

LIVING WELL ON THE LAST FRONTIER

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Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special
Education



**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON
DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

New ACL Grant:

- **5 Year Federal Grant Awarded to the Council**
 - \$392,000 per year
 - Currently in Year 3
- **Develop and coordinate model approaches:**
 - Community monitoring
 - Community capacity building,
 - To enhance the independence, integration, safety, health, and well-being of individuals living in the community
- **Targets three different interrelated groups:**
 - Individuals with Developmental Disabilities (DD) and their Families/Guardians
 - Service providers
 - Policy makers



Overarching Goal:

The overarching **goal** of this project is to ***increase the community integration, health, safety, independence, and well-being of individuals with developmental disabilities through realization of our DD vision:***



Objectives:

1. Enhance the **health and safety** of individuals who experience developmental disabilities by increasing their **independence, self-determination, community integration, employment, and participation**.
2. Strengthen the knowledge and skills of direct support professionals to use evidenced-based and/or promising practices related to **culturally and linguistically person-centered thinking and supported decision-making** which may improve workforce stability, retention, and advancement.

Objectives:

3. Strengthen and **elevate the leadership roles that self-advocacy organizations**, Centers for Independent Living and other peer support networks, working together with families and others, play in improving and assuring the quality of home and community based services.
4. Enhance the effectiveness and coordination of efforts by the state, the DD Act network and others to **implement the HCBS settings rule** and **address rights violations** in the HCBS service delivery system for people with DDs.

Grant Partners:



Alaska Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education (lead)

and:

Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities (AADD)

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (the Trust)

Disability Law Center of Alaska (DLC)

Peer Power, Inc.

Key Coalition of Alaska

State of Alaska Senior & Disability Services (SDS)

Southeast Alaska Independent Living Center (SAIL)

Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

University of Alaska Anchorage Center for Human Development,

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As well as the **Alaska DD Systems Collaborative**

Work-to-date:



- Project Management Team meetings held quarterly
- Professional Services Agreements and Reimbursable Service Agreement with partners in place with renewals for year 3
- Meetings with ACL, other state grant teams, Lewin (external evaluators), & Mission Analytics (technical assistance)
- Advisory presentations to the Council (3 times a year) and at least annually to the DD Systems Collaborative

Work-to-date:



◦ Small working groups continue to meet:

- Evaluation
- Environmental Modification (EMOD) / HomeMap Assessment
- Employment First
- Challenging Behaviors
- Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Integrated Settings Transition

Work-to-date:



◦ **Small working groups continue to meet:**

- Direct Service Professional/Provider
(Person-Centered)
- Plan of Care
- Community Relationship Building
(Building natural supports)
- Self-Advocacy
- Supported Decision-Making Agreements (SDMA)

Recent Activities:

- EMOD Survey Results
- Alaska Work Matters Taskforce Efforts
- COVID toolkit & I Have Rights, I Have Dreams Webinars
- Self Advocacy Empower Hour
- Centralized Reporting and Mandatory Reporter Efforts
- Disability Pride Summer Celebration
- NACDD Conference—Anna Attla inducted into Leadership Circle, Jena Crafton received April Dunn Start Your Journey award and inducted into Leadership Circle



ALASKA ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Share your voice and perspective with your community!

Self-Advocates have the opportunity to be involved in organizations that they love, by joining boards or becoming members of organizations. Some examples of Alaskan organizations that are related to advocacy or disability rights in Alaska, are listed below. If an organization you know of is not listed here, we encourage you to check with the organization to find out how you can become involved.

DISABILITY-RELATED BOARD OPPORTUNITIES

CHALLENGE ALASKA

Improves the lives of people with disabilities, their families and the whole community through adaptive sports, therapeutic recreation, and education. They reach individuals in Anchorage, the Mat-Su, and the Kenai Peninsula.

- www.challengealaska.org
- www.facebook.com/challengealaska/



PEER POWER

This organization's purpose is to help Self-Advocates become empowered. The organization is Self-Advocate led, and connects people from all over Alaska.

- peerpower907.wixsite.com/peer-power
- www.facebook.com/PeerPower907/



KEY COALITION

A grassroots organization that helps people with developmental disabilities become educated and empowered, through policy change and access to policy makers. Their mission is to promote the dignity, status, and equality of Alaskans from around the state who experience disabilities as valued, contributing participants in a shared community.

- keycoalitionofalaska.wordpress.com
- www.facebook.com/keycoalitionofalaska/



STONE SOUP GROUP

A non-profit that provides information, support, training and resources to assist families caring for children with special needs. They reach individuals all over the State of Alaska.

- www.stonesoupgroup.org/
- www.facebook.com/stonesoupgroup/



The Alaska Advocacy and Leadership Opportunities Guide

Living Well on the Last Frontier

A Health & Safety Toolkit for Alaskans
with Disabilities

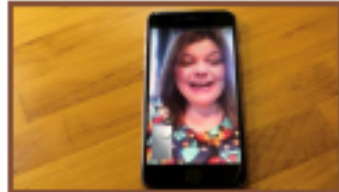
IN THIS
TOOLKIT:

Stay Healthy

Stay Safe

Stay Connected

Frequently
Asked Questions



COVID-19 RESOURCE TOOLKIT

Information and Resources to Keep
You Healthy, Safe, and Connected

The coronavirus disease 2019, or COVID-19, outbreak has left a lot of people in need of new or different resources and clear information. While the situation continues to change all the time, we want you to have access to the information and tools you need to stay healthy, safe, and connected.

Continual updates and Webinars

Alaska Specific Plain Language COVID-19 Toolkit

Everything from understanding the virus and how to stay safe, to ideas on how to keep engaging with people virtually

- Collaborative effort with the Division of Senior and Disabilities Services.



Save the Date

5th Annual Peer Power Self Advocacy Summit

Postponed from September 24th-
26th until April 29th - May 1st

The Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education present:

The **Living Well: I Have Dreams** Webinar

Tuesday, September 28, 2021 | 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Register for the Zoom here:

<https://soagcdse.ticketbud.com/i-have-dreams-webinar>



Please contact Jess Doherty
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I Have Dreams Webinar

- Panel of Self-Advocates
- Breakout room discussion
- Networking and resource sharing

Questions?

