

Estimated Time for Each Section of Presentation

Have 75 minutes of the presentation:

Date: Thursday, March 2

Time: 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM

1. Introductions (5-8 minutes)
2. History and Overview of Compact (10 minutes)
3. Community Wellness (Prevention)—Amanda (10-15 minutes)
4. Co-signers (5 speakers) (20-25)
5. Question and Answer—Jessica & Vi (15 minutes)
6. (9 speakers)

Supporting Tribal Community Wellness through the Alaska Tribal Child Welfare Compact

Wellness and Prevention Symposium

March 2, 2023

Egan Center, Anchorage



Land Acknowledgement

Chin'an to the
Denaina People

Presenters

Jessica Ulrich-Facilitator

Lola Tobuk

Amanda McAdoo

Traci McGarry

Serena Solesbee

Deb Northburg

Maria Guerra

Will Kronick

Why the Work Began:

Current Data:

- **Significant *General* Disparities by Race**
 - 2,758 Alaska children are in State custody
 - 1,868 are Alaska Native/American Indian
 - Disproportionality rate of 67.7%

(source: State of Alaska, ORCA, February 15, 2023)

Why the Work Began:

Current Data:

- **Significant *Specific* Disparity by Race (Repeat Maltreatment)**
 - 17% of Alaska Native/American Indian children experienced repeat maltreatment compared to 7.2% for non-Alaska Native/American Indian children in 2021

HOW DID THE WORK BEGIN?



- **Tribal State Collaboration Group** (27-Year Partnership)
 - Composed of State and Tribal representatives, as well as other partners and stakeholders.

HOW DID THE WORK BEGIN?

- **Tribal Title IV-E Agreements**

- Provides federal funds for states and tribes to provide foster care, transitional independent living programs, guardianship assistance, and adoption assistance.
- Tribes can access the funds through (1) state-tribal 'pass through' agreements or (2) direct federal agreements.
 - 11 Tribes/Tribal Organizations currently have Administrative and Short-Term Training Agreements with the State.
 - Two of the 11 also have Maintenance Agreements with the State.
- Tribes receive a *higher* reimbursement rate than the State for covered services, resulting in General Fund savings.

What is the Alaska Tribal Child Welfare Compact?

- An intergovernmental agreement between the State of Alaska and Alaska Tribes and Tribal organizations to improve the well-being of Alaskan children and families.
 - Signed October 19, 2017 at the Alaska Federation of Natives Convention
 - Recognizes the inherent authority of Alaska Tribes to serve their members and/or individuals eligible for membership.

How does the Compact Accomplish its Purpose?

- ‘... by encouraging and providing for collaboration and cooperation in the administration of child welfare and the protection of Alaska’s children.’
 - Specifically, by defining the services and supports to be carried out by the Tribal cosigners in their respective service delivery areas through ‘Scopes of Work.’

19 TRIBAL CO-SIGNERS, REPRESENTING 164 INDIVIDUAL TRIBES

- Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association
- Arctic Slope Native Association
- Association of Village Council Presidents
- Bristol Bay Native Association
- Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- Cheesh'na Tribal Council
- Chugachmiut
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council
- Copper River Native Association
- Native Village of Eyak
- Kawerak, Inc.
- Kenaitze Indian Tribe
- Knik Tribe
- Maniilaq Association
- Mentasta Traditional Council
- Nome Eskimo Community
- Aleut Community of St. Paul Island
- Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
- Tanana Chiefs Conference

Compact Design

- **Infrastructure development of Child Welfare**
- **Data Collection and Management**
- **Recruitment and Hiring of Staff**
- **Enhancing existing programs**
- **Readiness Assessments**
- **Maximize regional and statewide Tribal networks**
- **Prevention may be performed in addition to or in lieu of a scope of work**

ALASKA TRIBAL CHILD WELFARE COMPACT

(As of August 18, 2021)

Diligent
Relative
Searches

SY 2019

Ongoing
Placement
Searches

SY 2019

Safety
Evaluations
of Relative
Homes

SY 2021

Licensing
Assist

SY 2021

Family
Contact

SY 2021

Prevention
Activities

SY 2022/2023

Community Wellness

Tribal worldview: language around wellness vs. prevention

- “Giving the child their parents’ back.”
- Child centered focus
- Continued to work together (Tribes and State)
- “Frame our relationships with families anchored in reclaiming traditional concepts of wellness that are protective”
- Parent Led: Strengths based approach on how to best support parents”
- Culture is wellness and prevention
- Working with the whole person

Primary Prevention

Services open to all families that prevent abuse and maltreatment before it occurs

- **Community Education and Outreach**
- **Family Support**
- **Community Wellness**
- **Any program support to prevent childhood maltreatment**
- **Cultural Activities**

Secondary Prevention

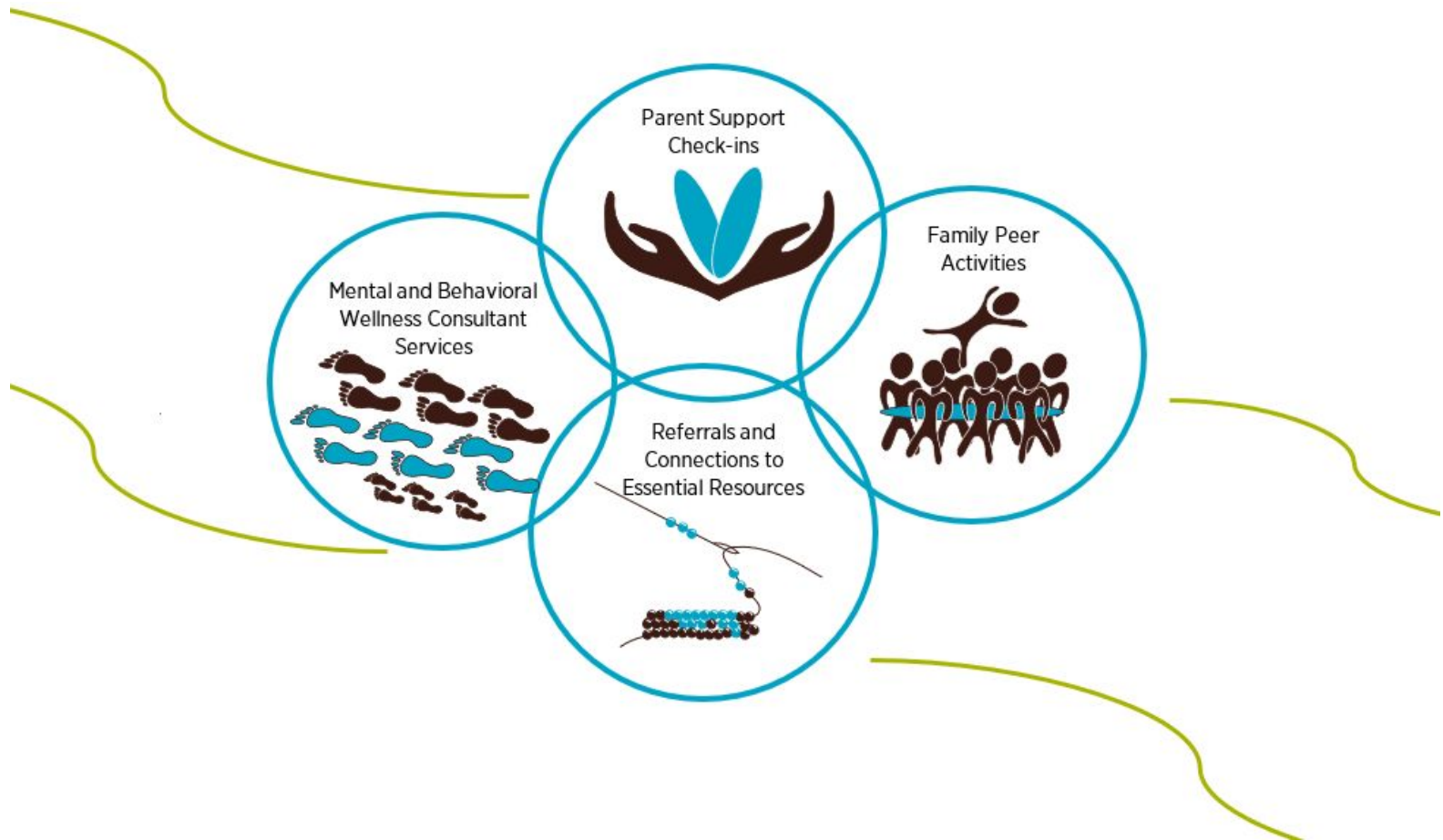
Targeted services for at risk families and their children

- **In-Home Services**
- **Parenting Coaching and Education**
- **Referrals to Services**
- **Skill Development**
- **Peer to Peer Support**
- **Mentoring**
- **Safety Planning**
- **Home Visiting**
- **Parent support groups**
- **Family Preservation**
- **Cultural Activities**

Northern Region



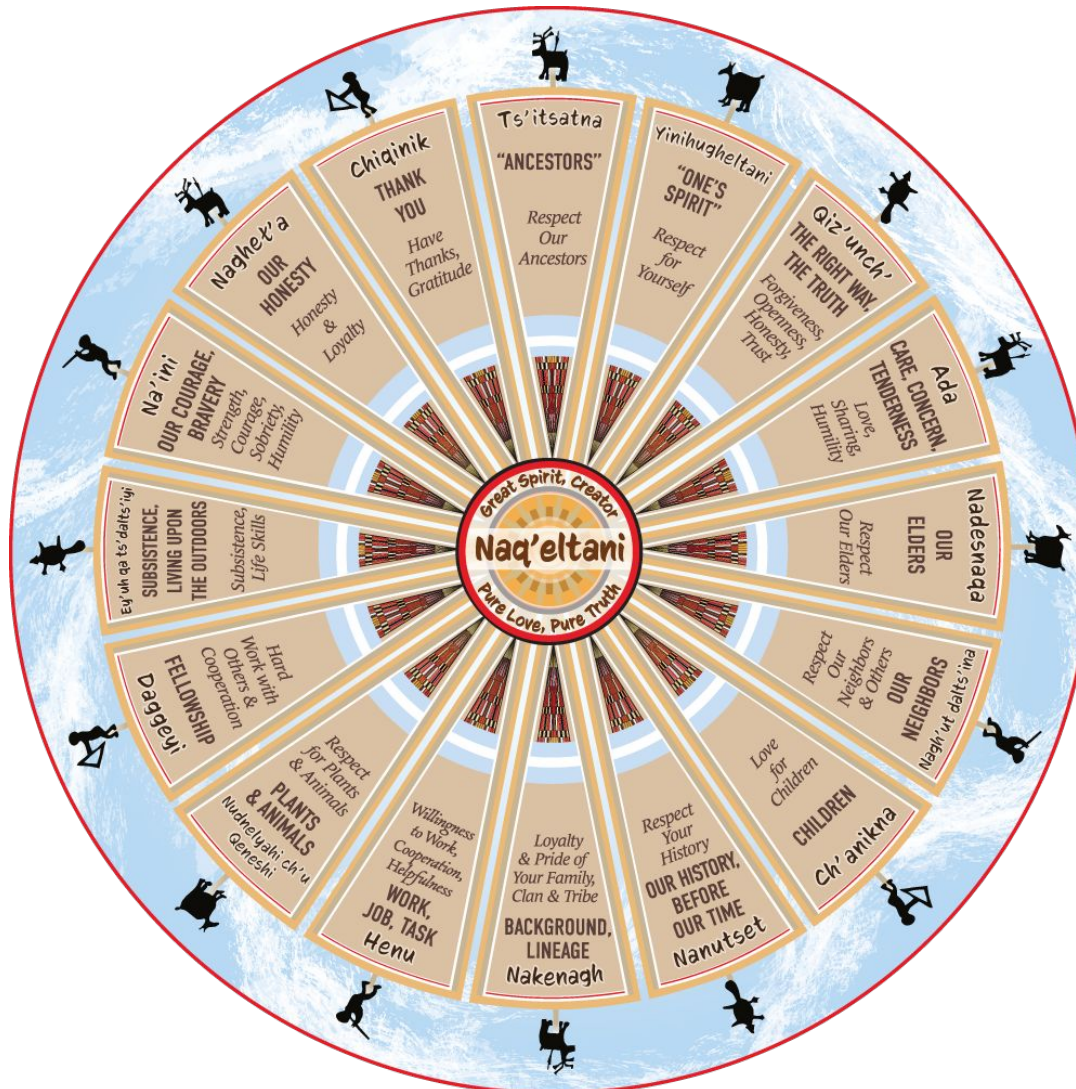
Anchorage Region



Western Region



Southcentral Region



Southeast Region



MOVING FORWARD 2023-2024

- Office of Children's Services needs additional financial resources to support Tribal Co-Signers in doing this work.
- Tribal Co-Signers will make every effort to leverage resources to maximize delivery of services.
- Casey Family Programs has contracted with two contractors to work on system design and implementation of the Compact.
- Office of Children's Services and Tribal Co-Signers agreed upon benchmarks for each Scope of Work. Tribes, State and Casey Family Programs are working together to draft reports for Co-Signers review.

LONG TERM VISION

- Alaska children and families will be served locally, as close to 'home' as possible.
- Services provided will be more cost effective and efficient.
- Children and families will be more receptive to changing abusive or neglectful behavior(s), which will mean the number of children in state custody will decrease—as will the rate of maltreatment.
- Outcomes for Alaska children and families will be improved, particularly Alaska Native children and families.
- Healing to wellness



WOOCH.EEN: WORKING TOGETHER TO HEAL OUR COMMUNITIES

Questions

CHINAN!
QUYANA!
GUNALCHEESH
THANK YOU!