

Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education



Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
May 24, 2018
Patrick Reinhart, Executive Director

Topics Addressed

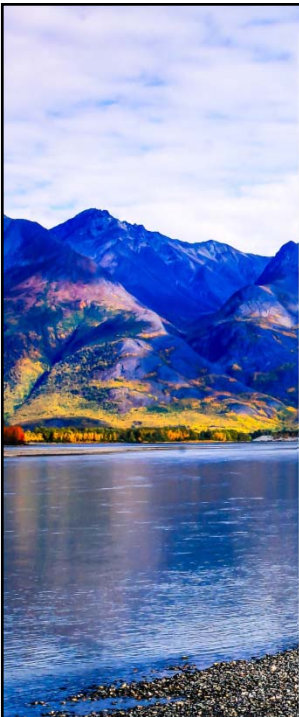
- Overview of the FY 19 Legislative Session – Key Bills, budget impacts
- Potential Impacts on our Providers and beneficiaries
- DD Partner Reports
- What's the Buzz!





Legislation that Passed

- **SB 174: Developmental Disabilities Vision Bill**
 - ✓ Sponsored by Senator Micciche. Introduced Feb. 2, 2018
 - ✓ PASSED unanimously in the Senate and 36-1 in the House. 15 Senate Cosponsors and 28 House Cross sponsors
 - ✓ Shout out to Senator Micciche, Rep. Millett, the Trust, Kim Champney, Hope Resources, AADD, Key Coalition and our own Maggie Winston
- **What's next?**
 - ✓ DD Collaborative Meeting yesterday
 - ✓ Workgroups building on vision to put person centeredness and person directedness into practice
 - ✓ Bill Signing
 - ✓ Training! Training! Training!



Legislation that Passed

- **HB 336: Supported Decision Making (SDM) Agreements Bill**
 - ✓ Sponsored by Rep Millett. Introduced Feb. 7, 2018.
 - ✓ Passed 39-1 in the House and unanimous in the Senate. 15 House Cosponsors and 12 Senate Cross sponsors
 - ✓ Shout outs to Rep. Millett & staff, Hans Rodvik, our own Anne Applegate, Art DeLaune, Heidi Kelly, the Trust, SAGA, WINGS, AARP, Key Coalition and Hope Resources
- **What's next?**
 - ✓ Pilot Project with Hope and AARP off and running with videos being produced featuring person with a disability and senior
 - ✓ Bill Signing
 - ✓ SDMA Summit November 15
 - ✓ Training! Training! Training!



Legislation that Passed

- **SB 80: Telecommunications for Disabled Subscribers**
 - ✓ Sponsored by Senator Costello. Passed 19-0 in Senate and 38-1 in House.
 - ✓ Shout out to Senator Costello, and RCA Commissioner Norm Rokeberg, and our own Dean Gates and Ric Nelson
- **HB 106: Civil Legal Services Fund (Rep. Claman)**
 - ✓ Ended with 10% of all civil court filing fees being set aside for legal services for low income Alaskans (125% of Federal Poverty)
- **HB 64: Reading Proficiency Task Force; Dyslexia (Rep. Drummond)**



Legislation we followed but did not pass

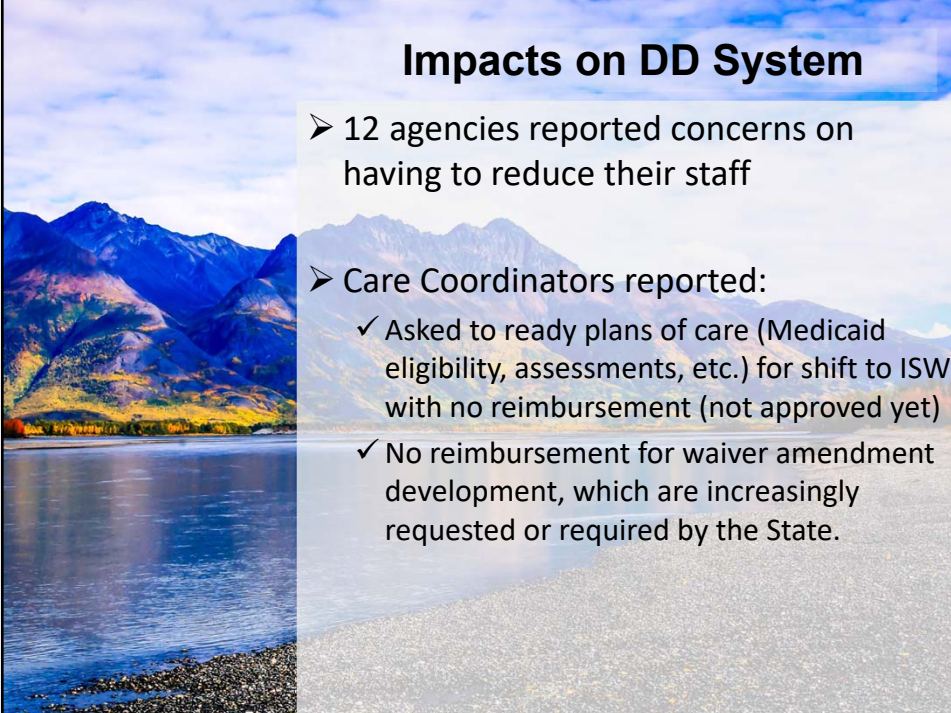
- **HB 27:** Chemicals of High concern for Children of products with certain Flame retardant chemicals.
- **HB 54:** Voluntary Termination of Life
- **HB: 258:** Establish Commission on Deaf and Hard of Hearing & Deaf Bill of Rights
- **SB 198:** Study of Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives (LARC)
 - ✓ Did not pass but \$500 K put in budget

Overview of Budget Changes in FY 18 and 19

- \$20 Million less than requested for Medicaid in FY 18 Supplemental Budget- Impacts???
- SDS held level in FY 19 – some intent language on DayHab
- Funded Medicaid at Governor’s requested, less \$30 Million
- Added 11 new positions for Office of Public Advocacy
- Added 4 new Public Defenders
- Added \$20 Million for Education
- Added \$1.2 Million for early learning programs
- Added 20 new positions to deal with Division of Public Assistance backlog of 18,000 applications
- \$500 K less for Public and Community Transportation State Match is in Governor’s Budget – Down to \$500 K


Impacts on DD System

- We asked AADD to do quick poll of its provider members and 13 responded
- 7 of 10 reported their average waiver costs are exceeding their reimbursement from the State
- 6 providers listed the use of their budget reserves as the first concern, and it was top 3 for 6 others
- All agencies said they are self-funding or providing pro-bono services to clients no longer receiving grant dollars
- 12 agencies reported the reduction of services and programs (day hab and grant) were in their top four concerns



Impacts on DD System

- 12 agencies reported concerns on having to reduce their staff
- Care Coordinators reported:
 - ✓ Asked to ready plans of care (Medicaid eligibility, assessments, etc.) for shift to ISW with no reimbursement (not approved yet)
 - ✓ No reimbursement for waiver amendment development, which are increasingly requested or required by the State.




DD Network Partners: Center for Human Development

- STAT MD Training (Screening Tool for Autism in Toddlers and Young Children)
 - ✓ 24 participants from 7 communities and including medical and early intervention program providers
- Assistance with Self Administration of Medication
 - ✓ 27 agencies, 40 communities; 1,010 participants
- Frontline Leadership Institute
 - ✓ 2 institutes, 45 individuals, 16 communities
- Person Centered Thinking, Planning & Services
 - ✓ 1st time offering, 20 persons (10 certified)
 - ✓ Going to offer 2-4 X per year
- Family Navigation
 - ✓ 34 individuals plus 15 for lunch and learn series
 - ✓ 3 part series on family navigation, pediatric care coordination, and case management



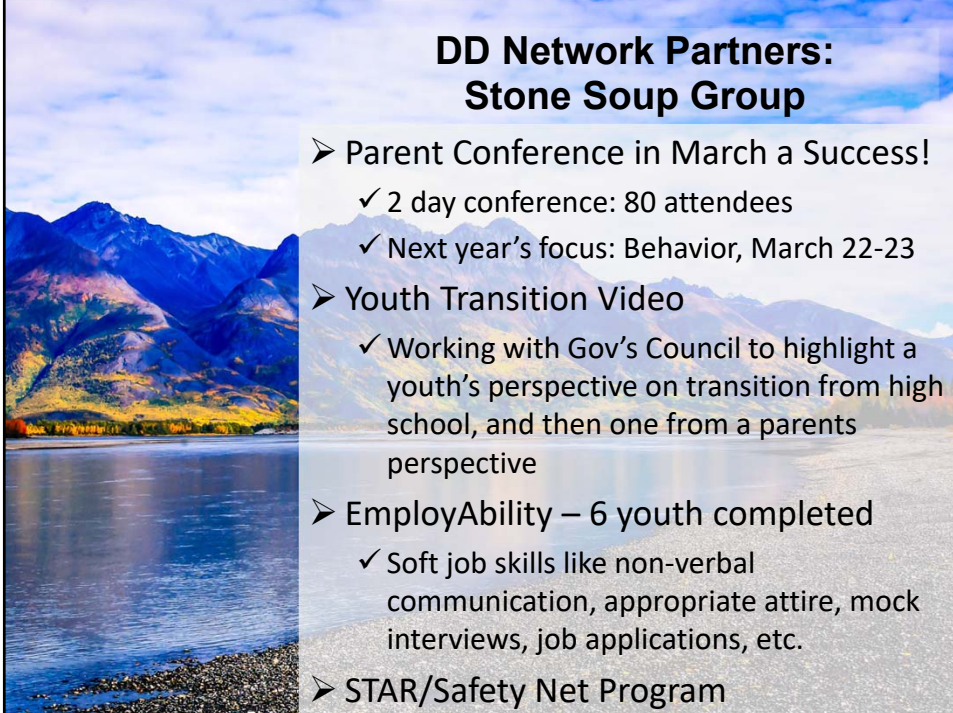
DD Network Partners: Center for Human Development

- Registered Behavior Technicians
 - ✓ 11 trained, 19 in process
- Mental Health First Aid
 - ✓ Over 9000 individuals in 37 communities trained since 2011
- Employment Training
 - ✓ National Certificate of Employment: 14
 - ✓ SBA Prime Funding: 25 individuals with disabilities, low income, Alaska Native or formerly incarcerated persons trained in starting a business/entrepreneurships
 - ✓ Financial and Work Incentives Navigator training for 20 people
 - ✓ Public Benefits and related trainings:
 - Working Disabled Medicaid Buy In-offered once
 - ABLE Act: Offered 5 times
 - SSA Work Incentive Training – offered 8 times
- Full Lives: 3 Days in April combined with SDS Care Coordinator Conference
 - ✓ 255 attendees and 26 exhibitors



DD Network Partners: Center for Human Development

- Project Echo
 - ✓ 3 Project Echo Clinics: Neurodevelopmental, Traumatic and Acquired Brain Injury, and BCBA
 - ✓ Echo immersion training scheduled for the end of June
- LEND
 - ✓ Participated in Disability Policy Seminar in DC and met with delegation about issues
 - ✓ Completed recruitment for FY 18-19 Cohort
- Neurodevelopmental Outreach Clinic
 - ✓ Served 5 communities, 46 patients, 45% of which diagnosed with Autism
- Tapestry
 - ✓ 8 students graduated in May
 - ✓ Summer Academy coming up
- Cultural and Linguistic Competency
 - ✓ Received grant to get Georgetown UCEDD training
- Microenterprise Grants
 - ✓ 13 applicants funded in amounts of \$900-\$10,000
- WIPA
 - ✓ 35 new beneficiaries received counseling and 20 more receiving ongoing counseling



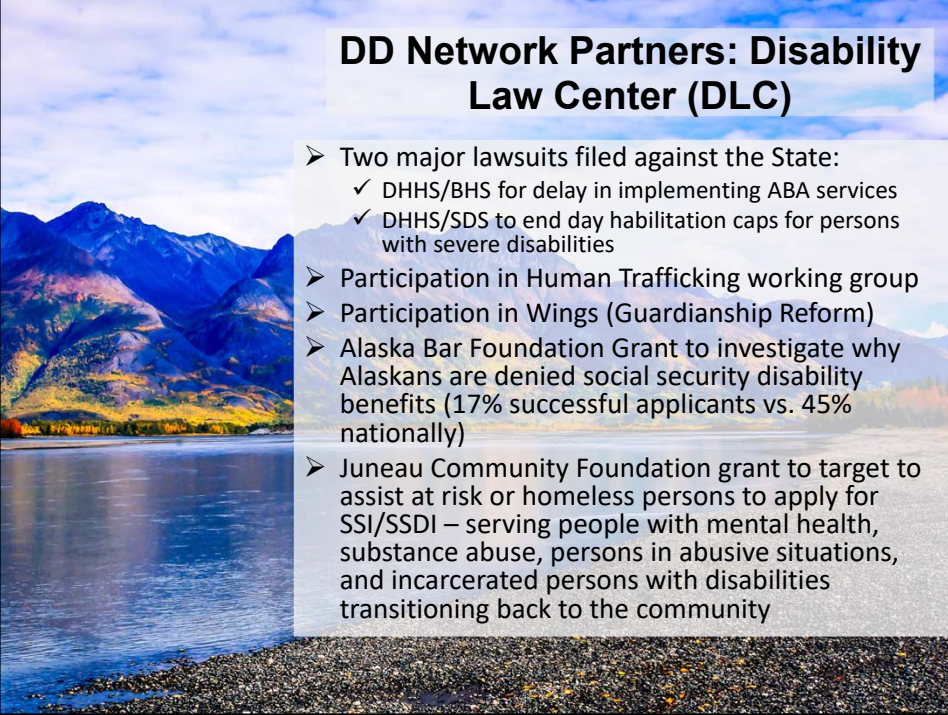
DD Network Partners: Stone Soup Group

- Parent Conference in March a Success!
 - ✓ 2 day conference: 80 attendees
 - ✓ Next year's focus: Behavior, March 22-23
- Youth Transition Video
 - ✓ Working with Gov's Council to highlight a youth's perspective on transition from high school, and then one from a parents perspective
- EmployAbility – 6 youth completed
 - ✓ Soft job skills like non-verbal communication, appropriate attire, mock interviews, job applications, etc.
- STAR/Safety Net Program



Safety Net Program

- Administered by Stone Soup Group
 - ✓ Statewide Parent Navigation and STAR agency
 - ✓ Has expertise in assisting families and individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Part of transition from DD grants to Individualized Supports Waiver (ISW)
- Who's this for?
 - ✓ Individuals who have been previously supported by the Community Developmental Disabilities Grant (CDDG) program
 - ✓ Individuals who have been found to not meet the level of care required for waiver services (but who are Medicaid eligible)
 - ✓ Individuals who still need services to remain independent
 - Individuals meeting both might be eligible to continue to receive limited grant-funded supports through the DD Safety-Net program
- Begins July 1.




DD Network Partners: Disability Law Center (DLC)

- Two major lawsuits filed against the State:
 - ✓ DHHS/BHS for delay in implementing ABA services
 - ✓ DHHS/SDS to end day habilitation caps for persons with severe disabilities
- Participation in Human Trafficking working group
- Participation in Wings (Guardianship Reform)
- Alaska Bar Foundation Grant to investigate why Alaskans are denied social security disability benefits (17% successful applicants vs. 45% nationally)
- Juneau Community Foundation grant to target to assist at risk or homeless persons to apply for SSI/SSDI – serving people with mental health, substance abuse, persons in abusive situations, and incarcerated persons with disabilities transitioning back to the community



DD Network Partners: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

- **Assistive Technology Pilot Project**
 - ✓ 12 waiver participants will be selected to receive an array of assistive technology, medication management and/or telehealth services that will increase independence and decrease dependence on direct care
 - ✓ Up to \$10,000
 - ✓ Sponsored by Trust, with apps into Matsu Health Foundation and others
- **Nursing Home & Assisted Living Home Transitions**
 - ✓ Using General Relief funds from the state, will support people moving from nursing facilities and assisted living to independent living using Section 8 vouchers
- **Service Animals Education and Training**
 - ✓ Educating the public and businesses about their rights and responsibilities in understanding the difference between a pet and a service animal
- **Council meeting June 7-8, Wasilla**



What's the Buzz? Tell Me What's Happening

- Spring Council meeting held on May 15.
- Next one is Oct. 2-3 in Anchorage; also
 - ✓ Universal Screening Task Force, June 5
 - ✓ Aging and Disability Policy Summit Sep. 26-27
 - ✓ Self Advocacy Summit Sep. 29-30
 - ✓ FASD Face to Face, Oct. 1
- Council member changes:
 - ✓ Saying goodbyes to Dean Gates, Amy Simpson, Sandra DeHart Mayor and John Cannon of DVR, who retired--Welcome Cindy Murphy-Fox as our new VR Representative
 - ✓ Recruiting now: 1 seat for a DD Provider Rep; 1 for parent of a child with a disability under 6 years old; 1 self-advocate
 - ✓ Corey Gilmore of Juneau (self advocate) is now Vice-chair



What's the Buzz? Tell Me What's Happening

- IDD Registry: 871
- Traumatic and Acquired Brain Injury (TABI Advisory Board
- Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)
- New Harmony Data
- Companion Services Exploration
- Council Cultural and Linguistic Competency Plan
- Integrated Settings Transition Plan 4
- Individualize Supports Waiver and Community First Choice Roll Out
- Project SEARCH Expansion


ABLE is Growing!!!!

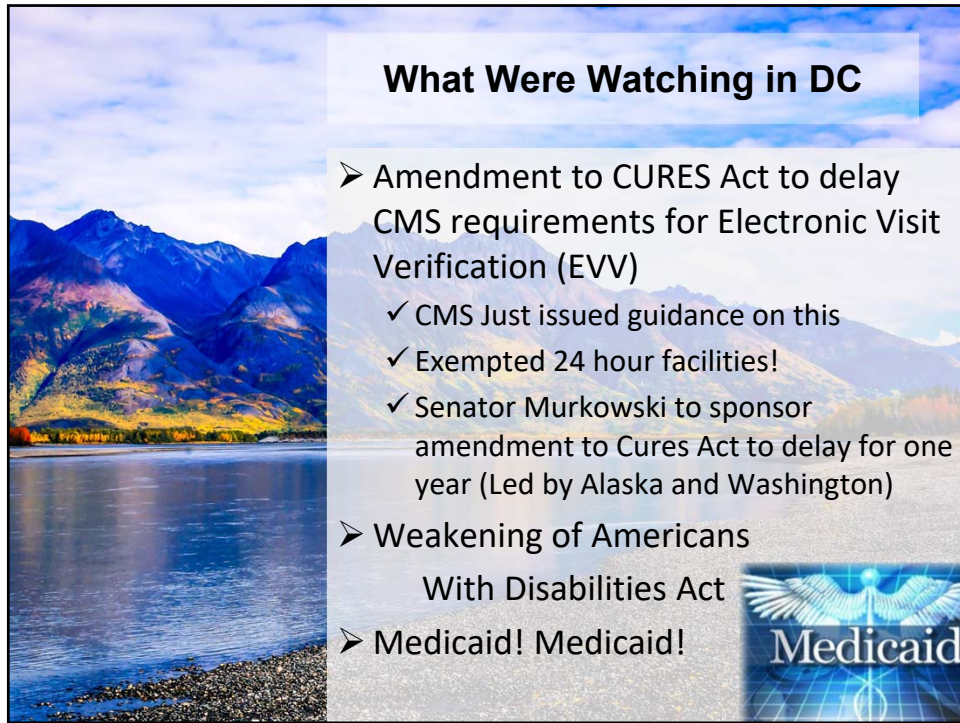
- As of May 15 Alaska has:
 - ✓ 133 funded ABLE Accounts (35 more since January; 18 unfunded for total of 151)
 - ✓ \$682,468 in savings for an average of \$4,520/account.
 - ✓ Annual contributions limit increased from \$14,000 to \$15,000
 - ✓ Some changes (good) coming related to tax reform bill, but not live yet
- Continued Outreach for 2018 to families, service providers and general public.



What Were Watching in DC

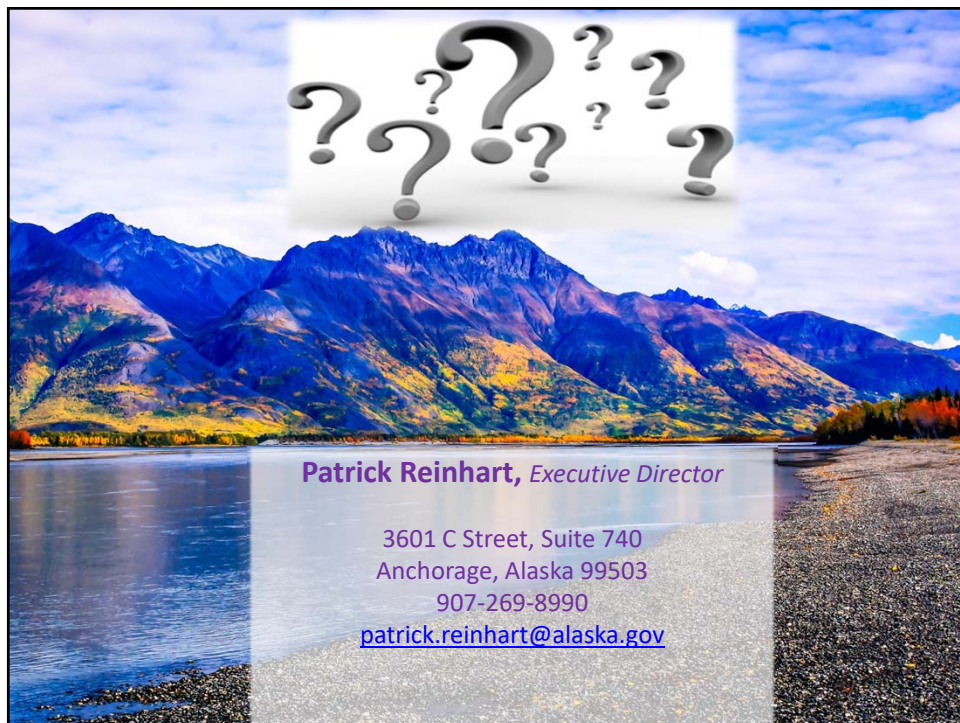

- Housing—"Making Affordable Housing Work Act" and "Promoting Resident Opportunity through Rent Reform Act"
- Farm Bill and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- TIME ACT: National Repeal of Subminimum Wage





What Were Watching in DC

- Amendment to CURES Act to delay CMS requirements for Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)
 - ✓ CMS Just issued guidance on this
 - ✓ Exempted 24 hour facilities!
 - ✓ Senator Murkowski to sponsor amendment to Cures Act to delay for one year (Led by Alaska and Washington)
- Weakening of Americans With Disabilities Act
- Medicaid! Medicaid!



Patrick Reinhart, *Executive Director*

3601 C Street, Suite 740
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
907-269-8990
patrick.reinhart@alaska.gov