Presenta
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Presentation by the Alaska Mental Health Board and Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse to the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority November 20, 2014

OVERVIEW

AMHB and ABADA collaborations with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority on advocacy issues that effect trust beneficiaries.

- ✓ Statewide Advocacy Constituent Forums
- ✓ Legislative Advocacy
- ✓ Get Out The Vote
- ✓ Criminal Justice Reform
- ✓ Alaska FASD Partnership



STATEWIDE ADVOCACY CONSTITUENT FORUMS



The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority and

Alaska Commission on Aging
Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug
Abuse
Alaska Mental Health Board
Governor's Council on Disabilities and
Special Education

FAIRBANKS ANCHORAGE MAT-SU JUNEAU

FORMAT

Day 1: Advocacy Training:

"How To Tell Your Story to a Policymaker"

"Navigating the Public Process"

Day 2: Panel of beneficiaries told their stories before legislators, legislative staff, and other stakeholders.

After the Forum: Beneficiary self-advocates met with personal legislators in their own district.

During the Legislative Session: Beneficiary self-advocates sent letters and emails, made phone calls, or/or spoke at committee hearings on topics affecting Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries.

105 newly trained advocates in 2013-2014

FAIRBANKS ADVOCACY FORUM



3 30 new trained self-advocates **3**

MAT-SU ADVOCACY FORUM





24 new trained self-advocates 2

ANCHORAGE ADVOCACY FORUM



☼ 30 new trained self-advocates

JUNEAU ADVOCACY FORUM



21 new trained self-advocates

2013-2014 LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY



- Weekly **LEGISLATIVE TELECONFERENCES** to brief stakeholders on bills and budget items
- FASD FAMILY VOICE legislative fly-in
- YOUTH POLICY SUMMIT legislative fly-in
- Rallying constituents for **PUBLIC TESTIMONY** on operating budget, bills

LEGISLATIVE TELECONFERENCES

Every Friday at noon

Audience is AMHTA beneficiaries, partner boards, advocacy groups, providers, and other stakeholders

Objectives:

- ✓ Help participants stay informed about bills and their impact on beneficiaries
- ✓ Identify when and how self-advocates and partners can best advocate
- ✓ Track budget items through process
- ✓ Coordinate advocacy efforts



FASD-FAMILY VOICE FLY IN



During the 28th Legislative Session (2013 and 2014), **29** beneficiaries experiencing FASD, families affected by FASD flew to Juneau, participated in advocacy training, and met with legislators

2014 YOUTH POLICY SUMMIT



During the 28th Legislative Session (2013 and 2014), **43** youth from rural and Alaska came to Juneau, participated in advocacy training, and met with legislators



PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Beneficiaries, providers, and other advocates appeared for public testimony, wrote emails, and met with legislators. <u>156</u> beneficiaries and self-advocates testified on the FY16 budgets. That was 46% of the total individuals testifying (338).







GET OUT THE



- "Get Out The Registrar" Campaign Goal of voting registrars in disability facilities statewide
- I Vote, I Count Collaborated with Center for Human Development and disability organizations to provide information about voting assistance for people with disabilities statewide
- Juneau Votes Collaborated with Capital City voter registration, voter education efforts
- **Candidate Forums** Communicated with beneficiaries and stakeholders about opportunities to ask health-related questions of candidates statewide
- Email Alerts Information about registering, voting, and voting assistance via AMHTA, AMHB, and ABADA distribution lists

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

News from the Alaska State Legislature, the Office of Senator Coghill
For Immediate Release: July 16, 2014

[] Share

New Crime Law Maintains Public Safety while Reducing Recidivism and Cutting Costs

ANCHORAGE-Today, Governor Sean Parnell signed <u>Senate Bill 64</u> into law. SB64, sponsored by Senate Majority Leader John Coghill (R-North Pole), was a bipartisan effort to reform Alaska's criminal justice and corrections systems. Senator Coghill worked alongside Senators Fred Dyson (R-Eagle River), Johnny Ellis (D-Anchorage), and Hollis French (D-Anchorage) to create the historic omnibus bill.

"This legislation will make Alaska safer by giving victims the benefit of good justice, opening a path for restitution, and shifting Alaska toward a restorative justice model," said Senator Coghill. "Our aim is to make Alaska safer while keeping people accountable and saving tax dollars."



- Worked closely with Senator Coghill's office to rally public support at strategic times (when they requested it)
- Recruited stakeholders to write letters of support
- Trained Juneau advocates (who have experience with incarceration); organized them to appear in person for public testimony during several committee hearings
- Attended all committee hearings during the interim and session and communicated information to Boards, AMHTA, partners
- Answered questions for Senator Coghill's office

IMPACT

- Credit for time served in residential treatment. A person will receive credit against a sentence for time spent in a residential treatment facility with some conditions.
- Assessments of prisoners. DOC must conduct a risk-needs assessment on all offenders incarcerated for 30 days or longer, to better understand the offender population and link inmates to treatment within the facilities.
- PTSD/TBI mitigating factor. Judges may consider whether an offense was related to combat-related PTSD or traumatic brain injury. This mitigator is not available for crimes of serious injury such as assault or sexual assaults.
- **Electronic Monitoring.** DOC may place first-time DUI offenders on electronic monitoring for the 72-hour mandatory minimum statewide.
- **24/7 Sobriety Program.** Court ordered twice-a-day testing for substance use for certain offenders, before or after sentencing, with certain and quickly imposed consequences.
- Probation and Parole Accountability with Certain Enforcement (P.A.C.E.). Statewide intensive probation/parole for felons who are at high risk of violating the conditions of their probation/parole.

IMPACT

- **Recidivism Reduction Fund.** Supports transitional re-entry programs for those recently released from prison including support for structured and sober environments, treatment, and employment opportunities
- Screening for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and other brain-based disabilities. DOC must conduct screening and assessment for offenders who "may be vulnerable to harm, exploitation, or recidivism as a result of fetal alcohol syndrome, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, or another brain-based disorder."
- Mental health seat on the Alaska Criminal Justice Commission. The bill requires the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, or the CEO's designee, to sit on the newly formed Alaska Criminal Justice Commission.

ALASKA FASD PARTNERSHIP



- ✓ Provided information and advice to AMHTA representatives and staff to EMPOWERING HOPE initiative
- ✓ Participated in statewide FASD ADVISORY
 PANEL for awareness efforts and pregnancy tests in bars
- ✓ Co-sponsored **IDITAROD MUSHER AARON BURMEISTER** to carry FASD awareness message during 2014 dog sled race





- ✓ Public education FASD EXHIBITS at events in Kotzebue, Kiana, Juneau, Anchorage
- ✓ Legislative **FAMILY VOICE** fly-in and advocacy training
- ✓ Annual FASD AWARENESS DAY restaurant promotion with CHARR (50 restaurants, 850 tables statewide in 2014)
- ✓ Sponsored **FASD TRAINING** with lawyer David Boulding for Anchorage Police Department, Probation Officers, and Guardians ad Litem (105 trained, 2013)





Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

abada amhb

Alaska Mental Health Board