Alaska State Legislature

Representative Matt Claman

September 2018 Community Council Update

Alaska State Forum on Public Safety – Last year, the U.S. Department of Justice Assistance (BJA) announced it would provide support for 25 states to host a State Forum on Public Safety as a continuation of the 50-State Summit on Public Safety. In February, the BJA approved my office's application to host a forum in Alaska.

Please join me for a data-driven discussion with a cross-section of policymakers, criminal justice professionals, behavioral health practitioners, and advocates to identify opportunities to improve public safety in Alaska. To register, visit: https://rep-matt-claman.ticketleap.com/alaska-state-forum-on-public-safety/.

Alaska State Forum on Public Safety
Tuesday, September 11th, 2018
1:00 – 5:00 PM
Wendy Williamson Auditorium, UAA Campus - 2533 Providence Drive

Improved Access to Civil Justice for Low-Income Alaskans – Last month, Governor Walker signed legislation sponsored by my office that improves Alaskans' access to the civil justice system by creating a stable and sustainable mechanism for funding the Civil Legal Services Fund. House Bill 106 allows the legislature to appropriate up to 10 percent of the filing fees received by the Alaska Court System during the previous fiscal year to the fund. It further allows for appropriations to be made from that fund to organizations like the Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) that provide civil legal services to low-income individuals.

DHSS Report – Last month, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services released the *Health Impacts of Opioid Misuse in Alaska* report, which provides a broad overview of Alaska's opioid epidemic and related data to help Alaskans better understand the scope of this serious public health crisis. According to the report, between 2010 and 2017, 623 opioid overdose deaths were reported in Alaska—a 77 percent increase. While Alaska's opioid epidemic continues, there are some encouraging findings in the report:

- Use of prescription opioids declined among Medicare patients in recent years, suggesting Alaska doctors may be prescribing opioids with more caution (potentially due to legislation that addressed the overprescribing of opioids in Alaska);
- Naloxone, a medication that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, is readily available statewide and is being used to save lives; and
- Self-reported heroin use among traditional high school students dropped in 2013 and has not increased since then.

National Recovery Month – Each September, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) sponsors National Recovery Month to increase awareness and understanding of mental and substance use disorders and celebrate the individuals living in recovery. Mental and substance use disorders affect millions of Americans. Supporting recovery strengthens our families and our communities, encourages public awareness, and helps people begin their recovery journeys. If you or someone you know is struggling, call 1-800-662-HELP for treatment referral or visit https://www.recoverymonth.gov.

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P.O. Box 196960
Anchorage, AK 99519-6960
Main: 907.266.2526
Fax: 907.243.0663
Website: anchorageairport.com

Anchorage Airport Update
September 2018

1. **Airport Communications Plan Update:** The Communications Plan, renamed the ANC Airport Community Outreach Plan (Outreach Plan), establishes guidelines for effective two-way communication between the airport and the community. The Airport has published the updated plan on its webpage anchorageairport.com.

2. **ANC North/South Runway Renewal Project:** Project involves rehabilitating and widening RW 15/33 (the north/south runway), and updating taxiway geometry to meet FAA standards through the summers of 2018 and 2019. The runway is partially closed during the 2018 summer and will be fully closed during the 2019 summer. Both construction seasons will require heavier cargo aircraft to be shifted to the east-west runways. 2019 summer construction will require *all* aircraft to utilize the east-west runways.
    - **a.** The runway will be reopened full-length in October, and operations and noise levels will return to normal for the winter months.
    - **b.** To stay up to date on the project and to submit comments, visit the website at anc15-33.com.

3. **LHD Taxiway V Reconstruction**: Project is reconstructing Taxiway V. Improvements include upgrading the taxiway structural section, replacing and upgrading taxiway lighting, markings and signs, repairing/replacing storm drainage, and adjusting conflicting utilities as needed. Construction is planned for completion by middle of October. Various detour routes will be provided throughout the project to accommodate vehicle and aircraft traffic.

4. **Terminal Concessions**:
    - **a.** Pork and Pickle restaurant will soon be available to serve the public pre-security in conjunction with the current post security offerings. Construction of the pre-security location is underway.
    - **b.** Kuhl clothing store is scheduled to open this fall at the connection of Concourses B and C.

5. **Airport Recruitment:** The Airport is recruiting for equipment mechanics and operators, as well as facility maintenance positions and Police and Fire officers. Information on these opportunities can be found on Workplace Alaska or through Local 71 at the following web addresses: local71.com/jobs and governmentjobs.com/careers/Alaska.

6. **Sign up for GovDelivery:** at anchorageairport.com to receive emails on all sorts of DOT related things. Also visit us on Facebook and Twitter.

FISH CREEK CONNECTS US IN SPENARD
TIMBRE MUSIC BAND || MOUNTAIN MINOR
WINTERLAND || THE WILLOW STREET BAND
THE HIGH PETS || RUSSELL FAMILY BAND
10-12 Creek Clean up
12-3 Kids crafts and fun
3-7 Music!
FREE
Family Fun!
FISH CREEK FESTIVAL
Saturday September 8th, 2018
Woodland Park
3508 Iowa Street
Music • Food Trucks • Community • Art

Fish Creek Festival 2018 Bike Parade to NEW Fish Creek Trail connection begins at 1 pm at Woodland Park/ Thelma Buchholdt Picnic Shelter, led by Mayor Ethan Berkowitz and Jed Smith of Friends of Fish Creek. Ribbon Cutting for new Fish Creek Trail Bridge at 1:20 PM. Ride continues to Northwood Drive to drop off Mayor Berkowitz and returns to festival grounds by 2pm on same route.

Anchored Home: Municipality of Anchorage's Blog on Homelessness

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

This month I'd like to share some information about how the Municipality of Anchorage uses GIS to support its efforts in solving housing and homelessness issues.

The Geographic Data and Information Center supports all municipal departments by providing geographic data, data management, as well as supporting online reporting through #ANCWORKS. In addition to reporting a homeless camp, you can also ask questions or even send a note to the Mayor. I encourage you to submit through #ANCWORKS and utilize the tool as you see fit.

As a result of the work done by GIS, the Municipality of Anchorage now has a much better understanding trends in the homelessness community and we've been able to increase social services to better meet the needs. The daily work by the Anchorage Police Department (APD), Parks and Recreation, and the Mobile Intervention Team (MIT) has become efficient, allowing more focus on doing the work rather than searching for camps or trash. The public reports has been an invaluable collaborator, with crowdsourced information serving as the basis for many of the reports.

The Municipality of Anchorage was one of 175 winners chosen from more than 100,000 organizations worldwide to receive the 2018 Special Achievement in GIS Award. Anchorage was selected in the category of "Social Services" for the policy and technology work that has been done regarding homelessness in Anchorage.

Prior to this approach, communication between departments and the public was limited to push pin maps, emails and written descriptions of camp locations. Anchorage has implemented the proven "Housing First" policy as a tool in solving homelessness. For the approach to work, we needed technology to help reduce the time from contact to housing. The Mayor's Office convened the Geographic Data and Information Center, APD, Parks and Recreation, the Homeless Coalition, United Way and the Anchorage community at- large to develop the technology, processes and information required to meet this need.

A case study of the Municipality of Anchorage GIS solution showcases the cross departmental approach. To learn more, follow link below.

Anchorage GIS Homelessness Case Study

Additional details on the Municipality of Anchorage award can be found here:

Anchorage SAG Award

Tina Miller, the engineer and lead of the Municipality's Geographic Data and Information Center, Sergeant Jennifer Haywood, Officer Sally Jones and Nancy Burke traveled to San Diego for the annual GIS conference to receive this award.

Mobile Intervention Team (MIT)

The MIT is a crisis intervention team targeting areas in Anchorage with high numbers of homeless camps and persons with mental illness or other disabling conditions. The purpose of the team is to engage, triage, and refer individuals to community services with available housing to decrease cycling through emergency services. An MIT provider assists in completing the APD forms for individuals camping within Anchorage's city limits. We use this data in the Coordinated Entry System (CES) for housing through the Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH), and to provide other services based on the individual's unique needs. We can also identify subpopulations with this data and work with organizations that can best meet the needs of the largest subpopulations.

The MIT has been working closely with Brother Francis Shelter and Bean's Café to reduce the number of emergency calls to their shared campus. Since beginning this work in January, calls have been reduced by 40%. MIT has been providing trainings involving APD, Anchorage Fire Department (AFD), and Anchorage Safety Patrol (ASP). The purpose of these trainings is to help the entities have a better understanding of what each department does, what to do in certain situations, and how to respond.

Mayor Berkowitz visits Bean's Café to thank them for reducing their emergency calls to their campus!

Camp Clean-up

Over the last few months, I have experienced the camp clean up efforts first hand. It has been a pleasure to work with Parks and Recreation, MIT, and Anchorage Police Department's Community Action Police (APD CAP). The staff of each department are all dedicated to their tasks and are making a difference as we continue clean up.

Working in field has provided me with a better understanding of the camp cleanup process. Once a camp has been posted, abatement and clean up can begin 10 days later. If the camp is unoccupied, the crew activates and begins clean up efforts. If there are occupants still in the camps when cleanup is scheduled to begin, residents are given some time to gather belongings, before crews start their work.

One thing to remember, the MIT team provides outreach of social services to all camps prior to clean up occurring. They make every effort to help resource individuals experiencing homelessness.

Mayor Berkowitz out with Parks and Recreation clean up crew

Since January 2018, the Municipality of Anchorage has cleaned up 170 tons of trash from the old Alaska Native Medial site at 3rd Ave, Valley of the Moon Park, Chester Creek corridor to Sitka Park, Tikishla, Russian Jack, Campbell Creek, and Mountain View. We are currently finishing up clean up efforts in Mountain View area, as well as other areas of concern, such as 14th Ave, 3rd Avenue and Karluk, and Reeve Boulevard. When camps near schools come up, APD CAP team focuses on posting camps so clean up can happen prior to students arrival. The next focus area/zone will be Chester Creek, between A Street and C Street. This will be a trial run of the Zone Ordinance that passed on June 26, 2018. Timelines for when camps will be posted and abated depends on the availability of staff and resources. Our Parks and Recreation Department, Anchorage Police Department, and Mayor's Office make every effort to complete this process as quickly as possible, weather permitting.

Russian Jack camp before and after clean up

Assembly

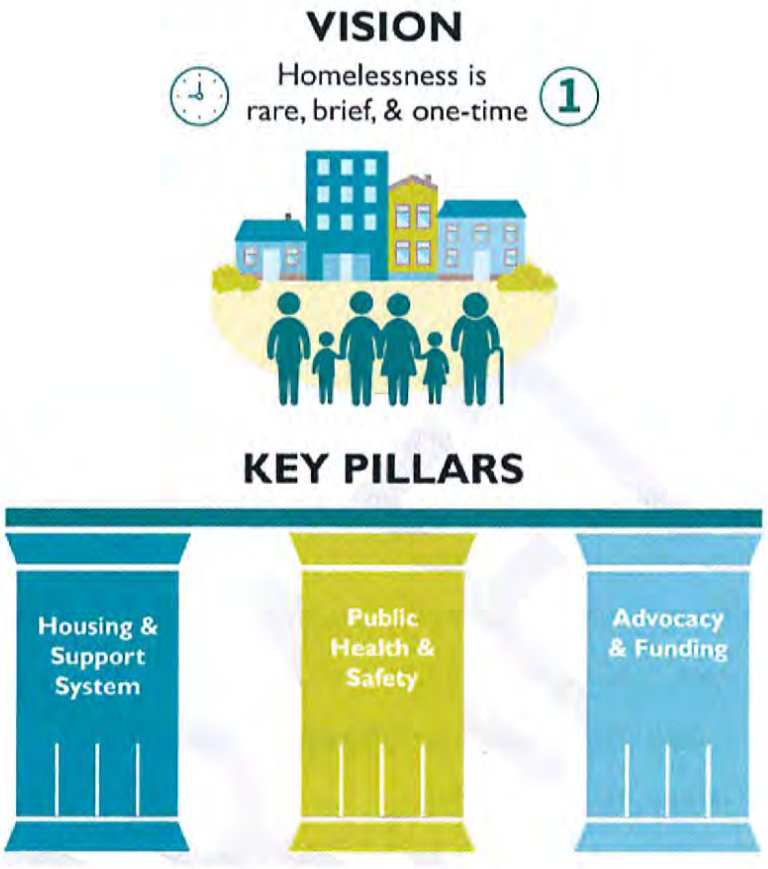
The Assembly Homelessness committee meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next meet will be held on September 19 at City Hall.

Anchored Home: Anchorage's Strategic Action Plan to Solve Homelessness

On August 23, Mayor Ethan Berkowitz announced a new leadership team will to help address the issue of homelessness in the Municipality of Anchorage. *Anchored Home: Action Plan to end Homelessness. Anchored Homes: 2018-2021* an update of the *2015 Anchorage Community Plan to End Homelessness,* will formally launch in October 2018, following a public input process for the draft plan. Outreach will include meetings with community councils, community support organizations, providers, business and industry leaders as well as the public at large. This updated plan will provide timelines for specific project completion, assuring responsibility, and ensure accountability. Key pillars of Anchorage Home include Housing and Support Systems, Public Health and Safety, and Advocacy and Funding. The public process of the draft plan, as well as the on-the-ground operational implementation of Anchorage Home, will be led jointly by Nancy Burke, Housing and Homelessness Coordinator for the Municipality of Anchorage.; Jasmine Khan, Executive Director of the Anchorage Coalition to End homelessness; and Dr. Richard Mandsager, a three-year Senior Fellow position funded by the Rasmuson Foundation. Other supporting partners include United Way of anchorage, Rasmuson Foundations and Providence of Alaska.

The Anchorage Homelessness Community Leadership Council (HLC) is co-chaired by Senior Vice President and Chief Executive for Providence Alaska Region Bruce Lamoureux and Mayor Berkowitz, for the first time brings together business, government, health, and faith leaders as the lasts step in a n effort with promising solutions. The members of the HLC include Mike Abbott, CEO for the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority; Sophie Minich, President/CEO for Cook Inlet Region, Inc.; Carol Gore, President/CEO for Cook Inlet Housing Authority; Gretchen Cuddy, community member-at-large; Rev. Matthew Schultz, Pastor of First Presbyterian church; Paul Landes for General Communication, Inc.; Diane Kaplan, President/CEO for Rasmuson Foundation; Dr. Ricahrd Mandsager, Sr. Fellow for Rasmuson Foundation; Greg Cerbana, Vice President for Weidner Properties; and Joe Marushack, President of ConocoPhillips Alaska.

The HLC will meet every other month with the first meeting taking place in October. The implementation team will begin meeting with community groups in September. A meeting for the general public to provide input on the draft plan will take place on Tuesday, September 18, 2018 , 5:30pm-7:30pm, in the Wilda Marston Theatre at the Z.J. Loussac Library. Comments may also be submitted to director@anchoragehomeless.com.



Three key pillars to *Anchored Home*

Summer Community counts

The first week of August we conducted a summer community count. This activity counts sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night. The results from the summer PIT count will be released mid-fall. The number of homeless individuals in Anchorage, according to the 2017 HUD Point-in-Time count, was 1,087. This number included 162 children/youth and 809 single adults. In 2016, there were 1,105 people reported homeless, including 121 children/youth and 905 adults.

We would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to help with the counts, and we look forward to working with everyone in January for HUD's Point-in–time count.

Interested in helping?

People often ask how they can be a part of the solution. I've included some helpful links to different entities in Anchorage that are in need of volunteers.

While the process of solving homelessness may seem long, the end result will be a change in how we serve those in our community who are struggling with mental illness, disabilities, and economic distresses that have put them out of their homes and seeking shelter. We encourage residents to rethink homelessness and to see that behind the eyes of every person experiencing homelessness there is a story that needs to be told and a solution that needs to be found. I look forward to continuing this blog and hope it helps to explain homelessness in the Municipality of Anchorage. Feel free to reach out anytime by calling (907) 343-4137, or by sending me an email to SalazarRI@muni.org.

Save the Date:

September 14, 2018 10:30am-12pm Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness membership meeting,

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, 4300 Boniface Parkway, Anchorage

September 18, 2018 5:30pm-7:30pm Anchored Home public input meeting,

Wilda Martson Theatre inside Z.J Loussac Library

September 19, 2018 11am-12:30pm Assembly Homelessness Committee meeting,

Mayor's conference room, Suite 830,City Hall, 632 W. 6th Avenue

September 22, 2018 7:30am Oktoberfest Run to End Homelessness,

49th State Brewing Company, 717 W 3rd Avenue

October 17, 2018 11am-12:30pm - Assembly Homelessness Committee meeting,

Mayor's conference room, Suite 830, - City Hall 8th floor, 632 W. 6th Avenue

Important links:

Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
https://anchoragehomeless.org/anchored-home/

https://anchoragehomeless.org/

Municipality's Housing and Homelessness Webpage
http://www.muni.org/Departments/Mayor/Pages/MayorsHousingandHomelessness.aspx

Outreach Coordination Partners:

Choices, Inc.
http://choices-ak.org/

Rural CAP, Inc.
https://ruralcap.com/

Veteran's Administration
https://www.alaska.va.gov/
Covenant House
https://ak.covenanthouse.org/

Chris Kyle Foundation
https://www.chriskylefrogfoundation.org/

Cook Inlet Tribal Council
https://citci.org/

Anchorage Neighborhood Health Clinic
https://www.anhc.org/

Partners for Reentry
http://www.partnersforprogressak.org/partners-reentry-center/

Anchorage Community Mental Health Services
https://www.acmhs.com/

South Central Foundation
https://www.southcentralfoundation.com/

Access Alaska
http://accessalaska.org/

Anchorage Downtown Partnership
https://anchoragedowntown.org/

To be a part of the solution:

https://ak.covenanthouse.org/Volunteer-opportunities

https://www.beanscafe.org/volunteer/

https://www.cssalaska.org/get-involved/volunteer/

http://www.awaic.org/get-involved/volunteer

https://www.liveunitedanc.org/working-together/volunteer/

https://www.downtownhopecenter.org/volunteer-sign-up

https://www.anchoragerescue.org/how-to-help/

http://www.anchoragerunningclub.org/Oktoberfest.html

Community Forum Invitation

Come be a part of the public input process for our Anchorage Community Plan to End Homelessness "*Anchored Home*"

SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

5:30 PM-7:30PM

Loussac Library's Wilda Marston Theatre

3600 Denali St, Anchorage, AK 99503

If unable to make this meeting feel free to submit input to director@anchoragehomeless.org

For more information:

https://anchoragehomeless.org/anchored-home/

http://www.muni.org/Departments/Mayor/Pages/MayorsHousingandHomelessness.aspx

What is Anchored Home:2018-2021?

Anchored Home is a single focused implementation plan for Anchorage that combines federal, state, and local strategies including an update of the 2015 Anchorage Community Plan to End Homelessness. It addresses immediate community needs and builds the foundation to address larger, socioeconomic factors that impact homelessness. Anchored Home was developed in partnership with the Anchorage community through a series of gatherings, discussions, public reviews, and open forums. Anchored Home officially launches in October 2018. It represents a collaborative effort between the Municipality of Anchorage, the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH), community leaders such as the Rasmuson Foundation, United Way, and many other key stakeholders - housing partners, social service agencies, residents and funding partners. These organizations will work with the Anchorage Homeless Leadership Council (HLC) to provide timelines for project completion, ensure assignment responsibility and accountability, and further guide the work in addressing homelessness and housing issues in our community.

Why are we releasing an updated strategic plan?

Anchored Home is a strategic update that will build on existing work to extend community strategies to new partners, deepen the commitment to align resources and incorporate a wider community voice. With this update, the core implementation team (consisting of the Municipality of Anchorage, the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness and the Homeless Leadership Council) will increase data quality, focus implementation efforts and inform the community stakeholders of new developments to encourage a stronger understanding of what each person can do to help further Anchored Home and our shard goal to make homelessness rare, brief and one-time.

Who will support the plan?

A primary workgroup with three main leaders provides the core staffing to the plan: Nancy Burke, from the Municipality of Anchorage; Jasmine Khan, from the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness; and Dr. Richard Mandsager, a Rasmuson Foundation Senior Fellow. These three entities will provide staffing and guidance for the work under the plan, however, there are many other organizations committed to outcomes, including Providence Alaska Health Services, United Way of Anchorage, and Cook Inlet Housing Authority, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, and many community social services and housing partners.

The list of supporting entities can be found at the end of this document.

Who will oversee the plan?

The Anchorage Homelessness Leadership Council (HLC): This group of prominent Anchorage leaders will oversee the plan as it is put into action. The council will leverage resources, monitor data, hold service

providers and other stakeholders accountable, inform the public on results, and provide overall direction on next steps.

Why select an oversight board with so many partners involved?

The oversight board, the Anchorage Homeless Leadership Council, will be involved in monitoring data, providing advocacy and working to develop needed resources to implement Anchored Home priorities. This neutral role allows the partners doing the work to have a focus on each of their respective areas of expertise while an overarching group will monitor the system outcomes and needed resources. Having this level of oversight allows multiple facets of Anchored Home to be addressed at once, while still working to achieve a common goal.

Where else has a plan like this been used? Why is it effective for our community?

Cities with high homelessness rates, such as Houston, Texas and Salt Lake City, Utah, have utilized action plans and community leadership councils similar to Anchored Home with positive results. Anchored Home will be tailored to fit the needs of Anchorage, while using the model of a core group that works together under a common goal.

Using approaches such as these, Anchorage will make homelessness a rare, brief and one-time event. We will also improve communication within the community while creating an environment where outcomes and resource needs can be highlighted for everyone.

How will community input be taken?

There will be an initial community stakeholder input process on the Anchored Home Public Review Draft that will run from August 23 to the end of September 2018. October 4th, the final draft of Anchored Home will be published. Community meetings will continue throughout the three years of implementation.

There will be a general public meeting on Sept 18th at 7PM at the Anchorage Loussac Library, Wilda Marston theater.

Why now? What has changed with the new plan?

It is our desire for all Anchorage communities to have equal access to information on the plan to end homelessness in our city. Anchored Home will allow for broader communication and a more inclusive representation of the community experience of homelessness impacts and solutions. By encouraging representation through community stakeholders, Anchored Home will be positioned to grow and develop as the community does.

Who created Anchored Home? Who provided input into the initial Public Review Draft?

Everyone in the community has a role to play in ending homelessness. Many partners have contributed to Anchored Home and have committed to working together to achieve its goals. Many voices came to the conversation and provided inputs.

Anchored Home Developers and Funders

Partners, Participating Organizations and Community Voices

ACLU of Alaska
AK Red, LLC
Alaska AFL-CIO
Alaska Children's Trust
Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
Alaska Criminal Justice Commission
Alaska Department of Corrections
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
Alaska Food Policy Council
Alaska Grassroots Alliance
Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
Alaska Legislature
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
Alaska Mill and Feed
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
Alaska Trails
Alaska Veterans Foundation
Allen & Peterson Cooking + Appliance Center
Anchorage Assembly
Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
Anchorage Downtown Partnership
Anchorage Economic Development Corporation
Anchorage Fire Department
Anchorage Parks Foundation
Anchorage Police Department
Anchorage School District
ARBRA
Assembly Member Christopher Constant
Assembly Member Forrest Dunbar
Assemble Member Suzanne LaFrance
AWAIC
Bean's Café
Catholic Social Services
Christian Health Associates
Coalition to Protect Public Spaces
Cook Inlet Housing Authority
Cook Inlet Tribal Council
Covenant House Alaska
Daybreak Services, Inc.
Disability Law Center of Alaska
Downtown Community Council
Downtown Hope Center
East Downtown Partnership
eDAG
Fairview Community Council
Forget Me Not
Institute of Community Alliances
Mat-Su Health Foundation
Mat-Su Coalition to End Homelessness
Mountain View Library
Municipality of Anchorage
NeighborWorks Alaska
Nine Star
Office of Governor Bill Walker
Office of Senator Tom Begich
Office of Representative Geran Tarr
Partners for Progress
Providence Health Systems Alaska
Rasmuson Foundation
RurAL CAP
Southcentral Foundation
The Boardroom
Third Avenue Radicals
U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Region 10
U.S. Veterans Administration (VA)
United Way of Anchorage
University of Alaska Anchorage
University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center
Youth Task Force