

## Alaska WINGS Stakeholder Committee December 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes

At this meeting, the stakeholders finalized the Vision and Mission statement and discussed initial goals. While some goals will be easier to implement; others will take time and need further discussion. Please contact Lisa Wawrzonek, WINGS Coordinator with any questions or comments at [lwawrzonek@akcourts.us](mailto:lwawrzonek@akcourts.us) or 907-264-0868.

The next WINGS meeting will be March 20, 2018.

### **Vision**

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

### **Mission**

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.

Between September and November, the WINGS coordinator completed the 13 community forums with 135 people participating in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Bethel, Soldotna, Homer, Dillingham, Nome, Kotzebue, Wasilla and Valdez. The forums were to obtain community input into the guardianship system in Alaska and provide information. This information was then disseminated to the stakeholders and committees.

There is also a survey available for those who could not participate located on the Self-Help Tab of the Alaska Court System website.

A webinar will be held on January 25, 2018 from 4pm to 5pm to provide a verbal update and provide for comment.

### **Committees and overall purpose:**

- 1) Steering
  - a. To ensure the sustainability and progress of the WINGS program in Alaska.
- 2) Court Improvement
  - a. To address inconsistency and inefficiency within the court system regarding adult guardianship
- 3) Alternatives
  - a. To address the need for additional alternatives to adult guardianship in Alaska
- 4) Monitoring
  - a. To address the need for consistent, sustainable and necessary monitoring of current guardian and conservator orders
- 5) Education
  - a. To address overall educational needs with regards to both the adult guardianship system and areas that affect guardians/conservators

## **Initial Goals of WINGS Committees from meeting minutes**

1. Court Improvement
  - a. Uniform timeframe to distribute orders
  - b. Uniform amount of certified orders provided upon appointment
  - c. Further discussion on emergency petitions and definitions of expedited petitions with clarification on when either is appropriate to file
  - d. Consistent practices on when to file when a child turns 18
  - e. Consistent practices on courts reviewing and notifying guardians about annual reports whether approved or deficient.
  - f. Education on annual reports
  - g. Update on the instructions for annual reports
2. Alternatives
  - a. Develop audience specific training content specifically on Alternatives and SDMA's
  - b. Improve systems for assisting wards with restoration of rights
  - c. Serve as the Advisory Council for pilot project being started at Hope Community Services
3. Monitoring
  - a. Develop/simplify the annual report by eliminating redundant questions and discussion of required attachments for accounting
  - b. Potential split between non-professional and professional reports; further discussion and information to be obtained
  - c. Recommend consistent review of annual reports by courts
  - d. Long term goal of online reporting
4. Education
  - a. Waiting for initial video project to be completed before expanding on various guardianship topics
  - b. Discussed starting on topics where guardians are expected to manage such as benefits
  - c. Recognize that much of the education will flow from other committees as they improve practices etc.
  - d. Would like to have an educational entity such as ASAGA, Court system etc. to assist non-professional guardians navigate the system and provide education for all levels of guardianship professionals.