

# **Executive Committee Report**

**The Executive Committee Report  
will be presented at the  
Full Board of Trustee meeting  
on November 20, 2014**

# **Resource Management Committee Report**

# Memorandum



**To:** Larry Norene, Chair  
Resource Management Committee

**Date:** October 22, 2014

**From:** Carrie Pierce

**Telephone:** 269-8674

**Subject:** October 22, 2014 – Resource Management Committee Meeting Summary

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**Board Consultations:** The following actions requiring full Trust Board of Trustee concurrence occurred at the October 22, 2014 Quarterly RMC Meeting:

**Item B - Rosalie Coal Lease – MHT 9400553.** The TLO is requesting that the Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with the decision to negotiate a lease for coal exploration and development with Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc. (UCM). The lease is on a 160 acre parcel in Healy Valley located in the Fairbanks Meridian.

**Anticipated Revenues/Benefits:** 1) Revenue to The Trust will be \$8,000 annually with a 5% gross royalty for any production that occurs; and 2) If production does occur, revenue of approximately \$500,000 could be generated for The Trust over time, based on estimated coal reserves on the lease.

**Recommended Motion 1.** “The Resource Management Committee recommends that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Board of Trustees concur with the negotiated lease with Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc. for mining of coal.”

**Item C – Freegold Ventures Lease Expansion – MHT 9400444.** The TLO is requesting the Trust Authority Board of Trustees concur with the decision to add approximately 1,173 acres of unencumbered Trust mineral estate to an existing lease with Freegold Ventures. The acreage is located near Cleary Summit in the Fairbanks Meridian. Note that there has been a reduction in acreage from the original consultation because Freegold deleted certain acreage in the vicinity of Skiland ski area from their lease request.

**Anticipated Revenues/Benefits:** : 1) An Annual rental payment that will range from \$10/acre for the first three years to \$15 and \$20/acre for lease terms two, three, and beyond; 2) An annual work commitment of \$125/acre is required for the first lease term of 3 years and \$375/acre for lease terms two and three; and 3) If production occurs, the lease provides for a sliding scale Net Smelter Return (NSR) production royalty ranging from 1% to 4.5%, depending on the price of gold. While Freegold has identified significant resources in the vicinity of the Trust parcels, an estimate of potential revenue to the Trust is not possible because it is not known at this time how much, if any, of the resource is located on Trust Land.

**Recommended Motion 1.** “The Resource Management Committee recommends that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Board of Trustees concur with the addition of 1,173 acres to the existing lease with Freegold Ventures.”

cc: Board of Trustees  
Jeff Jessee, CEO, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority  
Steve Williams, COO, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority  
Marcie Menefee, Executive Director, Trust Land Office  
John Morrison, Deputy Director, Trust Land Office

# **Finance Committee Report**

	Item Type	Proposal	Organization	Page #	Proposed Motion
1	Trust Item	Continued Suspension of Quarterly Transfers	Trust Authority	69	Approve the Finance Committee recommendation to suspend transfers of cash principal from the Trust Land Development Account to the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation through November 2015.
2	Designated Grant	Safe Harbor acquisition start up and capacity development grant	RurAL CAP	71	Approve the Finance Committee recommendation for a \$350,000 FY15 designated grant to Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. for start-up of the newly acquired Safe Harbor housing programs and capacity development activities.
3	Housing Focus Area	HCBS program assistance and pilot	Division of Senior and Disabilities Services	77	<b>Motion # 1:</b> Approve the Finance Committee recommendation to change \$50,000 of FY13 Housing focus area authority grant funds to FY15 MHTAAR funds. <b>Motion # 2:</b> Approve the Finance Committee recommendation to change \$200,000 of FY14 Housing focus area authority grant funds to FY15 MHTAAR funds. <b>Motion # 3:</b> Approve the Finance Committee recommendation for a \$250,000 FY15 MHTAAR grant to the Division of Senior and Disabilities Services for the HCBS program assistance and pilot.
4	Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Focus Area	Polling: Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Behaviors	Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority	81	Approve a focus area allocation for a contract for Polling: Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Behaviors, not to exceed \$350,000. \$150,000 will be from FY15 Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Focus Area Authority Funds, \$100,000 from FY16 Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Focus Area Authority Funds and \$100,000 from DHSS, Division of Behavioral Health.
<b>Finance Report - Items Approved at the October 22, 2014 Finance Committee Meeting</b>					<b>(NO ACTION REQUIRED)</b>
1	Partnership	Haying Equipment	Nugen's Ranch		Approved a \$50,000 FY15 partnership grant with Nugen's Ranch for haying equipment.
2	Partnership	Grief Support Training	Brave Heart Volunteers		Approved a \$42,920 FY15 partnership to Brave Heart Volunteers for the Grief Support Training for Alaska Caregivers, Beneficiaries and Providers project.
3	Beneficiary Employment & Engagement Focus Area	2015 Peer Powered Conference - Employment and Microenterprise	Alaska Peer Support Consortium		Approved a \$122,896 FY15 Beneficiary Employment focus area allocation to the Alaska Peer Support Consortium for the 2015 Peer Powered Conference.
4	Beneficiary Employment & Engagement Focus Area	Vocational Program Coordination	Anchorage Community Mental Health Services		<b>Motion # 1:</b> Approved a \$117,710 FY15 Beneficiary Employment focus area grant to Anchorage Community Mental Health Services for Vocational Program Coordination. <b>Motion # 2:</b> Approved a \$150,000 FY16 Beneficiary Employment focus area grant to Anchorage Community Mental Health Services for Vocational Program Coordination.

**To:** Laraine Derr, Finance Committee Chair  
**From:** Kevin Buckland, Chief Financial Officer  
**Date:** October 22, 2014  
**Re:** Continued suspension of quarterly transfers from the  
Trust Authority Development Account to the Alaska  
Permanent Fund Corporation

## MEMO

### REQUESTED MOTION:

*The Finance Committee recommends that the full board of trustees suspend transfers of cash principal from the Trust Land Development Account to the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation through November 2015.*

### BACKGROUND

The Trust Authority Development Account<sup>1</sup> (TADA) maintained within the state Treasury temporarily holds receipts from the sale or other disposal of Trust land as well as fees, charges, royalties and other money attributable to principal such as mortgage proceeds from real estate managed by Coldwell Banker under contract with the Trust Land Office.

Funds remain in the TADA until trustees authorize transfer to the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation in accordance with Alaska Statute (AS) 37.14.033 for investment alongside the Alaska Permanent Fund, or until trustees authorize another use for the cash (e.g., real estate investment acquisition, capital asset development, or timber exchange financing).

Cash in the TADA is invested in the GeFONSI<sup>2</sup> alongside the general fund in highly liquid, low interest-bearing instruments. The earnings are deposited monthly into the Alaska Mental Health Settlement Income Account ("the checking account").

The TADA currently has an \$11.8 million cash balance (after drawing down \$15.8 million for an all-cash closing for an Austin, Texas real estate acquisition).

During FY14, the average cash balance in the TADA was \$16 million. Cash balances in the GeFONSI earned 57 basis points (0.567%) during FY14. During FY13, the average cash balance in the TADA was \$20.1 million. Cash balances in the GeFONSI earned 31 basis points (0.311%) during FY13.

Previously the Trust operated under Resolution 03-01, which directed the CFO or CEO to transfer accumulated cash to APFC on a quarterly basis unless authorized differently by Trustees. Once cash principal has been transferred to APFC for investment alongside the Alaska Permanent Fund it is retained perpetually in accordance with AS 37.14.035 and may not be withdrawn.

In recent years the finance committee and full board have passed motions annually to extend suspension of quarterly transfers for one year.

<sup>1</sup> Alaska State Accounting System (AKSAS) Fund #34045

<sup>2</sup> General Fund and Other Non-Segregated Investments



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**To:** Laraine Derr, Finance Committee Chair  
**Date:** October 9, 2014  
**Re:** FY15 Designated Grant Request  
**Fiscal Year:** 2015  
**Amount:** \$350,000.00  
**Grantee:** RurAL CAP  
**Project Title:** Safe Harbor acquisition start up and capacity development grant

## MEMO

### REQUESTED MOTION:

*Recommend approval to the full Board of Trustees for a \$350,000 FY15 designated grant to Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. for start-up of the newly acquired Safe Harbor housing programs and capacity development activities.*

**Assigned Program Officer:** Nancy Burke

*The following is excerpted from the prospective grantee's application.*

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This is a request to assist RurAL CAP in taking over two hotel properties from Safe Harbor, a previously Trust funded housing non-profit agency that is going out of business. Safe Harbor has operated these 2 non-profit hotels for the past 13 years as an important component of the emergency housing continuum. The Trust funded \$600,000 in 2001 on the first Safe Harbor location downtown near Merrill Field and \$500,000 for the expansion to Muldoon in 2009. Safe Harbor was unable to maintain operations and made a planned move to transfer the properties to a knowledgeable and skilled housing provider. Providing \$350,000 in funding to the Supportive Housing Division at Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) would provide operating support for the start-up of management and on-site operations and to assist RurAL CAP in developing materials to serve as a template for replications of Housing First programs across the state.

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) was founded in 1965 as a private, statewide nonprofit organization working to improve the quality of life for low-income Alaskans. RurAL CAP has been a leader in the state with their Affordable Housing Division and their work with Trust beneficiaries who are homeless and have long standing addictions. Homeward Bound, Karluk Manor and several other properties (total number of units of 228 after the Safe Harbor acquisition) provide a continuum of housing services for Trust beneficiaries.

There will be three major activity areas for this request:

1). Start-up operations to secure the Safe Harbor units and to improve the on-site services available to the tenants in the housing. The current facility and operation of the Safe Harbor locations is at a critically low point

and needs immediate staffing increases to secure the property and maintain safety for the residents. Quite simply, the final year of operating for the prior non-profit was sub-par and is of great concern to the community. There have been recent episodes of violence at one of the locations with a young child injured in one incident. The transition to RurAL CAP will be much needed and will stabilize these properties.

2). RurAL CAP is currently operating the state's initial Housing First program through Karluk Manor, a 46 unit facility located at 6<sup>th</sup> and Karluk. RurAL CAP is the state's lead in developing permanent supported housing in the *Housing First* model and the initial results from the Trust/AHFC funded evaluation study indicate RurAL CAP is on track to achieve outcomes similar to those programs out of state (see attached).

With a statewide interest in expanding the successes of the *Housing First* model, this funding from the Trust would also allow RurAL CAP to provide *Housing First* and facility management guidance and mentoring to other organizations. RurAL CAP would use this funding internally to build capacity and strengthen *Housing First* principles and service delivery components. These activities would prepare RurAL CAP to serve as an example of *Housing First* best practices for other organizations seeking to replicate this model across the state.

3). Capacity assessment and realignment. RurAL CAP has conducted an internal assessment of the functions of their *Housing First* and other supported housing units and would like to separate certain functions that will reduce the burden on the supportive staff at the housing programs. Specifically, if the housing management, including rent collection and oversight of properties were located in an off-site location, tenants would be better able to work with the on-site staff in developing therapeutic relationships and to work on personal goals. As it stands now, on-site supportive staff fulfills dual roles of support services provider and property management agent which create tension when there are questions of rental payments or assistance with financial matters. If the property management functions for the agency were consolidated in one off-site location, the tenants would be able to interact with this office for financial matters. RurAL CAP would also like to expand their current services available to include a Representative Payee function that would assist tenants in managing their funds and ensure rent was paid on time. This is a challenging service to locate in Anchorage and RurAL CAP would like to try to offer this for their tenants and potentially other members of the community. The proposed funding will allow a small start-up budget for this service and resources to gauge the need and demand for the service.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Trust staff will work with RurAL CAP on a fidelity assessment for Housing First programs using tools available through the Trust's Housing and Long Term Services and Supports focus area. Results from this fidelity assessment will be addressed by the agency and best practices will be recognized/improved and documented in the *Housing First* template to be developed.
2. RurAL CAP Affordable Housing division will complete a business plan review to incorporate recently expansion to ensure adequate resources are available to operate the existing housing stock sustainably.

## SUSTAINABILITY

RurAL CAP's housing program is an integral component of the Anchorage area affordable housing and homelessness services continuum. RurAL CAP will continue to work with local service providers, the Trust, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services and other stakeholders to ensure sustainability of these resources. There is a current crisis in the funding streams that have been used to allow for a rich mix of social services in the Housing First and supported housing programs. RurAL CAP has been at the table with Anchorage Community Mental Health Services and the Trust to work through these challenges with the DHSS Division of Behavioral Health. There has been no resolution to these problems to date. The current proposal provides some extra resources for RurAL CAP to operate the programs safely while DHSS and stakeholders determine a new mechanism to support Trust beneficiaries in the housing programs.

RurAL CAP also has the following applications for funding renewals and potential new funding sources:

- HUD Continuum of Care-\$589,650 renewal request; includes potentially leveraging a Medicaid Partnership with Choices (Trust grantee agency in the Beneficiary Employment focus area) for the Merrill Field Property
- Division of Behavioral Health
- AHFC Special Needs Housing Grant: grant round opening in the fall
- Department of Corrections
- Providence Hospital
- leveraging supportive employment by becoming are Division of Vocational Rehab provider for the Merrill property
- potentially working with CITC future case management grant services for Muldoon

## WHO WE SERVE

These projects serve a majority of Trust beneficiaries:

- Karluk Manor – 46 beneficiaries with co-occurring mental illness/alcohol addiction and medical conditions
- Safe Harbor Muldoon – 50 families with a minimum of 50% beneficiaries either as children of the families or adults in the housing
- Safe Harbor Merrill – 50 single adults with mental illness
- Homeward Bound – 25 units of transition supported housing for exclusively Trust beneficiaries
- RurAL CAP housing - 57 units of affordable housing in buildings across the community. Many of these units are filled with Trust beneficiaries who have progressed into community housing from more intensive services. An estimated 50% of these units provide housing to Trust beneficiaries.

EXPENSE	Calculation	Total	Description
<b>Personnel Expense</b>			
Salaries - 1 FTE Rep Payee Specialist	\$20.57/hour x 1040 hours	21,393	Start-up for Rep. payee and safe harbor operations
	Fringe - 39.2% fringe rate	8,386	
Housing Supervisor @ 10%		9,268	
Salaries - 6 Op Techs Merrill	\$14.05/hour x 1040 hours	85,560	
	Fringe - 39.2% fringe rate	33,539	
Salaries - 6 Op Techs Muldoon	\$14.05/hour x 1040 hours	85,560	
	Fringe - 39.2% fringe rate	33,539	
	<b>Personnel Subtotal</b>	<b>277,245</b>	
<b>Supplies Expense</b>			
Office/Program supplies	\$100/month x 6	600	start up payee
Copier costs	\$330/month x 6	1,980	start up payee
Office Furniture	\$2,250	2,250	Start-up for consolidation of property management
	<b>Supplies Subtotal</b>	<b>4,830</b>	
<b>Contract Expense</b>			
Policy and Procedures for Accreditation		20,000	create a replicatable set of procedures for housing first programs
	<b>Contract Subtotal</b>	<b>20,000</b>	
<b>Space Costs</b>			
Rent/ Utilities	1016 sq ft @ \$1.45 per * 6	8,839	consolidation of property mangement
	<b>Space Costs Subtotal</b>	<b>8,839</b>	
<b>Communications Expense</b>			
IT/Communications Costs	\$400/month x 6	2,400	payee/property management
Router, Computer, Monitors, Software		2,000	payee/property management
	<b>Communications Subtotal</b>	<b>4,400</b>	
	<b>Direct Cost</b>	<b>315,314</b>	
<b>Indirect Cost</b>	11% Federally Approved Indirect	<b>34,686</b>	
	<b>Total Pilot Cost</b>	<b>350,000</b>	

**For additional background documentation on this agenda item, please see the hand-out at this [link](http://www.mhtrust.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=calendar.ShowEvent&Classid=74&event_id=773):**

**[http://www.mhtrust.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=calendar.ShowEvent&Classid=74&event\\_id=773](http://www.mhtrust.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=calendar.ShowEvent&Classid=74&event_id=773)**

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**To:** Laraine Derr, Finance Committee Chair  
**Date:** October 10, 2014  
**Re:** Focus Area Funding Allocation request  
**Fiscal Year:** 2015  
**Amount:** \$250,000.00  
**Grantee:** Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Senior  
and Disability Services  
**Project Title:** Home and Community Based Services program  
assistance and pilot

## MEMO

### REQUESTED MOTION:

*Motion # 1: Recommend approval to the full Board of Trustees to change \$50,000 of FY13 Housing focus area authority grant funds to FY15 MHTAAR funds.*

*Motion # 2: Recommend approval to the full Board of Trustees to change \$200,000 of FY14 Housing focus area authority grant funds to FY15 MHTAAR funds.*

*Motion # 3: Recommend approval to the full Board of Trustees for a \$250,000 FY15 MHTAAR grant to the Division of Senior and Disabilities Services for the HCBS program assistance and pilot.*

**Assigned Program Officer:** Nancy Burke

*The following is excerpted from the prospective grantee's application.*

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This proposal requests funds to assist the State Division of Senior and Disability Services in completing a number of assessments that are overdue in the Home and Community Based Services program, a circumstance that is currently threatening the program's function with the federal oversight entities. With funds from the Trust, the Division of Senior and Disability Services will be able to secure a contract for assessment services that will allow for restructuring of the process to maintain timely assessments going forward.

Personal Care Assistance (PCA) and Home and Community Based Waivers are core programs at the Alaska State DHSS Division of Senior and Disabilities Services in the *Home and Community Based Services* program area. Both PCA and waiver programs require trained workers to assist people with disabling conditions to meet their needs in identified life areas such as hygiene and bathing; dressing, reaching items, cooking, eating, household tasks or a number of other essential activities necessary for community life and work integration. The PCA program provides support to about 4,200 Alaskan seniors and individuals with disabilities while the Waivers support approximately 2,274 individuals. Applicants are evaluated by State assessors to determine if assistance is needed with activities of daily living (i.e. dressing, eating and bathing) as well as instrumental activities of daily living, or those activities that are not directly related to self-care,



but are needed when person lives independently (shopping, light housework, and laundry). Home and Community Based Services through the PCA program and Home and Community Based waivers are a low-cost, effective method of assisting people in remaining in the community.

Alaska's Personal Care Assistance program is a Medicaid State Plan service and has requirements for eligibility that relate to the person's medical eligibility as well as their ability to live as independently in the community as possible with some additional assistance. There is an assessment that must demonstrate the person's need for the program and that with these supports the person may remain safely in the own home. The PCA program is important to Alaskan citizens because it meets the needs of individuals at a lower threshold than nursing home or institutional levels of care. This program essentially assists people and prevents institutionalization of citizens who can maintain community living and work.

The Home and Community Based Waiver (HCBW) program is a "waiver" of certain provisions in the regular Medicaid state plan funding requirements so states may provide home and community based services to people who would otherwise require institutional levels of care (either a Nursing Facility Level of Care (NFLOC) or an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals experiencing an Intellectual or Developmental Disability (ICF/IID) – an institution similar to Harborview in Valdez, AK). This is an important tool for many Alaskans who, prior to implementation of the waivers in the late-1990s, resided in Harborview, and others like them who are now able to live in their home communities.

The HBCS program has been through many changes and has had many challenges. One of these is a large accumulated backlog of assessments in the PCA and waiver programs. The lag has multiple causes, including an attempt by SDS to "right size the program" which has resulted in numerous legal challenges that creates additional demands on Division staff to attend court hearings and document proceedings. The Personal Care Assistance program grew so quickly that the program may have people in service who are not receiving the right levels of care. With the quick growth of the program, the state has not been able to fully implement quality assurance and monitoring of the PCA agencies, resulting in the need for more thorough assessments and evaluation of overall program procedures. If this lag in assessments persists, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) could place a *moratorium* on the program. A moratorium would leave many Alaskans without a necessary service and cause chaos in the service delivery system. Without these services, many people who work and participate in the community would require much more intensive and expensive services such as assisted living and/or nursing facility care.

Another challenge has been the use of specific state positions to conduct assessments. Currently Alaska uses solely nursing staff to conduct assessments and it has been an increasing challenge to fill these positions with qualified nurses. This project will allow the division to have some relief from the backlog of assessments by utilizing a contract to conduct assessments while senior staff implements new practices for conducting assessments. These new practices may include: examination of a multi-disciplinary team that will allow for a more complimentary use of disciplines in conducting assessments while ensuring inter-rater reliability; extending the timeframe for re-assessments from annually to every third year unless there is a change in condition; and updating the assessment tools and methods for submission of the assessment.

The Trust may play a valuable role in assisting the Division of Senior and Disability Services by providing contractual funds so we can protect this very valuable service and prevent disruption of services to our beneficiaries. The current request will cover the cost of a contractor to assist with performing assessments that are overdue while SDS implements and tests the new inter-disciplinary team and procedures. Some of these members will need to be recruited and hired into the Division. This pilot may also provide the division with an opportunity to update the current assessment tools to better align with the new division data collection system, making it easier for SDS to manage the program and to check the status of assessments. The contractor will be able to conduct approximately one third of the assessments overdue at this time. Then the Division assessment team will be able to continue the assessment work through completion.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

How Much Did You Do:

1. Up to 550 assessments will be conducted with this grant.

How Well Did You Do:

1. Inter-rater reliability will be measured according to the training procedures and the outcomes of the assessments conducted.
2. New procedures for conducting assessments will be completed and demonstrate ability to complete all remaining outstanding assessment as well as keep up with new assessments and re-assessments.

Is Anyone Better Off:

1. HCBS recipients will be able to maintain their current services if assessed as needing these services.

## SUSTAINABILITY

This is a one-time request. Once SDS has reduced the backlog of assessments and implemented the new interdisciplinary team approach and procedures, SDS will be able to complete outstanding assessments and remain caught up using its revised procedures and workforce.

## ESTIMATED NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES SERVED EXPERIENCING

Mental Illness:	1,789 PCA / Waiver
Developmental Disabilities:	290 PCA
Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias:	283 PCA
Substance Abuse	157 PCA
Traumatic Brain Injuries:	132 PCA
Non-Beneficiaries:	

## BUDGET

Personnel Services Costs	\$ 464.00 per assessment on average* X 550 assessments
Personnel Services Costs (Other Sources)	\$
Personnel Services Narrative:	Based on a paid per assessment estimate.

Travel Costs	\$ 0
Travel Costs (Other Sources)	\$
Travel Narrative:	Most assessment backlog is centered in the urban area of Anchorage. Contract will focus in this area.

Space or Facilities Costs	\$
Space or Facilities Costs (Other Sources)	\$
Space or Facilities Narrative:	

Supplies Costs	\$
Supplies Costs (Other Sources)	\$
Supplies Narrative:	

Equipment Costs	\$
Equipment Costs (Other Sources)	\$
Equipment Costs Narrative:	

Other Costs	\$
Other Costs (Other Sources)	\$
Other Costs Narrative:	

Total Amount to be Funded by the Trust	\$ 250,000
Total Amount Funded by Other Sources	\$ State resources in SDS
Other Sources Narrative:	SDS will use employee time to complete the balance of approximately 1,000 assessments. These costs are accounted for in existing positions but will provide the needed workforce to complete the project and ensure compliance with CMS for the program

**To:** Laraine Derr, Finance Committee Chair  
**Date:** November 10, 2014  
**Re:** FY15 Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Focus Area  
Allocation  
**Fiscal Year:** 2015  
**Amount:** \$350,000  
**Project Title:** *Polling: Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Behaviors*

## MEMO

### REQUESTED MOTIONS:

Approve a focus area allocation for a contract for *Polling: Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Behaviors*, not to exceed \$350,000. \$150,000 will be from FY15 Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Focus Area Authority Funds, \$100,000 from FY16 Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Focus Area Authority Funds and \$100,000 from DHSS, Division of Behavioral Health.

Assigned Trust Staff: Natasha Pineda

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

*Polling: Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Behaviors:* Engaging in broad statewide polling will allow for the engagement of the public to provide meaningful and ongoing feedback to SAPT focus area. While we have research on consumption and consequence patterns related to alcohol and substance abuse this strategy will provide us with tools to inform our strategies based on the attitudes, knowledge and behaviors of Alaskans related to solution readiness for change and potential solutions. This effort will allow us to build on the body of epidemiological data, ensuring translation of learning into community action and clarified strategy development. We anticipate an ongoing assessment of statewide social norms around alcohol and substance abuse, as well as “spot-polling” to support specific strategies in future years.

The contractor has been selected through a competitive process and the contract would be contingent upon receipt of the \$100,000 from DHSS, Division of Behavioral Health.