

Employment Committee Updates



Anna Attla, Committee Chair

Lanny Mommsen, Research Analyst 3

Current Committee Members

Anna Attla
Committee Chair

Jena Crafton

Lisa McDonald

Margaret Evans

Mariah Krueger

Samantha Vetter
Council Staff

Committee/Staff Activities

- DVR/GCDSE Co-hosted the Employment First Conference
- Total participants: 90 in person, 67 virtual
- Total exhibitor booths: 17
- Total speakers: 18

Held WMTF Meeting Nov 6, 2024

Commented on Federal Proposed Rule for 14c
(Subminimum Wage)





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Current 2024/2025 Cohort:

Anchorage Providence Medical Center - 6

Fairbanks Memorial Hospital - 6

Mat Su Regional Medical Center - 5

Teachers continuing finishing 23/24 cohort employment outcomes for the 17 total graduates

Joy Burgess as new Cincinnati Children's Hospital liaison, assisting with:

- Continued discussions for partnerships to open new Project SEARCH site
- Handouts and recruitment materials/events
- Preparation for July 2025 Austin, TX PS National Conference



The Alumni Association will:

- Provide updates on employment opportunities, independent living, benefits, and re-entering the workforce.
- Gather input from alumni to learn about the Project SEARCH experience and life after Project SEARCH.
- Offer webinars, continued education, and resources to keep members connected.
- Create a space for alumni to share their interests, hobbies, and updates.

Membership is free and open to all Project SEARCH graduates, families, guardians, and Project SEARCH staff.



Join the Project SEARCH Alumni Association by providing your name and email with this link or QR code!

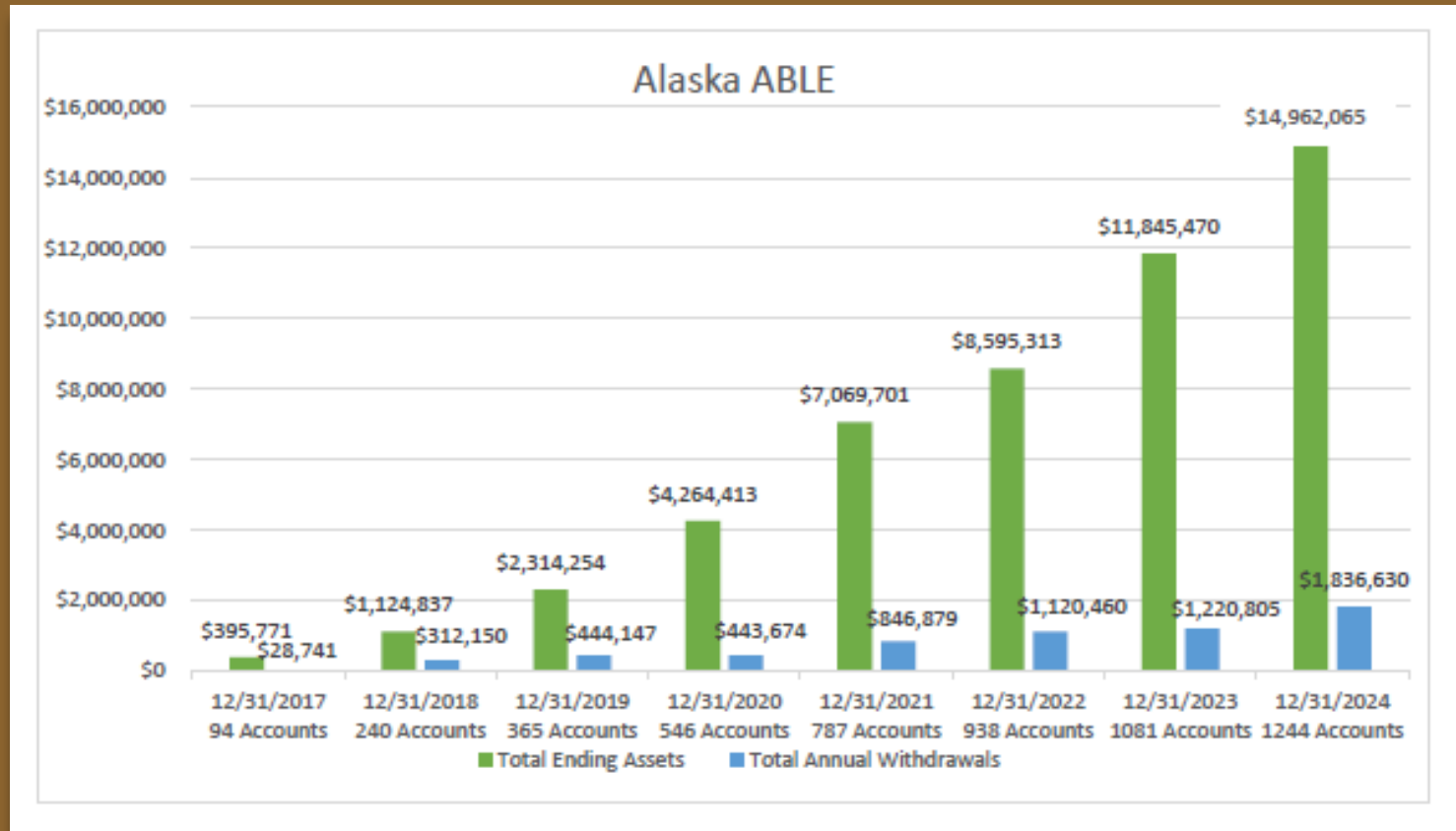
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MN6MQDN>

Alaska ABLÉ Accounts

Accounts increased by **15%** for 2024, total of 1244 accounts

Assets increased by **26%** to \$14,962,065

Withdrawal of \$1,836,630 for disability expenses



- Current annual deposit is \$19,000 per year
- Additional \$18,810 for ABLÉ to Work contributions (Alaska amount)
- Total account balances limited to \$400,000 with \$100,000 or less excluded from SSI resource limits
- ABLÉ Age Adjustment Act will begin in January 2026, increasing age of disability onset from 26 to 46

Disability Innovation Fund - Pathways Grant SILC/SAIL/CHD Partners

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Continued bi-weekly meetings with DIF Team
Presentation on February 3, 2025 at ASSEC Conference



Microenterprise Grants

Support self-employment for Alaskans with Developmental Disabilities by serving on Microenterprise Grant Committee

Review, input, and provide recommendations on Microenterprise Grant Applications.

Grant Applications are processed 2x per year

For last year:

Applications reviewed in October 2023/April 2024
for 17 total applicants

7 of the 17 were DD applicants

Total funding granted was \$96,551.29

Current applications due March 5, 2025 by Noon

****Goal is to increase the number of DD grant awardees****

Questions?

