



RESOURCE BOOK

*Foster and Adoptive Parent CORE Training
Fairbanks, Alaska
October 2007*

Office of Children's Services

AS OF October 2007

OCS IN JUNEAU:

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA: **Sarah Palin**

COMMISSIONER OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES: **Karleen Jackson**

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES: **Tammy Sandoval**

OCS STATE FOSTER CARE COORDINATOR: **Tracy Spartz-Campbell**

OCS FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE

751 Old Richardson Highway, Suite 300
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

THIRD FLOOR RECEPTION DESK: 451-2650

FAX Social Worker 451-2616

CHILDREN'S SERVICES MANAGER: **Christy Lawton** (responsible for the operation of the entire Northern Region) 451-2650

STAFF MANAGER: **Sara Alden**, (Supervises Fairbanks Intake and Ongoing Unit Supervisors) 451-2650

RURAL STAFF MANAGER: **Susan Arts** (Supervises rural offices) 451-2650

LICENSING UNIT SUPERVISOR: **Yurii Miller** 451-5074

To email any OCS worker or staff member, use this format: firstname.lastname@alaska.gov. So, worker John Smith would have this email address: john.smith@alaska.gov.

Sometimes you may know a worker by an abbreviated first name, such as Ray instead of Raybert, and that email would be returned to you as undeliverable. In that case, go to the State of Alaska website at <http://www.state.ak.us>, and look on the lower left of the page for "state employee directory." Clicking on that will lead you to a place where you can type in a last or first name and find every state employee with that name. If there are two employees with the name you are looking for, then click on the one that says "OCS Family Services" under the email address. To preserve confidentiality, do not use the child's full name in an email. Say something like "This is Emily Abood, the new foster mother for Nathan P."

WHAT IF YOU NEED SOMETHING? WHO DO YOU CALL?

Contact the following resources in the order given:

FOR SOMETHING REGARDING THE CHILD:

1. Contact the Child's Caseworker. (PHONE, FAX, E-Mail or VISIT)
2. Contact the Social Services Associates for the Unit.
3. OCS Reception Desk 451-2650 and explain what you need.
4. Contact the Caseworker's Supervisor.
5. Contact the Staff Manager.

IN EMERGENCIES AFTER 5:00 AND ON THE WEEKEND:

1. Contact the OCS on call-worker. 451-2650
2. Call the Emergency Services Unit of Fairbanks Community Behavioral Health Center 452-1575 in case of mental health emergency.
3. Call the police in case of serious disturbance, harm or illegal activity.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT REGULATIONS OR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS:

1. Call your Licensing Worker.
2. Call the Licensing Supervisor.
3. Call Christy Lawton, who supervises the supervisor of the licensing unit.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT MEDICAID PAYMENTS:

1. Call the Social Worker or Social Service Associates for the unit 451-2650.
2. Call and ask for the Administrative Clerk who assists with public assistance or Medicaid problems at OCS 451-2650.

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF A CHILD,
TRAINING OR RECORD OF TRAINING HOURS:**

Contact the Alaska Center for Resource Families at 479-7307

Places to Get More Information

GENERAL SUPPORT AND INFORMATION

Alaska Center for Resource Families, 815 2nd Avenue, Ste 101, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 479-7307

A statewide resource for foster parents providing information about adoption and foster care, child abuse and neglect, parenting difficult children and provides support. Assists foster parents in meeting training requirements and tracks foster parent training hours. Sponsors monthly training sessions. www.acrf.org

Websites:

The www.acrf.org website has a tab called support/links. Click on that to find the latest websites, support groups and chat rooms available to resource parents.

DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Child FIND, Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, (Screening Process for Special Needs Education for Preschoolers) 452-2000

Do you have concerns about your preschooler? The law requires school districts to identify children who need special education, even before they turn five. The Anchorage School District Child Check program is free. It is set up to help find children ages 3 to 5 who may need special help.

ACCA, Project TEACH for infants to age 3: 456-4003

Will provide assessments for children (need referral from social worker). If children qualify, they provide in-home and center based child specific services.

RESOURCE CENTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN 456-2866

A great resource for more information about specific physical, developmental and mental disabilities and special education. Lending library and parent advocates available.

RESOURCES FOR FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER

Alaska Center for Children and Adults (ACCA) 456-4003 coordinates the North Star Borough's fetal alcohol evaluation team. If you believe your child is appropriate for a comprehensive assessment, then contact the social worker to have him or her make the referral.

Resource Center for Parents and Children 456-2866

Provides information, referral, support and training to caregivers of children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

Office of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, State of Alaska 1-877-393-2287 for resources available in your community. Or visit the FAS Web Page at <http://hss.state.ak.us/fas> ADDRESS: P.O. Box 110620, Juneau, AK 99811, (907) 465-3033 (Juneau)

WEBSITES:

www.fasalaska.com

www.acbr.com/fas/

TEENS/OLDER CHILDREN

Teen Suicide Prevention Hotline (also known as the Careline) for Fairbanks: 452-4357

Runaway Hotline: 1-800-786-2929 (1-800-runaway)

Fairbanks Counseling and Adoption, 456-4729 Counseling and support group activities for foster children.

MEDICAL CARE:

Fairbanks Public Health Center 452-1776 Walk in appointments for immunizations, family planning and other

Interior Community Health Center 455-4567

For a list of doctors and dentists who accept Medicaid, contact your social worker (the list is constantly being updated).

MENTAL HEALTH:

Division of Mental Health and Development Disabilities, Children's Mental Health Coordinator 1-800-770-1672 (Fairbanks)

Fairbanks Community Behavioral Health Center 452-1575

Fairbanks Counseling and Adoption 456-4729

Tanana Chief's Conference Behavioral Health Program 452-8251 (for Alaska Native Children)

OTHERS:

Office of Public Advocacy: Guardian Ad Litem Program/CASA Program
451-5933

WIC SERVICES (Women Infant and Children Nutrition Program) Most foster children qualify for WIC services 456-2990 Foster children are eligible through age 5.

Medicaid

If Your Medicaid Coupons Don't Come.....

Sometimes the process of obtaining Medicaid approval and sending out coupons can take several weeks. If you do not get your foster child's coupons in a timely fashion or you need to take a new foster child to a doctor before the coupons arrive, Call and ask for the OCS administrative clerk for Medicaid problems. Currently it is Dusty Johns and Janice Cook 451-2650. If you do not receive coupons for your foster child, and you need to go to the doctor, the social worker can issue you a letter indicating that Medicaid has been applied for and DFYS will pay services not covered by Medicaid.