

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN**

**THE
DENALI COMMISSION**

**THE
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

**AND THE
ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AUTHORITY**

**STATEWIDE STRATEGY FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT RESIDENTIAL
PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT FACILITIES**

September 2004

I. PARTIES

This document constitutes an Agreement between the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services hereinafter referred to as the A-DHSS, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority hereinafter referred to as the Trust and the Denali Commission hereinafter referred to as the Commission.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Agreement is to facilitate collaboration in the strategic development of a plan for children and adolescent residential psychiatric treatment centers. This Agreement applies to short term and long term efforts.

This Agreement provides roles and responsibilities specifically to the Commission's Amendment #2 to Project # 0136-DC-2004-I22 for three (3) pilot projects including Southcentral Foundation, Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation and Juneau Youth Services.

This Agreement also enters the PARTIES into a binding Agreement for long term collaboration on the oversight of the initiative to restructure the service delivery model for referring and treating adolescents in a residential psychiatric setting as well as the entire continuum of care established by the A-DHSS.

III. MUTUAL INTEREST OF THE PARTIES

While this Agreement references the facility component of this initiative, the PARTIES recognize the need for programmatic/service principles to precede major facility development.

The A-DHSS has identified the initiative of restructuring the existing service delivery model for treating children and adolescents needing residential psychiatric care and the continuum of services for this population.

The Trust has identified this initiative as a priority, has established a work group to address systematic program questions and has committed significant funding toward that

end. The work group has issued a preliminary report charting the course for this initiative, which includes needed facilities as one area of importance.

The Denali Commission at the recommendation of its Health Steering Committee also identified this area as a priority, committing \$250,000 of FFY04 health facilities funding toward the planning/design of pilot project(s) to prepare for construction.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

The PARTIES agree to:

Utilize existing work group(s) and subcommittee(s) as subject matter experts to assure the pilot projects proceed in developing service delivery models consistent with the principles in development by all PARTIES.

a. The Commission

- i. The Commission shall provide recommendations on policies, on project scopes and conduct evaluation of individual project compliance to Denali Commission policies.**
- ii. The Commission shall look to the Trust and A-DHSS for policy guidance on programmatic questions, and shall focus its activity toward answering facility questions. This function will be critical in demonstrating sustainability of programs.**
- iii. The Commission intends to look to the PARTNERS and the MOA for guidance on the long term strategic plan for allocating facility funding in this area.**

b. The Trust

- i. The Trust shall be briefed regularly by the A-DHSS on project status and consulted by the Commission (through the A-DHSS liaison) on programmatic/service delivery questions.**
- ii. The Trust shall assure consistent and appropriate provider representation on key issues and shall facilitate communication of such issues among the PARTIES. While consensus within the provider community may not always be attainable, consensus among the PARTIES on such issues is a goal of this Agreement.**

c. The A-DHSS

- i. The A-DHSS shall act as a catalyst for bringing cohesion to these efforts and will provide liaison functions among the PARTIES. This includes policy recommendations to both the Trust and Commission.**
- ii. The A-DHSS shall provide grant administration to applicants.**
- iii. The A-DHSS shall work to establish functional roles and responsibilities within the Department to assure these activities are conducted effectively and efficiently.**

V. APPORTIONMENT OF COSTS AND SERVICES

The Denali Commission shall provide funding in the amount of \$250,000 for use in planning of service delivery model and design of the following applicant facilities: Southcentral Foundation, Juneau Youth Services and Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

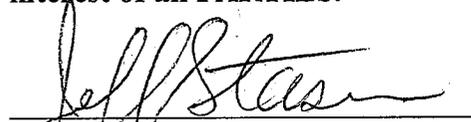
VI. STRATEGIC PLAN TIMELINE

The PARTIES agree that the following work products will be complete by April 2005 (when the Commission should have its FY05 health facility funding available).

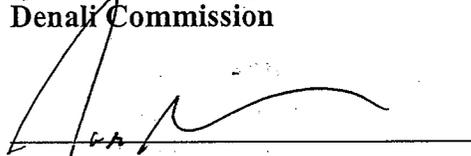
1. Signature of this MOA
2. A-DHSS provides clear definition of roles and responsibilities for coordinating the projects within the A-DHSS.
3. Three projects should have developed the following:
 - a. Draft service delivery model
 - b. Draft scope of work for financial award for administration.
4. These documents will be reviewed by the Trust and by the Commission for concurrence. Implementation shall proceed on a case by case basis as appropriate.

VII. OTHER PROVISIONS

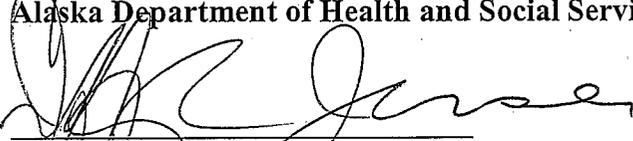
Nothing herein is intended to conflict with current directives of all the parties. If the terms of this Agreement are inconsistent with existing directives of any of the organizations entering into this Agreement, then those portions of this Agreement which are determined to be inconsistent shall be invalid; but the remaining terms and conditions not affected by the inconsistency shall remain in full force and effect. At the first opportunity for review of the Agreement, all necessary changes will be accomplished by either an Amendment to this Agreement or by entering into a new Agreement, whichever is deemed expedient to the interest of all PARTIES.



**Jeffrey B. Staser, Federal Co-chair
Denali Commission**



**Joel Gilbertson, Commissioner
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services**



**Jeff Jessee, Executive Director
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority**