

Alaska Center for Children and Adults

Stepping Stones



ACCA
Alaska Center for Children and Adults

Finding the ability in disability

Annual Report FY 2014: July 2013 - June 2014

Fairbanks North Star Borough | Copper River Basin | Delta Junction | North Slope

From the Executive Director & Board President



Rodney Perdue
Board President



Susan Kessler
Executive Director

Each day here at ACCA we have the privilege of walking side by side with children and adults who experience disabilities and their families. Each family is following their own path and we hope that the services we provide are helping them reach their goals. This is the heartfelt purpose of all of our programs and services – to assist individuals and their families in envisioning their future and providing or helping them access resources to achieve their dreams. Our family-focused model means a different way of doing business, joining families in real life out in the real world.

The ACCA staff and Board of Directors are dedicated to this model, even when it presents us with unique challenges. We would like to thank the current and past dedicated Board members, staff, volunteers and supporters of ACCA who make it possible for us to “think outside the box”. We would also like to thank the families with whom we work for allowing us into their lives. Together, we can follow the stepping stones we lay down to a bright future.

Warm Regards,

Rodney Perdue

Susan E. Kessler

Board of Directors

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LaVada “Sam” Bush, Vice President

Shirley Williams, Secretary

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Family Field Day participant
enjoys the water balloon toss.

*The only difference between stumbling blocks and
stepping stones is the way in which we use them.*

Staff

Angie Gingue

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Kristin Bradshaw

Carrie Plant

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Speech Clinic

Speech Clinic supports young adults and adults with cognitive and communication disorders with an emphasis of fulfilling unmet needs in the Fairbanks community. Areas of focus include acquired brain injuries, augmentative communication, voice disorders, fluency (stuttering) disorders, and auditory skill rehabilitation.

This year our Speech Pathologist completed her training to become a Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS). We became the only distributor of SpeechEasy fluency devices in the state, which are used to reduce stuttering. **22 individuals seen** Speech Clinic Technology Lab continues to be a meaningful volunteer-based group, which helps Speech Clinic clients use their own technology to support tasks of daily living. ACCA staff have been moving forward with plans to transition to an Electronic Health Record in order to meet Medicare requirements.



Tech Lab participant works with our ExxonMobil summer intern, Leah.

Many of our Speech Clinic clients have benefitted from our building remodel project, enjoying our new lobby design that allows them to check in for their appointments through a wheelchair accessible window. Speech Clinic remains committed to supporting clients in meeting their own life and learning goals through one-on-one therapy and the use of natural supports.

Loan Closet

ACCA Loan Closet continues to provide an important service to the Fairbanks community as well as the surrounding areas. This year we were able to support individuals who were in Fairbanks from as far away as San Jose, California! Our equipment also got a workout during our popular disability awareness obstacle course at Family Field Day.

On-site storage has always been a challenge for our loan closet program; however, our agency remodel has given us a new ground-floor storage closet for wheelchairs and more basement storage available for additional equipment. The equipment available through loan closet helps individuals establish and maintain mobility in order to continue participating in life activities. **45 families served**

Infant Learning Program

ACCA Infant Learning Program (ILP) is constantly striving to develop our program services based on 7 Key Principles as outlined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP):

- Infants and toddlers learn best through everyday experiences and interactions with familiar people in familiar contexts.
- All families, with the necessary supports and resources, can enhance their children's learning and development.
- The primary role of a service provider in early intervention is to work with and support family members and caregivers in children's lives.
- The early intervention process, from initial contacts through transition, must be dynamic and individualized to reflect the child's and family members' preferences, learning styles and cultural beliefs.
- IFSP outcomes must be functional and based on children's and families' needs and family-identified priorities.
- The family's priorities, needs, and interests are addressed most appropriately by a primary provider who represents and receives team and community support.
- Interventions with young children and family members must be based on explicit principles, validated practices, best available research, and relevant laws and regulations.

421

families served

FACES Team

(Fetal Alcohol Community Evaluation Services)

Caregivers of children who experience Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders often find that parenting and behavior strategies they have used in the past are not effective with children prenatally exposed to alcohol. The FACES staff provide trainings that help caregivers understand the brain-based differences of children with FASD and learn effective strategies to address social and behavioral concerns.

Our core services provide FASD diagnosis and recommendations to children across the northern and central regions of Alaska. We are pleased to add a psychologist to the team who practices in Nome, and to provide the FASD 4-Digit Diagnostic Code training to several psychology interns working in villages in the Norton Sound region. Program staff are participants in the Alaska FASD Partnership steering committee, working with statewide leaders to develop prevention and intervention programs that will benefit children and families around the state. **30 diagnoses made**

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Thank you to all of our donors, supporters, members and volunteers who believe in our mission! Please accept our sincere apologies for anyone we may have inadvertently left out or listed incorrectly.

Community Supports

ACCA has continued its work this year to provide essential training, education and supports to families, staff, and community providers in the communities we serve.

FACES implemented a new 8-week FASD into Action series. Sessions offer training for caregivers while children and youth participate in a therapeutic social skills group. With support of United Way of the Tanana Valley Substance Abuse Initiative funds, we continue to provide monthly FASD family swim nights. This year, FACES staff also provided training to caregivers in several residential care facilities in Fairbanks.

Facility Renovation

ACCA has made huge progress in facility renovations this year.

Functional changes include:

- Development of the ACCA Community Center (original facility)
- Designation of a suite of offices for ILP
- Lobby, front office suite and conference room renovations
- Redesigned storage areas

Building improvements include:

- New roof
- Upgraded air handler (which now includes air conditioning)
- New signs and flower boxes
- Interior and exterior building painting
- New flooring

Next summer work begins with the City of Fairbanks as they install sidewalks on West Barnette, at which time we will upgrade our parking lots. All of the ACCA staff deserve thanks for their patience and positive attitudes as we have weathered these many changes.

ILP sponsored Hanen's It Takes Two to Talk training for providers around Alaska. The program trains Early Intervention providers from all disciplines to help families support their child's language learning.

Speech Clinic is developing a training with emphasis on education of caregivers and providers for adults with communication disabilities. Speech Clinic has also hosted a community training raising awareness of communication rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

ACCA has entered its third and final year of a project funded by the State of Alaska, which supports young children with social emotional concerns. We have provided consultation and training to Early Care and Learning providers, Child Protective Services staff, and mental health clinicians. This year we also hosted a series of trainings highlighting perinatal mood and anxiety disorders.

Communities we serve...



Anaktuvuk Pass
Anchorage
Anderson
Arctic Village
Atkasuk
Barrow
Central
Copper Center
Delta
Eielson AFB
Fairbanks
Fort Yukon
Fort Wainwright
Gakona
Gambell
Girdwood
Glennallen

Golovin
Kaktovik
Minto
Nenana
Nome
North Pole
Nuiqsut
Nulato
Pt Lay
Salcha
Savoonga
Shishmaref
St Michael
Stebbins
Unalakleet
Wainwright

Statement of Net Assets

June 30, 2013 & 2014

		2014	Audited 2013
Assets	Cash and Cash Equivalents	437,091	284,468
	Receivables	200,950	260,390
	Prepaid Expenses	92,029	45,149
	Investments	70,330	70,155
	Restricted Cash	484,256	676,807
	PPE - Net	445,707	163,650
	Total Assets	1,730,363	1,500,619
Liabilities & Net Assets	Payables	16,788	14,060
	Accrued Expenses	242,822	207,323
	Deferred Revenue	7,908	-
	Total Liabilities	267,518	221,383
	Net Assets - Unrestricted		
	Designated	104,708	104,708
	Undesignated	671,337	487,728
	Net Assets - Temporarily Restricted	686,800	686,800
Total Net Assets	1,462,845	1,279,236	
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	1,730,363	1,500,619	



A patron of ACCA's Family Field Day enjoys the disability awareness obstacle course.
Family Field Day is a fun, free event, with activities for the whole family.

Statement of Activities & Changes in Net Assets

For years ending June 30, 2014 & 2013

		2014	Audited 2013
Revenue	Grants	1,503,691	1,296,858
	Program Services	494,009	491,078
	Contributions	120,504	50,320
	Fundraisers	5,365	-
	Other Revenue	11,635	39,747
	Total Revenue	2,135,204	1,878,003
	Expenses	Personnel Services	1,466,541
Professional Fees/Contracts		147,689	131,709
Facility Expense		169,800	59,686
Supplies/Equipment		51,237	53,766
Travel/Conferences		86,887	90,450
Other Expense		75,147	36,784
Expenses before Depreciation		1,997,302	1,768,780
Depreciation		41,275	43,171
Allowance for Bad Debt		466	-
Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets		-	-
Total Expenses	2,039,043	1,811,951	
Net Asset Changes	Change in Net Assets	96,162	66,052
	Beginning Net Assets	1,279,236	1,213,184
	Ending Net Assets	1,375,398	1,279,236

In the end, it all comes to choices to turn stumbling blocks into stepping stones.

- Amber Frey -

We have a new website!
Visit us at:
www.alaskacenter.org



ACCA

Alaska Center for Children and Adults

Finding the ability in disability

Our mission is to assist in improving the lives of people with disabilities and their families by providing quality diagnostic, therapeutic, educational and referral services in conjunction with other community providers without regard to ability to pay.