



Governor's Council on
Disabilities and Special
Education
May 29, 2025



New CEO Joins the Trust

Mary Wilson, MD
joined the Trust on
January 22, 2025





Trustees

- **Brent Fisher**, *Chair*
- **Agnes Moran**, *Vice Chair, Program & Planning Committee Chair*
- **Anita Halterman**, *Secretary*
- **Corri Feige**, *Resource Management Committee Chair*
- **Kevin Fimon**, *Audit & Risk Committee Chair*
- **John Morris**, *Finance Committee Chair*
- **Josie Hickel**, *Trustee*

Trust Beneficiaries

Trust beneficiaries include Alaskans who experience:

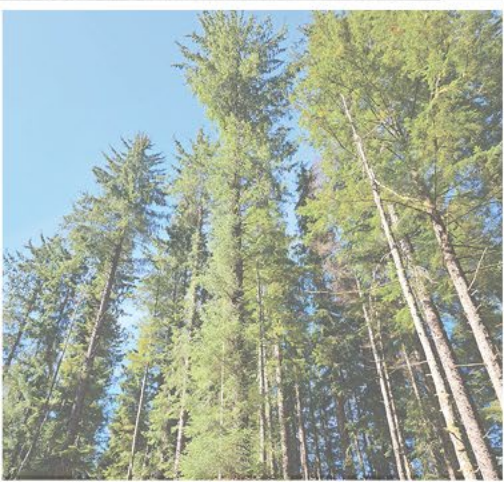
- Mental illnesses
- Intellectual and/or developmental disabilities
- Alzheimer's disease and related dementia
- Traumatic brain injuries
- Substance use disorders





Role of the Trust

- Administer the Mental Health Trust, a perpetual trust
- Improve lives and circumstances of Trust beneficiaries
- Protect and enhance value of Trust lands while maximizing revenues from them over time





Trust Focus Areas

The Trust develops its budget and engages in grantmaking, advocacy, and system improvement efforts around the following areas:

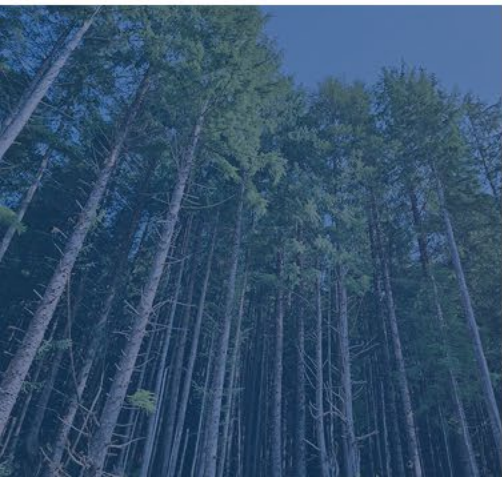
Established Focus Areas

- Disability Justice
- Mental Health & Addiction Intervention
 - Includes Behavioral Health Crisis Response
- Beneficiary Employment & Engagement
- Housing and Home & Community Based Services



Additional Priorities

- Workforce Development
- Early Childhood Intervention & Youth



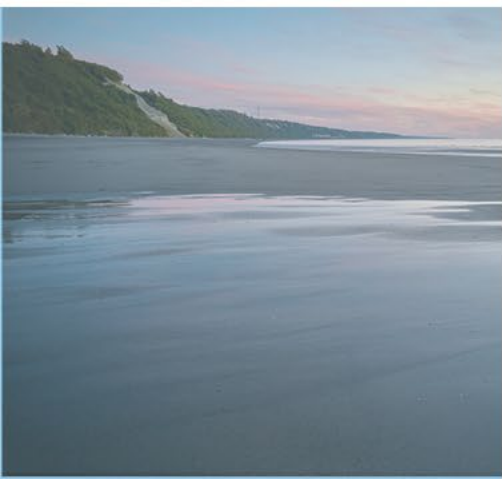
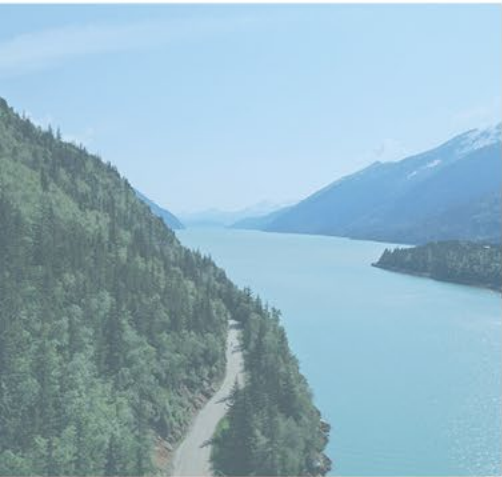


Trust Grant Making

Trustees approve grants four times a year, February, May, August, and November

Partnership and Focus Area Grants

- VOA grant for increasing youth residential SUD to include 3.7 beds for youth
- RYC grant for building out the Sealevel facility in Ketchikan, a drop-in center designed to reduce barriers to access for youth in crisis
- AIA/AK Impact Alliance grant for supporting unlicensed families/Kinship with financial support and resources
- Reach 907 award for strategic planning and financial capacity building grant in Wasilla, an agency that works on restoring, empowering, and strengthening Alaska's at-risk youth and families





Additional Trust Grants

Partnership and Focus Area Grants

- Hope Community Resources capital grant for work on their residential homes
- Grant support for Stone Soup Group conference on building capacity with families who care for ID/DD Trust beneficiaries
- AK Association on Developmental Disabilities grant for expanding evidence-based and promising employment and engagement practices
- Grant for Tundra Women's Coalition in Bethel for transitional housing for youth 18-24

Legislative Committee Presentations

2.5.25 House Finance

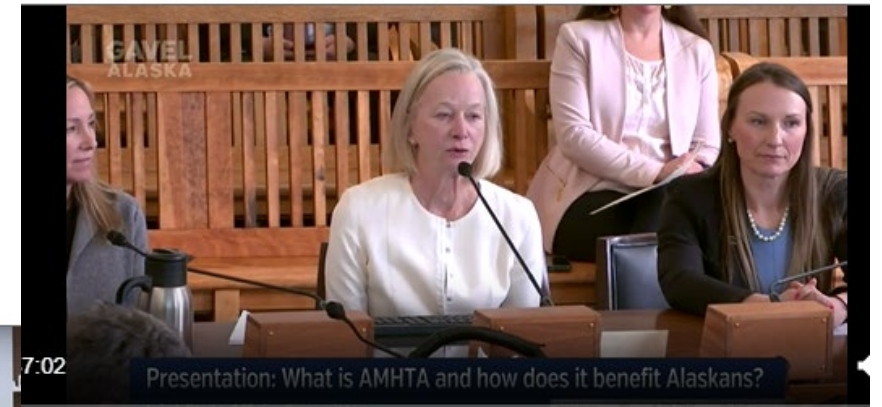
2.6.25 Senate Finance

3.4.25 Senate HSS

4.3.25 Joint State Affairs

5.8.25 House HSS Senate

Meetings with lawmakers





FY27 Budget Engagement & Planning Cycle

Statutory Advisory Boards - RFR

State partners

Beneficiaries

Community, Tribal and local government

Beneficiary serving organizations

Data

Trust
staff &
trustees



Mini Grant Process Updates

Updates include:

- A new and improved application portal
- An updated grant application
- Revised program guidelines to clarify both the grant processes and program requirements

Note: The eligibility and general process for the mini grants will not be changing

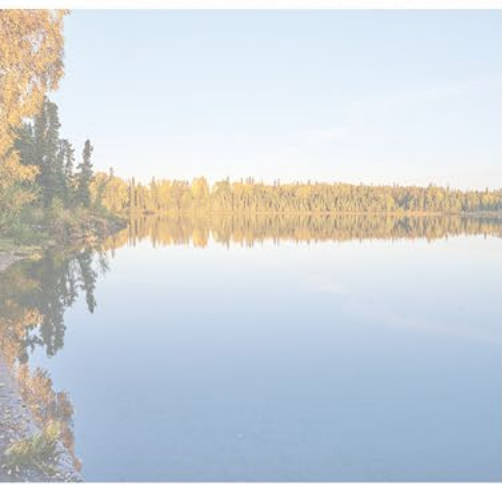
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Mini Grant Guidelines & Required Documentation	
About the Mini Grants	
What are the Mini Grants?	<p>The mini grant program provides beneficiaries of the Trust with a broad range of equipment, supplies, and services to improve the quality of life, increase independent functioning, and help them attain and maintain healthy and productive lifestyles.</p> <p>The Trust awards mini grants, up to \$2,500 per beneficiary, depending on need, with a limit of one grant per fiscal year (July 1 - June 30). Mini grants are awarded to an agency on behalf of a beneficiary.</p> <p>Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) mini grants are awarded monthly throughout the fiscal year.</p>
Who is eligible for an Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Mini Grant?	<p>For the I/DD mini grant program, beneficiaries of the Trust include the following broad groups of individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• People with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and• Youth enrolled in early intervention or an infant learning program. <p>The State of Alaska criteria can be found here: https://www.akleg.gov/basis/statutes.asp#47.80.900</p>
Who can apply for the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Mini Grant?	<p>The Trust is not able to grant directly to an individual or their family member, so an agency must apply on behalf of the beneficiary and be responsible for accepting the grant funds if awarded.</p> <p>Community agencies may access the online application site at: https://www.alaska-mental-disabilities.org/</p>





IDD System Provider Sustainability Assessment

- Contractor selected: Effective Health Design
- Project will work with partners to help identify internal and external barriers to sustainability
- Work planned over the next 10 months

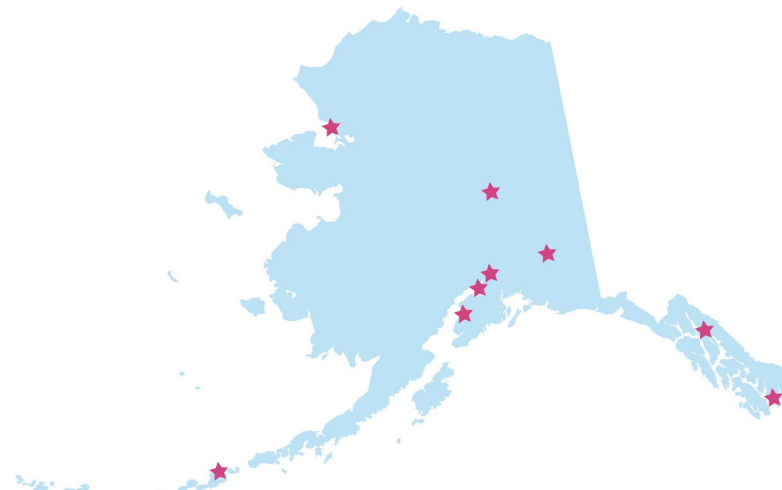


Continued Commitment to *Crisis Now*

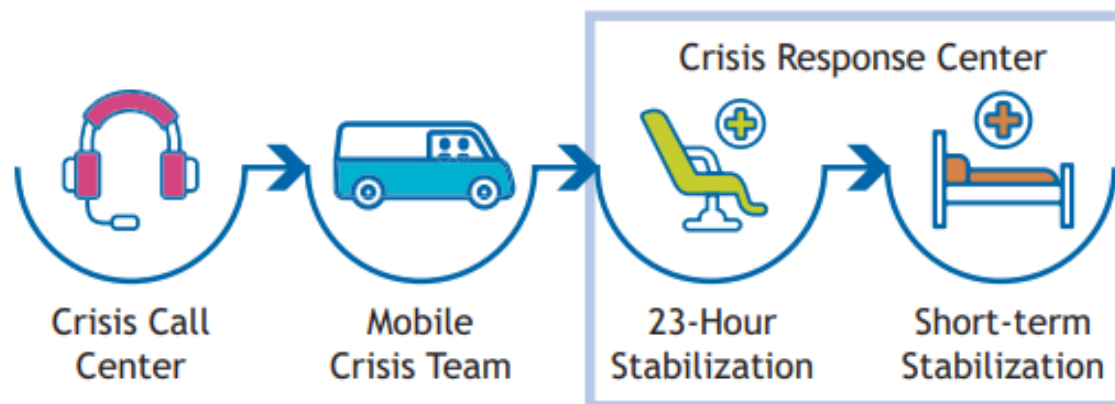
Since the initiative's launch in 2019, the Trust has invested roughly \$20M in planning and grantmaking around psychiatric emergency response.

Crisis service planning and implementation underway in:

Anchorage
Mat-Su
Fairbanks
Juneau
Ketchikan
Kenai Peninsula
Kotzebue
Copper Basin
Unalaska

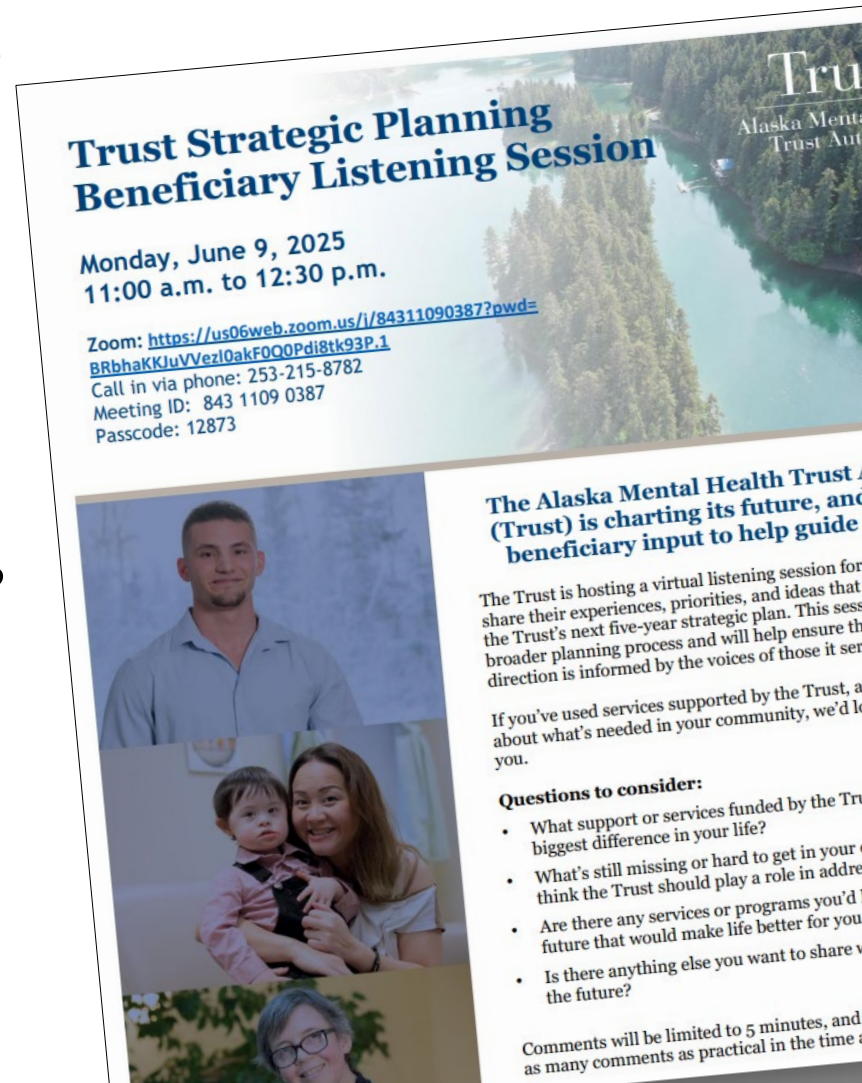


Someone to Talk to, Someone to Respond and a Place to Go



Beneficiary Listening Session, June 9

- Part of Trustee Strategic Planning
- June 9, 11-12:30, virtual
- Survey option, link on our webpage
- We're asking:
 - What support or services funded by the Trust have made the biggest difference in your life?
 - What's still missing or hard to get in your community that you think the Trust should play a role in addressing?
 - Are there any services or programs you'd like to see in the future that would make life better for you or people you know?
 - Is there anything else you want to share with us as we plan for the future?



Thank you!

Trust
Alaska Mental Health
Trust Authority

QUESTIONS?

Learn more: alaskamentalhealthtrust.org

