



# Behavioral Health Roadmap

## Meeting Notes – Steering Committee

**DATE:** JUNE 27, 2023

**TIME:** 3:00-4:30 PM

**FACILITATOR:** DR. ANNE ZINK

Advocates & Associations			
X	Kim Champney, AADD ED <i>(Lizette Stiehr)</i>	P	Steve Williams, AMHTA CEO
P	John Solomon, ABHA CEO	P	Katie Baldwin-Johnson, AMTHA COO
P	Lance Johnson, ABHA COO	P	Eric Boyer, AMHTA Sr. Program Officer
V	Jared Kosin, AHHA CEO	V	Megan Clark, APCA
A	Elizabeth King, AHHA Sr. Director	P	Jen Griffis, Parent Advocate
Tribal Behavioral Health			
V	Perry Ahsogek, ANHB	V	Monique Martin, ANHB/ANTHC
A	Ronto Roney, ANHB	V	Jessica Whitaker, ANHB/TBHD
Tribal Child Welfare			
V	Charis Erhardt, CCTHITA	A	Brittany Madros, TCC
State of Alaska			
X	Senator David Wilson <i>(Jody Simpson)</i>	P	Representative Julie Coulombe
V	Alex Hildebrand, Law	P	Steven Bookman, Law
A	Emily Ricci, DOH DC	V	Clinton Lasley, DFCS DC
P	Dr. Anne Zink, CMO	V	Sharon Fishel, DEED

A (absent)      P (in person)      V (present, virtual)      X (delegate or proxy present)

### IN-PERSON ATTENDEES

Alysa Wooden, Steph Kings, Heidi Hedberg, Travis Welch, Chris Robison, Nicole Lebo, Laura Russell, Lynne Keilman-Cruz, Ashley Christopherson, Amaris Rosario, Courtney Enright

### VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

Gennifer Moreau-Johnson, Brian Sandoval, Tracy Dompeling, Joanne Singleton, Chrissy Vogeley, Charity Lee, Autumn Vea, Stephanie Hopkins, Lisa Brown, Jenny Weisshaupt, Leah Van Kirk



## WELCOME, MISSION, INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Zink provided an overview of the project mission and purpose. She noted:

- Adolescent behavioral health is a nationwide crisis, not limited to Alaska. We are engaging in conversations with other states and federal partners on solutions.
- The structure of the Behavioral Health Roadmap project was described in the state's April 2023 [Overview of Alaska's Behavioral Health System of Care for Children](#).
- The Steering Committee will provide guidance and act in an advisory capacity through the end of December 2023. Within the first phase of the behavioral health roadmap effort, the Committee will identify regions and establish regional behavioral health workgroups, which will identify key needs, service gaps, barriers, and solutions, along with recommendations for implementation. The Committee will ensure that regional workgroup recommendations are referenced in a comprehensive statewide roadmap, which will also incorporate public input.

Steering Committee members and other attendees introduced themselves.

## PROJECT TIMELINE

Dr. Zink walked through the Project Timeline depicted in Appendix A of the Agenda materials.

- This provides a macro view of the project's timeline, scope, and time constraints.
- We have worked with our tribal partners to ensure alignment on this timeline.
- The goal is to conduct all regional work in time to solicit public input and finalize the information received by December 2023.
- More detailed work will occur between Steering Committee and Regional Workgroup meetings to facilitate work moving forward.

Some discussion occurred about the amount of work anticipated during this short timeframe.

## REGIONS

Dr. Zink, Laura Russell, and Nicole Lebo provided an overview of Appendix B: Proposed Regions.

- The purpose of the table is to provide context for the process of selecting the regions proposed for this project. It shows three different sources for regional boundaries, next to the proposed Roadmap Regions.
- These regions are proposed only for purposes of the 2023 summer regional workgroups. They are not intended to be definitive or dictate future layouts.
- Metlakatla is specifically listed under Southeast because none of the other region sources listed it, and we want to ensure it is included.
- Kodiak is grayed out in Southwest places because it appears in multiple regions. For purposes of the Roadmap project, we have Kodiak under Southcentral.

Discussion:

- Monique Martin pointed out that the Tribal Health regions are from the ANTHC Epidemiology section and asked that the table include that clarifying information.



- Sharon Fishal offered to share where each school district was located and asked that that information be included.
- Multiple members expressed concern about potential overlap/conflicts with other events, conferences, and subsistence schedules during the summer.
- Regional work needs to take into account tribal organizations as well as school districts.
- Several members suggested extending the timeline for regional work so that not all regions would have to host workgroups before December.
- Other members reiterated the urgency of this work and that it must be prioritized so that we address the needs of children who are in crisis.
- Dr. Zink affirmed that the discussion and improvements suggested underscore the reason and purpose for the Steering Committee

Consensus was reached on the following:

- The proposed 5 Behavioral Health Roadmap regions are adopted for purposes of this project. The table will be updated to include additional information. As regional work continues, each region will be fleshed out in more detail to be inclusive of all appropriate geographical areas and interested stakeholders.
- The tentative regional order in Appendix D is approved for purposes of reaching out to regions and confirming their availability and interest.
- Fairbanks is approved as the first location, pending that region's confirmation – project coordinators will reach out to Fairbanks to begin coordination before the next meeting.
- The accelerated timeline is agreed upon, with the understanding that any major barriers jeopardizing the timeline will be brought to the Steering Committee for further discussion and action and adjustments can be made if necessary.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Two individuals provided verbal public comment.

Malan Paquette: commented that the timeline is immediate, any information gathered is valuable, and arguing about dates is not productive. There is a massive provider shortage in Alaska. Commented on her personal experience trying to work in psychology.

Tama Ben-Yosef: commented that Help Me Grow Alaska does collect information from communities and this Committee should consider obtaining data from HMGA rather than having to travel.

## OTHER DISCUSSION

- Tribal Behavioral Health Directors have expressed a preference for a rural host location for the Southcentral regional workgroup.
- Considerations for scheduling should include AFN and ABHA and AHA statewide meetings.
- Appendix E: Regional Event Structure is intended as a very high level vision of regional workgroup structure. The project coordinators will provide more detailed proposals for the Steering Committee's next meeting. How long the event should be will be an item for discussion.
- Fairbanks' Pediatric Behavioral Health Summit held this summer offered a helpful preview of how regional work can be conducted.



- Marketing public notice needs to be adequately organized in advance of workgroups.
- Each community affirming their input in advance of it being shared out on their behalf is important to ensure they have been heard and understood, thus building a bridge for future meaningful engagement.
- Steering Committee Members should contact [laura.russell@alaska.gov](mailto:laura.russell@alaska.gov) to propose any resources necessary to prepare for the July 24 meeting, in addition to those listed in Appendix D.
- A draft Charter will be prepared and shared with Committee members in advance of the next meeting for discussion and refinement.

## NEXT MEETING

July 24, 2023 – location to be determined.

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEXT STEPS

- Read all provided materials prior to July 24.
- Submit any known considerations for scheduling, such as conference dates.
- Submit any proposed material for next meeting as soon as possible.
- Contact Laura Russell with questions or input.

## PROJECT COORDINATORS NEXT STEPS

- Continue regular tribal partner workgroups
- Contact Fairbanks to begin planning regional workgroup.
- Begin coordinating with all 5 regions to determine if proposed dates and locations are feasible.
- Prepare detailed proposed agendas and regional workgroup plan for next meeting.