side-A.pdf>
 - GCDSE Co-hosted Inclusive Playdate 8/16/2019 at Chanshtnu Muldoon Park
- Emergency Preparedness
 - Facilitates monthly Alaska Disability Advisory Group on Emergency Preparedness
 - Involved in the Long Term Earthquake Recovery Group
- Aging and Disability Summit. Sept. 25-26 with Special Olympics Alaska
- September is FASD Awareness Month



SAVE THE DATE

5TH ANNUAL DISABILITY AND AGING SUMMIT

SEPTEMBER 25-26, 2019

LOCATION

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ALASKA
JIM BALAMACI TRAINING CENTER
3200 MOUNTAIN VIEW DRIVE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Aging of family caregivers who support individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities by keynote speaker Dr. Tamar Heller from the University of Illinois-Chicago
- Unique circumstances affecting aging for older Alaska Native adults
- Emergency Preparedness
- Legislative panel and more!

Registration will open mid-August for any additional information please visit: specialolympicsalaska.org

PRESENTED BY:
THE ALASKA DISABILITY AND AGING COALITION

Alaska Mental Health Board / Advisory Board on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse - Board Update

- After extreme staff turnover in FY18/19 the Boards are almost fully staffed. Executive Director hire still pending
- 13 BOD seats up for reappointment between July- December
- Current focus areas are Medicaid reform, API Governance, behavioral health system reform, alcohol misuse prevention, criminal justice reform, FASD awareness, early childhood interventions, suicide prevention and employment supports.
- Kenai Board Meeting- September 24-26th

Thank you!

Questions?

