

FAIRBANKS NATIVE ASSOCIATION

2018 Annual Report



In Memory of Dr. Poldine Carlo





Table of Contents

<i>Board of Directors</i>	3
<i>Message from the Executive Director</i>	4
<i>Financial Overview</i>	5
Education	
<i>Head Start</i>	6
<i>Indigenous Language Program</i>	7
<i>Johnson O'Malley</i>	8-9
<i>Community Services</i>	10-11
Behavioral Health Services	
<i>Adult Services</i>	12-13
<i>Youth Services</i>	14-15

Board of Directors



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President



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Vice President



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Member



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Member



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Member



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Member



Gerald "Jerry" Sam
Member

Dear Fairbanks Native Association Members,

This year we have three seats up for reelection, those held by Sarah Obed, Jessica Black and Andrea Durny. It has been an honor to work with all three board members, and I value their dedication to the mission and vision of Fairbanks Native Association. I especially want to thank Sarah Obed, who is not seeking reelection. She has always been attentive and innovative with her ideas.

What an exciting year it has been for FNA. We are very proud of our accomplishments this past year, particularly the purchase and renovation of the new Head Start/administration building. Last March, we consolidated our administrative offices and Head Start program into one building at 3830 South Cushman Street. We currently have nine beautiful classrooms and serve 120 happy and healthy children with enhanced and expanded services. This spring we will begin Phase III to build an additional five classrooms in the new building.

Last fall, FNA was awarded four new grants totaling \$6.9 million over the next three to five years. We are currently in the implementation stage of our Tribal Home Visiting program to serve prenatal to five year-old-children and their families. Within our JOM program, we will employ 12 family service coordinators and three tutors to be within the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District to serve elementary Alaska Native/American Indian children. These new positions will support academic interventions and social emotional support to serve over 630 elementary students. Our new Allied Health project will target 72 Alaska Native/American Indian high school students to participate in career and technical education in the health field. I am very excited about these opportunities to help our Native students succeed in school, and prepare for a high demand, high wage career. Education of our Native students has always been a priority for us at FNA. We will continue to advocate to close the achievement gap our children face.

Over the past year, we have made significant financial improvements at FNA. Our total assets increased by \$7,844,317 and total liabilities increased by \$87,053. Our total net assets increased to \$23,355,230. Our organization has strengthened our financial stability over the years despite the political climate at the state and federal level.

Last fall the Board of Directors updated our strategic plan, approving it this January. We will diligently focus on the next three year goals. Our strategic plan will guide FNA to better serve our members in behavioral health, prevention, education and community service. We will improve internal/external communication. We will strengthen our key partnerships to better advocate for our members and sustain revenue streams to sustain our essential services.

It has also been a heartbreaking year for FNA as we lost our last founding member, Dr. Poldine Carlo, last May. Poldine was involved in FNA since our incorporation in 1967. In August, we dedicated our new Head Start/administration building in her honor during a naming ceremony.

Poldine leaves behind a legacy of love, compassion, culture and service to others. We are sad to lose her, but we are so blessed for her lifetime contribution to FNA.

In January, our Board named Anna Frank as our Elder Advisor. Anna is the current second Chief of Denakkanaaga, Inc. and retired from the Episcopal Diocese. Anna is a well-known and respected elder in our region and I look forward to the guidance and wisdom she will bring to the organization.

As we move forward, we will be faced with uncertainty of the state budget, but we are ready for the challenges that come our way. FNA has been around for more than 52 years. We have been resilient when it comes to helping our people and we will remain that way. I have faith that as long as we continue to lift each other up, and practice our traditional values of love and respect for others, we will always be resilient.



Sincerely,

Steve Ginnis, Executive Director

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

Significant financial improvements have been achieved this past year, including another increase in net assets. FNA's Fiscal Year 2018 Audited Financial Statements reflect the overall financial position of the organization. The information below refers to those statements.

Statement of Activities

The Statement of Activities reflects an overall increase in net assets in fiscal year 2018 of 51 percent or \$7,844,317. The major factors contributing to this year's positive change in net assets include:

Revenues: \$27,796,656

Total revenues increased by \$5,316,351 from 2017. This increase was mostly due to funding from the Department of Head Start for the purchase and renovation of the new Poldine Carlo Building. Medicaid revenue continued to grow with all sources of revenue increasing in fiscal year 2018 to \$27,796,656.

Expenditures: \$19,952,339

Healthy revenues with a modest increase in expenditures in 2018 of \$714,692 resulted in the increase in net assets of \$7,844,317 from 2017. Net Assets at fiscal year end 2018 reached \$23,355,230.

Statement of Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Position presents FNA's assets owned, obligations owed and total net assets at June 30, 2018.

Assets	\$26,293,315	Liabilities	\$2,938,085
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This past year, total assets increased by \$7,931,370 • An increase in cash and cash equivalents of \$2,967,558 • A decrease in receivables of \$607,429 • A decrease in prepaid expenses of \$219,600 • Property and equipment increased by \$5,790,841 from fiscal year 2017 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This past year, total liabilities increased by \$87,053 • Current liabilities increased \$175,122 from fiscal year 2017 • A decrease in accounts payable of \$382,766 • An increase in payroll accounts of \$80,299 • An increase in current portion of long-term debt of \$2,988 • An increase in deferred revenue of \$474,029 • An increase of distributions over equity: \$572 • Long-term debt decreased by \$88,069 from fiscal year 2017 	
Net Assets*	\$23,355,230		

*Net assets increased by \$7,844,314 from FY17



Head Start 0-5

Program Highlights

FNA Head Start 0-5 provides a comprehensive child and family development program for low-income children, prenatal to age five, and their families. Children and families receive health and nutrition services, family development support, access to mental health services, as well as supports for children with learning delays or disabilities. The goal of the program is to improve child and family outcomes, including school readiness, by providing a continuum of comprehensive services that support children's development and family functioning. The program is inclusive and promotes cultural identity of Alaska Native and American Indian families through onsite activities and field trips to cultural events such as the Festival of Native Arts.



FNA Head Start 0-5 currently serves 303 children and has more than 70 employees.

Our most recent success is the purchase of a new building located at 3830 South Cushman Street. This brings us closer to offering all Head Start 0-5 services from a single facility rather than five separate locations. In spring 2018, Phase I and II of renovations were completed. In fall 2018, a dedication ceremony was held naming it the Poldine Carlo Building, after one of FNA's founders. Phase III will see an infant and toddler wing created in the Poldine Carlo Building, allowing all but two of the Head Start program options to operate from the new building.

Program Updates

Two sites moved into the new building with all home-based work and 10 out of 17 classrooms ending the school year from the new building.

The "Steps to Success" process was used to guide procedures for monitoring attendance and working with families. Using this method increased average daily attendance to 86.19 percent, exceeding the 85 percent attendance required by Head Start Program Performance Standards.

The 3-5 Mentor Coach position was filled and Pre/Post CLASS observations were completed for preschool classrooms showing they met or exceeded CLASS criteria. Data from CLASS observations were used to plan for year two which includes hiring a 0-3 Mentor Coach, selecting coaching groups and training. This will increase the amount of support for classroom educators.



Indigenous Language Project: Denakk'a Classroom

Program History and Overview

In 2016 FNA Head Start 0-5 was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to establish a Denaakk'e Classroom. In this dual language, full-day classroom, children ages 3-5 are learning to speak Denaakk'e and about Athabascan culture and values. This project requires community involvement and welcomes input from elders, parents, students, teachers, and anyone interested in revitalizing and preserving the language, culture, and values of the Athabascan people.

FNA Head Start 0-5 accepts applications from all families within the Fairbanks North Star Borough. However, there is currently a waitlist for this class.

Program Highlights

The Denaakk'e Classroom began its second year at Anne Wien Elementary School in August 2018. There are 15 students in the class from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Two primary teachers and the project director have been in the classroom since the beginning of the program. An associate educator will be hired soon. Eleven students will be entering kindergarten in fall 2019.



The project director, as the Denaakk'e language speaker, is recording the alphabet, songs, phrases and words. All recordings have been posted on FNA's website for parents and community members who wish to learn the language. Children's books have been

printed – Animals, Clothing, Eetaa'e & Eena'a'e (Mom and Dad), Family Kinship, Ggøh (rabbit), Land/Environment, Leekk'oze Tokk'ee (Three puppies). Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer posters were made.

Each student has a Denaakk'e name. They have learned phrases such as tleeteey kkaatsee'eh yee deelaal (put on snowpants), tleeteey kkaakene yee deeltał (put snow boots on), and tleeteey de'aak nedeelkooł (put your outdoor coat on). The students have learned animals names, what they eat, where they live and what the animals are used for (meat, skin, fur, etc.).

The students have been introduced to five songs in Denaakk'e: Welcome Song, See You Later Song, Seggenaa' (My Friend) Song, Clapping Song, and Counting Song. They sang three songs at the UAF Indigenous Day event in October 2018. The children sang the Fish Camp, Airplane and Seagull songs at the 2018 Festival of Native Arts at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. They sang the Welcome Song, See you Later Song and Seagull Song for Washington D.C. dignitaries at the Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall in September.

Dewey Hoffman, our culture bearer, comes to the classroom four hours per week to do a cultural activity with our students. Elders have shown the children how to make birch sleds and donaałdlode (Indian ice cream).

We've developed an assessment tool called the Denaakk'e Early Language Learning Assessment. DELLA will be used to test the progress students have made at the end of the year. A Classroom-Based Denaakk'e Developmental Language Assessment was also created for the teachers to use in the classroom for ongoing assessments each quarter.

The primary teachers have both received their CDA certifications and along with the evaluator, finished a university course called "Teaching Methods for Alaska Native Language." We will be preparing curriculum and lesson plan binders to be used in future years of teaching this class.



Johnson O'Malley

The JOM Program is funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs through a Continuing Resolution and is one of Fairbanks Native Association's oldest on-going programs. It is authorized by the Johnson-O'Malley Act of 1934. On December 31, 2018, this act was updated to the The Johnson-O'Malley Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act. The new act requires the Department of Interior to annually update the count of Native students eligible for the JOM Program. The last count was in 1995.

The purpose of JOM is to offer supplementary academic and cultural support to address unique and specialized educational needs of Alaska Native/American Indian students in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District. Our primary goals are to support Native student growth, improve academic achievement, engage parents and families in the educational process, and provide leadership development among students while promoting traditional cultural practices and values.

2018 Achievements

The Native Education Committee election was held at a Traditional Native Foods Harvest Festival at the Tribal Hall on October 2, 2018, and hosted by members of the Inupiaq and Yupik community. Elected to the seven member committee are Erica Kunaknana, Eva Harvey, Mark Backes, Sherine Titus and Robin Frerichs. Continuing members are Nadine Carroll and Blanche Murphy.



The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District and FNA have been having meaningful tribal consultations. We have identified graduation rate and attendance as the the two priorities to be addressed this school year.

The total enrollment in FNSBSD is 13,435 students as of 01/31/19. Of this total, 16 percent (2,113) are Alaska Native/American Indian students. Of the 2,967 district employees, 6.2 percent (184) are Native. Of these, 48 are teachers.

FNA JOM is in its third year of a four year grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Program. The youth case management project focuses on removing barriers to student success. Addressing chronic absenteeism increasing parent engagement and building leadership skills along with cultural awareness and identity are integral to student success. Sonja Sommer is the family services coordinator at Effie Kokrine School.

The 19th annual 2018 FNA JOM Alaska Native Youth Basketball Tournament was held in March 2018 at Tanana

Middle School. The tournament hosted 284 players.

FNA JOM Culture Program

The JOM Potlatch Dancers were honored to be invited to dance for a seven-year-old cancer patient who came to Alaska from Minnesota with the Make-A-Wish Foundation. He cried during the performance and then, after regaining his composure, danced with our students. After our performance, we sat down and ate dried fish strips and crackers with him and his family. During this time of sharing, our students were very aware that this would be his last trip as he was terminally ill and tried their best to answer all of the





questions he had for them. Many of the dancers were so close to his age, even the same age. It was definitely a time to reflect and just enjoy visiting with him. They welcomed him and gave him hugs before leaving the meeting room. He was given a kuspuk, which fit him just right, and he was still wearing it when we left. This is one performance that our students will hold close to their hearts, and we will not forget this little, precious boy.

The dance group performed for Poldine Carlo at her last birthday party. Poldine enjoyed it so much and she gave each dancer a hug and kind words of appreciation. It was a privilege to celebrate her special day in a way that was respectful and one that was so meaningful to her.

There are 25 regular students in the JOM Potlatch Dance groups, but many more students come when they can. Please let us know if you would like to join or to invite us to perform for your event!

Tutors and Family Services Coordinators

Lathrop High School: Of the 143 Alaska Native/American Indian students at Lathrop, 94 were tutored through integration, small groups, support or individually. After four years at Lathrop High School, the students wished Sara Teal well before she left for Juneau, where she is now working for the state as a research economist. During her time at Lathrop, she began a student assistant program for leadership development and a beading circle, which the students continue to enjoy.



Effie Kokrine School: In May 2018 Marie McCarty left FNA JOM as a tutor to complete a degree in petroleum engineering at UAF. During her five years at Effie, Marie met every student, kept them aware of missing assignments, offering Saturday school and providing after school tutoring. She specialized in math support, both reteaching and retesting. All 29 seniors graduated in the May 2018 graduation class. Marie now volunteers occasionally.

There is a JOM family services coordinator at Effie.

Three New Federal Grants

Alaska Native Education Program: JOM Young Learners Project

A tutor and family services coordinator will be placed at three elementary schools to provide academic interventions and social/emotional support for three years.

Indian Demonstration Grant: Native Families Engage in Education & Career Development Project

Wrap-around social/emotional support will be available to students and families, as well as academic support to 630 students in FNSB elementary schools. Nine family services coordinators will be employed to serve targeted elementary school students for four years.

Native American Career & Technical Program for Native American: Allied Health Project

Each year, this project will serve a cohort of 12 juniors and 12 seniors to assist them in completing and obtaining credits in the allied health field as well as gain employment skills. This is a three-year grant.



Community Services Programs

The FNA Community Services Program promotes healthy, successful, productive, and self-sufficient clients by providing quality, culturally sensitive, holistic social services.

The Community Services Block

This grant provides direct client services:

- Paperwork assurances
- Transportation for the frail and elderly
- Home visits
- Telephone assurances
- Advocacy for medical and court
- Client outreach
- Monthly intergenerational activities, ie, community gatherings
- Homeless barbecues and special events
- Monthly community events/activities
- Information and referral
- Application assistance for housing and emergency assistance, finances and employment.
- Weekly food boxes



	2018	2017	2016	2015
Clients Served:	7,372*	9,459	4,821	3,281
Food Boxes: (cap: 1,020 food box units/yr.)	716	707	589	732
CSFP (Elder Monthly Food Box):	149	159	26	3
Outreach/Advocacy	753	593	415	398

**FNA Community Services relocated to 319 First/320 Second in August, 2018. During the period of August – December, 2018 there were only 2,083 consumers accessing services in comparison to the 2,868 during the same months in the previous report period. This is a decrease of 27.37 percent. Community Service staff have been doing one major outreach event/activity a month and have been doing bi-weekly outreach in the community, alternating between programs, to inform the community of our new location.*

The BIA 638 Welfare Assistance Program

This funding provides General Assistance, Emergency Assistance, and Burial Assistance. There were a total of 29 applications for General Assistance. Paperwork assurances are provided as well as job coaching and job searches. There were several applicants who were able to obtain jobs because of the job searches required with the application process. Clients requesting GA are referred to the State of Alaska for Adult Public Assistance and/or to Social Security, which ever was appropriate to meet the needs of the client. Because of this process, multiple clients were able to receive disability services through the State of Alaska and Social Security.

	2018*		2017		2016	
	Clients Served	Expenditures	Clients Served	Expenditures	Clients Served	Expenditures
General Assistance:	29	\$11,454.00	88	\$28,348.25	0	0
Burial Assistance:	9	\$21,110.00	14	\$17,069.00	11	\$25,305.00
Emergency Assistance:	0	0	1	\$1,000.00	2	\$2,000.00
Total:	38	\$32,564.00	103	\$45,417.25	13	\$27,305.00

**Note: The 2018 Welfare Assistance report is based on the four month period of September, 2018 to December, 2018. BIA Welfare Assistance funds were received in the later part of the summer and it is anticipated that the funds will be exhausted in January, 2019.*

USDA NIFA Gardening Project

The FNA Elders and Youth Community Garden continues to create a food distribution system to provide hard-to-access fresh vegetables to our elders. Our major partner was Risse Greenhouse. There were a total of 61 individuals who volunteered in some aspect of the garden project during this report period.

US Department of Justice, Office of Victims Crime

The Tribal Victim's Assistance project has three components: case management, outreach, and data curation. The project follows a model that establishes relationships through trust, advocacy, and outreach, identifies specific problems and provides solutions, and tracks client progress, while maintaining support and advocacy, and maintain an open door policy after a case is closed.

One hundred seventy-seven unduplicated consumers accessed services. In order to meet the needs of these consumers the program social worker had to work with over 60 local agencies. The specific six areas of crime that were experienced by the consumers were domestic violence, elder abuse, stalking, aggravated assault, victims of crime, and survivors of homicide victims.

U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women

The Women's Case Management has three components: case management, outreach, and data curation. The project follows the same model as the Tribal Victim's Assistance which establishes relationships through trust, advocacy, and outreach, identifies specific problems and provides solutions, and tracks client progress, while maintaining support and advocacy, and maintain an open door policy after a case is closed.

The OVW grant provided community education by giving general information that will increase the awareness of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Elders Program: Older Americans Act: Title VI Part A and Part C

This is a federal grant that provides salaries and operating costs for the Title VI Elder's program. The staff works hard to meet the needs of the elders who participate in the program. The building is open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and serves lunches with meals provided by the North Star Council on Aging. Case management is provided between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. each day. Traditional foods are cooked on site and served once a month. The staff provides paperwork assurances, intake and referrals, transportation for the frail and elderly, shopping, and field trips. The monthly Lunch and Learn was established during this report period. Fifty-four local resource agencies have contributed to the success of the program. Home delivered meals are by referral to North Star Council on Aging.

During the report period there have been 6,704 congregate meals served (an increase of 17.95 percent) to a total of 157 unduplicated Elders and 2,624 transports (an increase of 45.62 percent).

Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative

The DVPI project promotes positive youth and adult attitude and behaviors through strength-based strategies to reduce domestic violence and sexual violence. Project activities are based on a variety of evidence-based programs and cultural practices to complement and enhance existing Survivor Services activities. Programs include Sources of Strength, Learning Circles, Beads 'n Bagels, Native Elder Caregiver Training, Wellness Night, and Art is Healing.



Behavioral Health Services Adult Programs



Gateway to Recovery Withdrawal Management Services

Gateway to Recovery is a 24 hour/7 day medically monitored inpatient facility that provides withdrawal management. Our team of nurses, certified nursing assistants, and physician assistants offer high quality care for people requiring medication to safely withdraw from alcohol, stimulants, and opioid substances. Clients receive a physical exam to address immediate medical concerns and assist with further needed medical care referrals. The Gateway team works together to inform and assist consumers in accessing community resources, public services, Medicaid applications and assist in coordinating care for further Medication Assisted Treatment.

Fairbanks Alcohol Safety Action Program

Our mission is to serve our community with professionalism assuring each consumer's confidentiality, as provided by law, and dignity while meeting the directives required by the Alaska Court System and Department of Motor Vehicles.

The Fairbanks Alcohol Safety Action Program monitors cases of individuals who are convicted of alcohol and drug misdemeanors in the State of Alaska's 4th Judicial Circuit. The overall goal of the program is reduction in alcohol or drug related crimes in Fairbanks and surrounding areas.

Our office monitors misdemeanor cases such as driving under the influence, assaults, disorderly conducts, and minor operating and consuming alcohol, etc. Upon completion of our program, our office issues completions to the Courts, District Attorneys, and DMV, stating a client has satisfactorily completed their requirements so that their driver's license is reinstated.

A crime reform bill that impacted FASAP, SB-91, went into effect in July of 2016, In 2017, SB-54 addressed some of the gaps of SB-91, allowing other alcohol or drug related misdemeanors to be ordered to ASAP. An up-tick in the number of cases ordered to ASAP is expected.

In FY18 we served 431 adults and 30 juveniles.

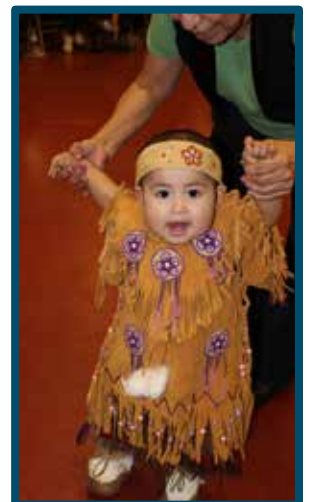
We are expecting more compliance checks from the Alaska Alcohol Safety Action Program. ASAP is now required to do follow ups on clients who score med-risk and max-risk on the Level of Screening Inventory-Revised. LSI-R is a screening tool used to determine the level of monitoring for each consumer in the program.

Ralph Perdue Center

Ralph Perdue Center Residential and Outpatient programs provide treatment services in Alaska for anyone with a need. Because we are CARF accredited, and have an excellent treatment program, we have a waitlist of over 35 consumers at any given time.

RESIDENTIAL provides a comprehensive evidence-based practice treatment service that is tailored to each individual adult consumer. Consumers are provided with a Substance Use Assessment, Treatment Planning, Behavioral Health Screening, Individual Comprehensive Community Supportive Services, Process Group Counseling, Family Counseling, Mental Health Services, Alcohol and Drug Awareness, Self-help Support Groups, Life Skills Training Groups, Grief & Loss Treatment Groups, Conflict Resolution, Health Education, and Relapse Prevention.

OUTPATIENT provides level 1 and level 2.1 intensive outpatient services. Consumers who complete residential programs may transition into the Outpatient program. Consumers can transition from RPC Residential, Women and Children's Center for Inner Healing, Gateway to Recovery Withdrawal Management Services. Consumers are also referred to the Outpatient program depending on the Behavioral Health Assessment. Referrals are accepted from FASAP, Department of Corrections, and Office of Children Services.



The Opioid Use Disorder Intensive Outpatient Treatment program

This is a SAMHSA-funded, state-targeted response to combat the opioid crisis. Since August 2017 the OUD Program has implemented Alaska's Statewide Opioid Action Plan to reduce stigma, risk of opioid misuse, ensure timely access to screening and treatment services and support at-risk individuals in their recovery. Funding for the program runs through June 26, 2019. The program provides treatment at ASAM Levels 2.1 and 1. Program admission is for anyone over 18 years of age experiencing opioid use disorder, and are willing to engage in recovery. The OUD IOPT has the capacity to serve 70 consumers and has served 65 individuals to date.



Consumers are educated on care coordination, engaging in the therapeutic process, medication assisted treatment for opioid abuse, and harm reduction strategies (including opioid overdose reversal with NARCAN® and EVZIO®). Services include assessments, referrals, individual and group counseling, care coordination and advocacy. Individuals are assessed for appropriate level of care and are referred for psychiatric evaluation and medication services through telehealth connections when necessary. Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Therapy is therapeutic for individuals coping with trauma. MAT Services (Buprenorphine, Methadone, Naltrexone, Naloxone) are coordinated with local providers. Additionally, OUD IOTP offers the often prohibitively expensive alternative neuromodular device (The BRIDGE ®) managed by a specialized provider.

OUD program graduates are organizing an alumni group in 2019 to foster positive social relationships beyond the treatment environment. Off-site recovery services in partnership with Tanana Valley Clinic's 1st Care West are provided once a week.

Women and Children's Center for Inner Healing

Women and Children's Center for Inner Healing provides a consumer-centered holistic approach in providing treatment for the women seeking recovery from addictions and co-occurring disorders. Trauma informed care is the foundation of the healing process.

WCCIH uses a strong multi-disciplinary team from intake to discharge. The multi-disciplinary team may include Office of Children's Service, Tribal Village Councils, Head Start, Office of Public Advocacy, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Resource Center for Parents and Children, state and tribal courts, Office of Public Defenders, Fairbanks Correction Agency, Department of Probation and Parole, Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center, Interior Aids Association and Fairbanks Memorial Hospital. They all work together to ensure a smooth transition for the consumer. Wrap around services have been proven beneficial to support mothers in their transition into a sober lifestyle.

WCCIH uses full time substance abuse counselors, as well as contract mental health clinicians to meet the needs of the consumers. WCCIH also partners with the University of Alaska to provide internships for students interested in Substance Abuse Treatment. WCCIH and the Resource Center for Parents and Children co-teach "Circle of Security and Scream-Free Parenting." Consumers and their children also have access to mental health providers to assist them in dealing with the trauma they have experienced in their lives. WCCIH provides weekly groups, in addition to individual substance abuse treatment, case management, telehealth psychiatric services and a contract mental health clinician.

WCCIH ensures consumers and their children are involved in cultural and sober community activities to promote healthy recovery skills. WCCIH has coordinated partnerships with Inter-FNA programs such as SOAP, YUSA, OUD and Outpatient to support them in their discharge planning. WCCIH has been very fortunate to have graduates give back to our program by providing cooking, baking, hair styling and beading classes.

Behavioral Health Services Youth Programs

Treatment Philosophy: We believe that for Alaska Native people alcohol and drug abuse is a function of long-term trauma resulting from loss of land, subsistence rights, forced assimilation, removal of our children, loss of language, poverty and the introduction of alcohol into this traumatic environment. Alcohol and drug abuse is a form of self-medication, a coping mechanism to relieve the stressors resulting from the social problems confronting our families and communities. Consequently, alcohol and drug abuse can be reduced by strengthening families, building a strong sense of community and natural supports, development of a viable source of livelihood, and skills to deal with the stressors confronting us will assist us in the recovery process. Skill building, a focus on our strengths, and recovery supports will increase our ability to be self-reliant, contributing members of our community, living a recovery-oriented, wellness-focused life style.

Program Mission: Our mission is to provide healing and education for Native youth with substance abuse issues and to promote wellness and growth, empowering youth to reach their potential.



Graf Rheeneerhaanjii

The Graf Rheeneerhaanjii is a residential substance abuse treatment program for 12-17 year-olds who reside in Alaska. Considerations for 18 year-olds are made on a case-by-case basis. This program is a joint effort between Tanana Chiefs Conference and the FNA. The treatment program provides a culturally sensitive, structured residential treatment environment for the youth diagnosed with substance use disorders and dependency. Every effort is made to incorporate Alaska Native culture and spiritual beliefs into the program. This is a 12-16 week residential treatment program providing individual counseling, group therapy, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing, mental health services, anger management, and 12-step work with treatment assignments.

Graf Rheeneerhaanji provides an academic component of the program. An onsite high school certified counselor and teacher provides earned credits in English, math, life skills, and P.E., and is under the umbrella of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District.

Groups and treatment activities provided are monthly elder's luncheon, participating in various traditional dance group practices, volunteer at potlucks/fundraisers/events, visits to the Denali Center, volunteer with the Calypso Farm, Office of Children Services, Foster Care Award Dinner, culture therapy and art therapy, Choice and Change, Keep It Simple, relapse prevention, mindfulness, conflict resolution, Low Ropes Element Challenge Course, family and relationship in recovery, life skills, process/transition, and trauma, grief, and loss.

Youth and Young Adults Services

Youth and Young Adult Services partners with consumers, their family members, and their behavioral health providers to offer services that are focused on health, wellness, prevention and treatment. These services are offered through four direct service programs in collaboration with Tanana Chiefs Conference, Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, and other local agencies.

Suicide Prevention supports youth and young adults ages 10-25 that have attempted suicide or are having thoughts of suicide. The service provides crisis and mental health therapy, case management.

We completed the SEED Media Camp for Suicide Prevention PSAs and posters. The four PSAs will be aired on local TV channels and the posters have been distributed through the community. Youth Summit was held January 9, 2019. Suicide Responses Protocols have been completed.



Health and Wellness

Provides outpatient treatment to youth and young adults with substance abuse and mental health issues.

Consumer numbers have been steadily increasing. The outreach and working closely with SOAP are factors in the increase in numbers for youth receiving outpatient treatment services

Transitional Services

Support youth and young adults transitions into adulthood. This program serves ages 16-25. TA also has a Young Adult Council.

Natural Helpers and Drop In Center

Development of the resource kiosks has been completed and four kiosks will be placed in town for the public to use. Radio PSAs have been aired on five radio stations for over four months.

Family Services

Supports youth and young adults up to age 24, and their families to achieve family wellness. Guiding Good Choices is a branch of Family Services and a substance abuse prevention program that provides parents with knowledge and skills they need to guide their children through adolescence. The program consists of five, two-hour workshops.

Coping and Supporting Training

This program incorporates life skills training and social support in 12 small group sessions. This is for middle school to high school age students ages 12 to 16. There are two groups for this program.

Courses are posted and scheduled. If you are interested please contact 452-6268.

Synergy is an infrastructure program that supports all the existing services.

Interagency Transition Council consists of representatives from various organizations who sit on the council. This council is tasked with infrastructure development.





FAIRBANKS NATIVE ASSOCIATION

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