



## Alaska Wellness Coalition Meeting Agenda:

Alaska Wellness Coalition Monthly Coalition Meeting Agenda  
January 12, 2021, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

### Attendees:

Stephanie Stillwell, AWC Coordinator; Will Hurr, Boys & Girls Club, Jason Ortiz, United Way of MatSu; Stephanie Allen, United Way of MatSu; Jess Limbird, Recover Alaska & The Alliance; Jen Theulen, Counterdrug Support Program; Holly Cook, Prevention Section, Student at UAA; Ciara Lowery, Anchorage Youth Development Coalition; Elke Villeagas, Arctic Recovery; Sheila Hurst, Copper River Native Association TCC Program; Teresa Capo, Bristol Bay Native Association; Tiffany Mills, ED, Helping Ourselves Prevent Emergencies; Becky Stoppa, United Way & Thrive MatSu; Beverly Schoonover, Executive Director Statewide Suicide Prevention Council; Jason Johnson, Tanana Chiefs Conference; Karen Zeman, Spirit of Youth; Romanda Simpson, Ketchikan Wellness Coalition; Tiffany Hall, Recover Alaska; Lonnie Ridgeway, VOA Alaska; Thomas Azzarella, AK Children's Trust

### Agenda:

1. **Welcome with Vision & Mission Moment (2 min)**
2. **Land Acknowledgement & Affirmation (2 min)**
3. **Celebrations, Introductions, & Quick Announcements (10 min)**
4. **Welcome, Stephanie Stillwell, Coalition Coordinator! (5 min)**
5. **Strategic Discussions Follow-up! (20 min)**
  - a. Areas of Focus for AWC in the work of Public Health & Wellness
    - *Advocacy & Policy*
    - *Data Stewardship & Development*
    - *Sharing the Knowledge: The Training Collective*
    - *Infrastructure: Communication & Organization*
  - b. Next Step: Workgroups setting priorities and moving the work forward!
6. **Advocacy & Policy (8 min)**
  - a. Preparing for Alaska's 2021 Legislative Session
  - b. Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority - Legislative Tracking; Weekly, Fridays at noon; reach out to [advocacy.coordinator@mhtrust.org](mailto:advocacy.coordinator@mhtrust.org) to connect with the e-mail list. Additional resources at <https://alaskamentalhealthtrust.org/alaska-mental-health-trust-authority/advocacy/joint-advocacy/>
  - c. What's on your radar in advocating for health and wellness?
7. **Data & Evaluation (4 min)**
  - a. YRBS has been postponed until Fall 2021
  - b. Alaska Public Health Summit: "Public Health During Changing Times" January 26-28, 2021 with info at <https://www.alaskapublichealth.org>
  - c. Connecting with Data – Alaska Public Health Data Sources, January 25, 2021, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 pm. Register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HNRLW5X>

d. Shared Risk & Protective Factors

8. Final Announcement, Thoughts, & Affirmations (2 min)

Meeting Notes & Next Steps:

- Find out more information about The Alliance [here](#).
- Additionally, check out [Thrive MatSu](#) online

Recap December discussion. Regarding the strategic direction follow up, the AWC settled into 4 different areas: Advocacy & Policy, Data Stewardship & Development, Sharing the Knowledge: The Training Collective and Infrastructure: Communication & Organization. The McKinley Research Group sent out a write up of the discussion as well as key interview pages that can be distributed to AWC members. The next steps for this process is to divide into 4 work groups to further prioritize how AWC will work within the scope of these areas. Stephanie will be sending out meeting dates, possibly Doodle polls, to facilitate work group meetings beginning likely in February. Stephanie collected preferences for these work groups from some folks in the chat.

The Alliance and AWC plan to discuss how the two coalitions can share the work between these work groups. Perhaps having a more specific conversation about how we can share the work, together. Identifying a specific area that the groups can connect- potentially could be advocacy work. This will likely be the plan to dig deeper into advocacy in the coffee klatch this week. Another noteworthy thought: Advocacy is not just the work of the legislature; it is important for us to do our work to partner up with state entities. But what does this look like for AWC?

It has been noted that we need to make sure we are having less “meetings about having meetings” and more getting some things done.

Doodle polls to create meeting times for strategic discussions will be sent out soon! Keep an eye out from an email from Stephanie Stillwell regarding these.

Discussion about the YRBS:

With the YRBS, parents have to approve that the children can participate in the YRBS, perhaps we can utilize the AWC or some other communities communicate to parents to make sure they say “yes”. Romanda is looking for input on how to make this happen. Last time the AWC participated (and prioritized) this was 2017, in terms of getting more people on board. This could be a priority that AWC can look at supporting since many of the folks around the table, and the state, use this vital data for their work.

Other Updates:

Karen Zeman: Announcement! Spirit of Youth is seeking nominations for Alaskans (individuals or groups) ages 12-19 who are involved in positive activities or giving back to their community. We are VERY low on nominations due to the pandemic. The deadline has been extended to Feb 1. Here is the nomination form. If you need help completing your nominations we have a team who can help you. You can email [info@spiritofyouth.org](mailto:info@spiritofyouth.org) <https://www.spiritofyouth.org/programs/positive-media-recognition-campaign/nomination-form/>

Ciara: Announcement: Youth Matter Grants (up to \$5k) are available, deadline this Friday 1/15. There are a few focus areas, the transportation safety focus is available statewide. Application is for youth-adult team to participate in a process to develop and carry out a project <http://safealaskans.org/our-work/programs-initiatives/aydc/youth-matter-grants/>

Jason Ortiz shared [this link](#) for new bills, review them. Interesting ones... resolution trying to remake the Alaska judicial council, which means how they choose judges which makes things more political... read through please

Jess- popping a PDF into the chat, offering equity trainings through the alliance. Cohort starting in feb Fridays 930-12 racial justice and equity

Next Meeting Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 11am-12pm