

Bernice Nisbett

From: Raymond Pastorino <pastorino@gci.net>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 11:22 AM
To: Bernice Nisbett
Subject: Support Resolution NO. 21

Representative Tarr, I am asking you to urge Governor Walker to join with the Alaska State Legislature to respond to the public and behavioral health epidemic of adverse childhood experiences by establishing a statewide policy and providing programs to address this epidemic. ACEs research supports prevention as a way of addressing this critical issue. Children who have experienced adverse experiences, such as abuse, neglect, and other traumas are more likely as adults to use Medicaid and government food programs, abuse substances and smoke, drop out of high school, become depressed and suicidal, to become obese or have other chronic health issues, experience homelessness, etc. The cost to the State for adverse childhood experiences is estimated to be approximately \$774,000,000 annually, according to the Alaska Mental Health Board and the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Prevention is the only intelligent solution. Thank you, Representative Tarr, for your consideration and your commitment to making Alaska a better home for our children.

Barbara Pastorino - 4935 Wren Drive, Juneau.