

Trust

Alaska Mental Health
Trust Authority

Fact Sheet

What is the Trust?

The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority is a state corporation that administers the Alaska Mental Health Trust, a perpetual trust, to be a catalyst for change in Alaska's mental health continuum of care. The Trust operates much like a private foundation, using its resources to ensure that Alaska has a comprehensive, integrated mental health program.

Who are Trust Beneficiaries?

Trust beneficiaries are Alaskans who experience:

- mental illness
- developmental disabilities
- chronic alcoholism and other substance-related disorders
- Alzheimer's disease and related dementia
- traumatic brain injuries

ON AVERAGE, THE TRUST GRANTS APPROXIMATELY \$20 MILLION ANNUALLY TO VARIOUS NONPROFITS, STATE AGENCIES AND PROJECTS THAT PROMOTE LONG-TERM SYSTEMS CHANGE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF TRUST BENEFICIARIES.

Systems Reform

The Trust has two initiatives aimed at system reforms to increase effectiveness of community strategies and beneficiary supports.

1. Medicaid Reform & Redesign: results in a sustainable system of integrated care for beneficiaries to achieve optimal health, wellness and independence in their community.

- The board of trustees has approved spending nearly \$10 million for implementation of Medicaid reform. Funds will be used to assist the Department of Health and Social Services achieve the goals outlined in SB74.
- Medicaid reform is necessary for any strategy to achieve a sustainable budget while preserving services that protect the safety and well-being of not only Trust beneficiaries but all Alaskans.
- Medicaid reform provides additional opportunities to minimize general fund expenditures by taking advantage of opportunities to restructure the Medicaid program to a system that provides more lower-level services and reduces reliance on more costly crisis response services.

2. Criminal Justice Reform & Reinvestment: reduces recidivism, improves access to services and health care and creates safer communities.

- The Trust is actively engaged in multiple statewide efforts reexamining the criminal justice system and, in particular, the causes of and opportunities for reducing the involvement of Trust beneficiaries.
- There is a critical intersection between criminal justice reform and Medicaid Reform in re-establishing access to community based treatment services and supports for Trust beneficiaries at high risk of and with involvement in the criminal justice system.

How does the Trust Achieve its Mission?

The Trust collaborates with many partners and stakeholders across the state to increase quality of life for Trust beneficiaries. This work is done, in part, by awarding grants to organizations representing one or more Trust beneficiary groups that also have priorities consistent with those of the Trust. In addition, the Trust focuses on prevention and intervention efforts as well as workforce development to help ensure that beneficiaries have access to the care and services that they need.

The Trust's work is coordinated among four focus areas, each with its own goals and strategies:

DISABILITY JUSTICE

Reduce the involvement and recidivism of Trust beneficiaries in the criminal justice system.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

Support strategies along the full continuum of care, from prevention and early intervention, to treatment and recovery for Trust beneficiaries experiencing addiction.

BENEFICIARY EMPLOYMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

Fund varying strategies that include integrated employment, meaningful activities, training and peer-based recovery support programs.

HOUSING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

Increase the availability of housing options best suited to meet the needs of beneficiaries that will improve or sustain their quality of life.

To learn more about how the Trust is supporting each of these focus areas, visit the resources page on our website: alaskamentalthrust.org.

What is the Trust Land Office?

The Trust Land Office is a unit within the Department of Natural Resources contracted exclusively by the Trust to manage its approximately one million acres of land and other non-cash assets to generate income. The Trust Land Office generates revenue through land leasing and sales; real estate development; commercial timber sales; mineral exploration and production; coal, oil and gas exploration and development; sand gravel and rock sales; and other general land uses.

Rents, fees and 15 percent of timber revenue from Trust land uses are considered spendable income and are available to the Trust for use in the following fiscal year. Land sale revenue, hydrocarbon and mineral royalties and 85 percent of timber revenue are considered principal and are invested for the Trust.

THE TLO GENERATED OVER \$10 MILLION
IN REVENUE COLLECTIVELY EACH YEAR
FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS.
