



## *Alaska WINGS*

### **Vision – the Dream**

Design an effective system of processes that maximizes the support of vulnerable adults in Alaska.

### **Mission – The What and Why**

To ensure a functional and responsive adult guardianship system that maximizes self-determination, avoids unnecessary guardianships using less restrictive alternatives and prevents and addresses abuse through monitoring and education.

### ***May 25, 2021 Minutes 9am to 11am***

#### **I. Welcome and Housekeeping.**

- a. Anne Applegate is leaving the council and Jess Doherty will be joining WINGS for the council. Anne will remain on the committee. Welcome Jess!
- b. Marge Stoneking now represents AARP for the WINGS committee. Welcome Marge!

#### **II. Committee Reports and Announcements:**

##### **Court Improvement & Monitoring**

- a. This committee has been officially combined given the overlapping tasks
- b. The court applied for a grant through the Administration on Community Living Elder Justice Innovation on guardianship improvement. If received, it will begin 9/1/21 and help with the hiring of additional staff for both the court and the court's self-help department with the added component on guardianship.
- c. Lisa Wawrzonek presented at the April 2021 MJ conference on monitoring with interest from other courts to adopt the monitoring project we've been doing in Anchorage.
- d. The long-awaited Income and expense tracker app is in the final stages. The Court and ASAGA working on the final touches and hope to have a small pilot by the end of summer.

## **Probate Rules**

- a. At the time of the meeting, Stacy Steinberg was presenting the probate rules to the Supreme Court but since the meeting, they have been adopted and were sent out mid June and will go into effect on 10/15/21. This committee while still convened, is on hold until needed.

## **Alternatives**

- a. Jess Doherty will step onto WINGS for the Governor's Council and Anne will let us know who will chair this committee which still actively meets.
- b. Next steps for the committee is to look at deepening capacity
- c. There are currently 27 SDMA in AK; 3 of which terminated guardianship orders.
- d. Now working with the ADRC's and the Independent Living Centers on SDMA
- e. First stages of an app are in development
- f. Goal is to have 30 more SDMA agreements within the year.

## **Statute Committee**

- a. Teresa Holt provided the documents on guardianship related change recommendations. The committee is taking the summer off for comments on these changes and feedback and will continue on. Conservatorship committee still working on their piece.
- b. The committee is also looking at contacting the elder law and probate sections of the bar for comments
- c. There was discussion on HB 139 that discusses succession planning where a guardian can appoint a new guardian in a will and that a guardian can withdraw life sustaining treatment.
  - i. This bill did not pass this session
  - ii. Discussion of working with AARP and WINGS on this bill

## **III. Further Discussion**

- a. At the January 2021 meeting, we had a presentation on a volunteer guardianship committee and Lisa sent out emails with documents related to that organization. This was briefly discussed at this meeting and will be added to the agenda; a discussion on forming a committee to see about alternative organizations to use for appointments whether a private entity or volunteer program etc.

**NEXT MEETING 9/14/21 FROM 1PM TO 3PM**