

Alcoholism

8.4

ALCOHOL RE-EDUCATION UNIT, INC.

2900 PROVIDENCE DRIVE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504
PHONE 277-6551, EX. 263 OR 265

A PROGRAM DEDICATED TO THE TREATMENT OF
ALCOHOLISM AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Cole, Coordinator
State Office on Alcoholism

FROM: Alcohol Re-Education Unit, Inc.

SUBJECT: Enclosed memorandum from Dr. Olivier to Dr. Schrader regarding the eviction of the Alcohol Re-Education Program from API.

DATE: March 20, 1975

Regarding our discussion of March 19, 1975, about the anticipated eviction of the Re-Ed unit from Alaska Psychiatric Institute, I have enclosed the memorandum that you requested.

In principle, we agree with the statements made by Dr. Olivier to Dr. Schrader. Indeed, by rough estimate the daily per patient cost could be reduced to somewhere between \$24 - \$33 for the first year of operation and probably between \$16 - \$27 by the second year. The total cost of operation outside of API would probably be in excess of \$400,000 per annum, however, with anticipated revenues from V.A., insurance, and client payments at between \$90,000 - \$150,000 the total cost to the state would be much reduced. As we see it the real problems at this time are as follows:

1. Securing an appropriate timetable in order to insure that any transition will be made in an orderly and responsible fashion. The Re-Ed unit is under a moral obligation to maintain and improve its standards of treatment. A move made too hastily could only have a deleterious effect on our standards.
2. The acquisition of adequate facilities; this is an issue of primary importance. As we are sure that you are well aware--an adequate environment can mean all of the difference between a productive and progressive program and one that is static with severe morale and staff turnover problems.
3. Whatever the resolution of this eviction notice the relationship between the Re-Ed unit and API will probably not be as cordial as we have enjoyed in the past. This we see as inevitable, but not necessarily detrimental to the units continued functioning. Morale of the Re-Ed staff continues to be excellent and we intend to continue with our primary mission of "treating drunks".

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Page 2.

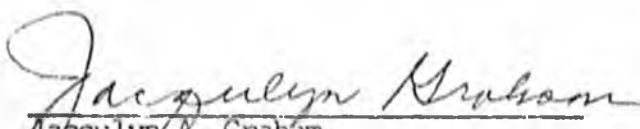
3-20-75


As we look ahead we can only foresee positive things. A well planned transition to new facilities will provide the Re-Ed unit and serve the State of Alaska with the following new capabilities:

1. An increased patient capacity of from 40 - 50.
2. Alternate treatment modes. In economic terms this means offering more services to more individuals which would go far in reducing total costs.
3. Would make the Re-Ed unit eligible for third party payments for total cost of care. It's not unlikely that the Re-Ed unit could be nearly 100% self-supporting within 3 - 5 years.
4. Many individuals suffering from alcoholism and alcohol abuse (particularly middle and upper middle class individuals) who desperately desire and need inpatient treatment, often will not consider Re-Ed unit as a treatment alternative simply because of the stigma of being an API patient. This, of course, would be no problem were the Re-Ed unit located in a separate facility.

Naturally, there are many other considerations both positive and negative that could be elucidated. However, you probably have a general idea of the gravity of the situation.

We are already well into the planning stages in the development of options available to us. Our biggest concern is that enough time be allowed for us to accomplish this move. A minimum of 15 months should be granted for the Re-Ed unit to develop and implement an orderly move.


Jacquelyn A. Graham,
Executive Director


James S. Spalding,
Project Administrator

JSS/tas

cc: Frances Williamson, Commissioner of Health & Social Services
Jerry Schrader, M.D., Director, Division of Mental Health
Jim Price, Assistant Administrator to Jerry Schrader, M.D.
Ed Stewart, Program Manager, CATP, Greater Anchorage Area Borough
Howard Scaman, Chairman, Association of Alaska Alcoholism Professionals
Susan Sullivan, Chairperson, House HESS Committee
A. B. Colyar, M.D., Medical Director, Greater Anchorage Area Health
Department
Board of Directors, Alcohol Re-Education Unit, Inc.
George Hohman, Chairperson, Senate HESS Committee

TO: Jerry L. Schrader, M.D.
Director DMH
Juneau

DATE : March 18, 1975

FROM: J. Edward Olivier, M.D.
Superintendent API

SUBJECT: Eviction of the Alcohol Re-Ed
Program from API

Further to our discussion in Juneau on March 15, 1975, it is my understanding that you agree in principle that API is an unnecessarily expensive facility in which to house a program such as the Alcohol Re-Ed Unit. (Most such programs in other communities operate with a total budget in the range of \$15-\$25/day/patient which is approximately 25% to 30% of the daily costs at API) We did not have sufficient time to discuss this issue in detail, but I would be very interested in knowing more of your feelings re the political realities involved and some sort of timetable for implementing such a plan.

The relocating of this unit would solve not one, but several otherwise very difficult problems for API:

1. It would permit the relocation of the school to the present Children's Unit, providing for more adequate space than is now available for the 50 children who urgently need better school facilities.
2. It would allow reopening of the Intensive Care Unit which is very urgently needed to provide us with the only secure beds in the entire hospital for seriously disturbed and high security risk patients. To reopen this unit without provision for school space, would be to very seriously handicap the entire therapeutic program for children and adolescents. (Also from the Koutsky Unit, eleven children receive their schooling at API).
3. Five nursing positions on the Alcohol Unit would be returned to us for providing psychiatric care, which would go a long way toward helping us staff the Intensive Care Unit adequately and safely.
4. The 50 bed Admission Unit could again become an open ward. In my opinion, it is most regrettable that 50 patients have to be locked in for the sake of the handful who legitimately require locked doors.
5. The Rehabilitation Unit could be located in the present Re-Ed Unit space, allowing relocation of the Children's Unit to the 3rd Floor next to the Adolescent Unit. This would help to consolidate these two programs in a functional way which would permit more efficient and effective nursing coverage.

Jerry L. Schraeder, M.D.

-2-

3/18/75

Because the present Rehab Unit is accredited for 25 beds, the number of children receiving inpatient care could be increased somewhat if this seemed to be the wisest way to utilize the extra space that would be freed up.

The plan I am advocating requires decisions that are neither easy nor happy ones in view of the reputation that the Re-Ed Unit enjoys, both in the hospital and in the community. It is my understanding that this program is widely and highly acclaimed for its excellence. Nevertheless, I believe that, both from a dollars and cents standpoint, and because closing the Unit would lead to a very major upgrading of psychiatric services (our primary mission), I don't see how we have any other reasonable option.

JFO/mem

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

POUCH 6540
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE (907) 272-8575

February 19, 1975

Susie Moss
House HESS Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Susie:

Thank you for your note of February 13th. Is that a typographical error in your last paragraph? All of us who are coming to Southeastern Alaska will be in Petersburg on the 28th for the State Advisory Board meeting. I hope that the hearing has been scheduled for 3:00 o'clock on the 27th, as we requested. Is it a joint House-Senate hearing?

The basic problems facing the State's alcoholism programs are outlined in my letter to the Governor which I hope was circulated to members of your Committee. This and a number of similar letters from programs and associations throughout the state have received no direct response from Governor Hammond's office yet. We are, however, aware that he is moving with all possible dispatch to correct the situation. Hopefully, by February 27th a number of items will be already corrected by administrative action. However, if this has not been accomplished by the 27th, we will request the following action from the legislature;

- 1) Moving the Office of Alcoholism from a "sub-basement" level in the Division of Family and Children's Services to a ranking office along with the Office of Drug Abuse, Office of Ageing, etc., and reporting directly to the Commissioner of Health and Social Services.

This would literally eliminate about one hundred miles of red tape and give the office an opportunity to perform its function properly.

- 2) We will request that the legislature insist that this administration comply with legislative intent, and staff the office to its proper compliment of people. The position of Coordinator (the Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Alcoholism) has been vacant for fifteen months and the resignation of the current Acting Coordinator leaves the office understaffed and operating at approximately forty percent efficiency. This, at the most crucial time of the year when the entire Grant renewal process is underway.
- 3) We will request that the legislature insist upon a heavy evaluation component within the Office of Alcoholism budget. Those of us who run viable and effective programs in the state want to be evaluated on our performance, receive technical assistance and advice and do our jobs properly. However, a tremendous amount of State and Federal money is being wasted daily by inefficient and poor programs which have never been evaluated by the State they just continue to get funding.

- 4) We will request that the State Legislature transfer the monies currently being spent in alcoholism (Title IVa and SVI) to another division of the Department of Health and Social Services and replace them with monies from that division which have their origins and general revenue funds.
- 5) We will recommend to the State Legislature that they carefully review and examine the budget submitted by the former Commissioner of Health and Social Services which is in effect, less than a maintenance level budget for the same period last year, at a time when we are finally beginning to see some progress in combating this disease. Hopefully a number of other legislators not on the HESS Committee will be in attendance that afternoon to hear our presentation.

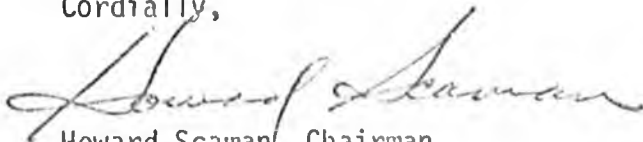
At this time I would like to request that time on the agenda be scheduled for:

- 1) National Council on Alcoholism Alaska Region.
- 2) The Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals.
- 3) The Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

If possible, and within your perogatives, it would be extremely helpful to us if the Committee could request the appearance of Commissioner Frank Williamson, Deputy Commissioner McGinnis, Mr. Stanley Harris, Director of Division of Family and Children's Services, Ms Barbara Miklos, Acting Coordinator of the Office of Alcoholism and Mrs. Virginia Blanchard, Auditor Division of Administrative Services. We will be making some rather serious allegations regarding administrative inefficiency as well as a deliberate attempt to negate legislative intent and I'm sure that they would want to respond to these allegations.

I look forward to seeing you and the members of the Committees in Juneau.

Cordially,



Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

HS/mb

cc: Susan Sullivan
George Hohman

Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

528 West 5th Avenue, Suite 3
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Phone (907) 274-7435

February 20, 1975

Office of the Governor
Governor Jay Hammond
State Capitol
3rd Floor, Pouch A
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Hammond:

This letter is an official communication of the Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. The Commission represents the twelve Native corporations in matters concerning alcoholism and drug abuse statewide as outlined in the state plan.

At various times throughout your campaign you spoke of implementing evaluation processes in alcoholism programs and we agree that in order for state funded programs to deliver services in a responsible manner this must be done. However, it cannot be done on a maintenance level budget which is again proposed for the coming fiscal year. We feel that in order to implement some kind of responsibility within the Office of Alcoholism, various steps need to be accomplished. Among these are the appointment as soon as possible of a coordinator for the State Office of Alcoholism. Also permanent and competent staffing for that office. This is not to say that the previous acting coordinator (Ms. Barbara Miklos) was not a competent administrator. We applaud her efforts as she did the best she could under the circumstances. However, the efforts of one person however competent that person may be is not enough to insure order and responsibility within that office. We believe also the Office of Alcoholism cannot function properly under the Department Of Family And Children Services and should be a department of it's own under the Department Of Health And Social Services.

I believe you have received communication from other programs within the state addressing these same problems and others which we will be speaking on in more detail on the 27th of February. We are scheduled to meet with members of the Health, Education & Social Services Committee on that date and we expect at that time that members of that committee will be aware of the problems as we program people have stated them. We look forward to meeting with either yourself or your representative while we are in Juneau.

Sincerely,



George Barril
Executive Director

GB/dd

cc: Lowell Thomas, Jr., Lt. Governor
Bob Paimer
Clem Tillion
Sue Green
Fred McGinnis
Stan Harris
Ben Iverson
Virginia Blanchard
Mike Bradner
Chancy Croft
John Keating
A. B. Colyar
Ed Stewart
Dennis Tiepelman
Members - Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals
Members - Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism
Members - Committees H. E. & S. S. House and Senate

ALCOHOL RE-EDUCATION UNIT, INC.

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PHONE 277-6551, EX. 203 OR 205

A PROGRAM DEDICATED TO THE TREATMENT OF
ALCOHOLISM AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

February 10, 1975

The Honorable Jay Hammond
Governor of the State of Alaska
Pouch H
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Hammond:

For the past fifteen months the position of Coordinator of the State Office on Alcoholism has been vacant. We find this to be a deplorable situation, creating confusion and inefficiency at the highest administrative levels of alcoholism programming in the State of Alaska.

As a result of this situation, the individual agencies have had to assume many of the responsibilities for decisions and actions that rightfully belong within the scope of the State Office. It can be easily extrapolated that this improper lower level decision making is creating needless duplication of effort and political in-fighting. And, in the end, it is the alcoholic and the alcohol abuser who is getting the "short end of the stick".

The conception, development and implementation of the highest qualitative standards, applied universally over the State of Alaska, are the responsibilities of the State Office; in the absence of proper staffing it is impossible to expect the State Office on Alcoholism to fulfill this vital function.

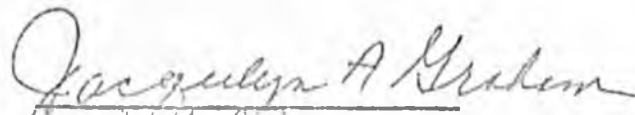
Our request is that all haste be made to fill all vacancies within the State Office on Alcoholism, and insure that this office is imbued with the authority to adequately insure that qualitative standards in alcoholism treatment are being maintained throughout the state. It is also our suggestion that the State Office on Alcoholism be given the capability,

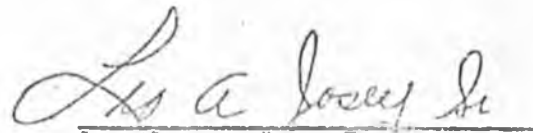
February 7, 1975

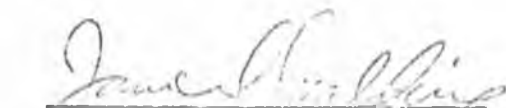
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by the appropriate means, to have "a voice of authority" in order to insure that the problems facing Alaska as a result of alcoholism are not shuttled off into a corner.

Sincerely,


Jacquelyn A. Graham,
Executive Director


Leo Jossey, Sr., Chairman
Board of Directors


James S. Spalding,
Project Administrator

JAG/tas

cc: Lt. Governor, Lowell Thomas Jr.
James Williamsen, Commissioner of Health & Social Services
Frederick McGinnis, Deputy Commissioner Health & Social Services
Edward Naughton, Finance Committee
Representative Susan Sullivan, Health & Social Services Committee
Representative William Parker, State of Alaska
Stanley Harris, Director of Family & Children Services
Representative Hugh Malone, Chairman of the Finance Committee
Andy Warwick, Commissioner of Administration
Barbara Mikles, Acting Coordinator, State Office on Alcoholism
John Keating, National Council on Alcoholism-Alaska Region
Edward Stewart, Alcohol Program Manager-GAAB Health Department
Howard Searen, Social Development Center
Sue Greene, Assistant to the Governor, Office of the Governor
Clem Tillion, Office of the Governor
George Barrill, Executive Director - ANCALA

COMMUNITY	PROGRAM TYPE	ESTIMATED AMOUNT	
		74-75	75-76
Ketchikan	Comprehensive Staffing	\$ 35,364	\$ 26,523
Juneau	Comprehensive Staffing	145,452	120,000? Reduced
Tok	Native Comprehensive	114,900	No Commitment
Aleut League	Native Inpatient	93,750	No Commitment
Anchorage ANB	Native Half-way House	62,250	No Commitment
Rural Cap Statewide	Counselors	100,000	No Commitment
AFN/ANCADA Statewide	Training Counselors	80,000 85,000	105,000 105,000
Labor/ Management	Pipeline Impact	51,500	No Commitment
Anchorage SDC	Detoxification & Rehabilitation Staffing <i>QUARTERLY REPORT DIRECT TO WASH. D.C.</i>	✓ 125,500	No Commitment
Office of Alco- holism-Statewide	Prevention	50,000	50,000
NCA-AR Statewide	Prevention	750,000	750,000
167 Villages	Prevention/Treatment <i>WHO CHOSE 116 VILLAGES?</i>	✓ 1,600,000 ✓	No Commitment (Some Carryover)
Mt. Edgecumbe	Education/Treatment	62,300	62,300
Metlakatla	Counseling	62,154	62,154
ANCADA Statewide	Technical Assistance/Rural Alaska	246,318	No Commitment
State of Alaska	Various	200,000	200,000
State of Alaska	Pipeline Impact	300,000	300,000
TOTALS		\$3,937,334	\$1,555,977

ERIC Reply -
File - Alcoholism

Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

"Mini-grants Program"

528 W. FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 9
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

PHONE: 277-2578

March 3, 1975

Gail C. Shortell
Drug Abuse Office
329 Barrow Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Ms. Shortell:

Thank you for your letter clarifying some issues about the Bethel Rap Center. I regret that I felt it necessary to use some rather strong language; however, the surface appearance did raise some rather strong questions in my mind concerning the sincerity and integrity of the Drug Abuse Office.

In your letter of February 24, 1975, you affirmed a sincere desire to help people. I believe that you meant that, and I'd like to offer a few constructive suggestions that may assist you in accomplishing that goal in certain areas of the State.

Alexander Pope wrote, "A little Knowledge is a dangerous thing." The danger lies in attempting to apply generally accepted concepts, notions, and principles from social psychology and sociology to rural Alaska, especially in predominantly Native populations. Last December, it was my privilege to read in a learned tome on sociology that "Eskimos have no social structure." This indicated to me that the notion of social structure under which the author functioned was inadequate as it made no provision for the type of society the Eskimos have. Slowly, other facts are becoming evident concerning the inapplicability of sociology concepts developed within Western Civilization to the American Indians and Alaska Natives. For example, it has been fairly well determined that "sensitivity groups" and counseling (in a classical sense) have little effect toward desired behavioral modification.

It is therefore important to cultivate an attitude that these concepts from the academic world and experience in the lower 48 are worthless and inapplicable until demonstrated otherwise. It is also advantageous to examine one's own thinking constantly to assure that the bias introduced by learning these concepts remains inoperative.

One concept that probably applies is the theory of Sapir, Whorf, and Lee relating ethnic background to Weltanschau. As many Natives have learned English only as a secondary language, and as many others speak only one of the Native languages, it is important to familiarize oneself

Ms. Gail C. Shortell
March 3, 1975
Page two

with the perceptual and operating structures which their words cue.

In re-reading the comments suggesting that a counseling program was not evident, I perceive that the statements must have appeared to be an example of cultural and/or bureaucratic arrogance to the personnel of the Bethel Rap Center. This may explain some of the difficulties in communication experienced. Perhaps I could interpret the comments to mean that the type of counseling employed by the Bethel Rap Center is difficult to evaluate as a counseling program because its organization differs from a "standard" format, and it therefore is not readily comparable with other programs, but I'm certain that those more directly involved would have considerable difficulty reaching this conclusion.

I'd also like to suggest that some more relevant objective than number of hours spent be used in evaluating the rendering of technical assistance, particularly that directed toward an instructional objective. My concept (perhaps biased) is that a teacher can be said to teach only if a student learns. As a technical assistant and previously as a teacher, I use every available means to evaluate the achievement of whatever educational objectives I must accomplish. In preparation for this measurement, I consider it of paramount importance to maintain a mutual confidence and trust so that I may solicit student opinion on whether learning is taking place or not. I have found that student selection of instructional modality is not only beneficial to development of an easy working relationship, but is also very often an effective pedagogical practice. The appearance to the personnel in Bethel as expressed to me was that you made nearly all the decisions concerning the technique of instruction. For that reason, and perhaps others, they developed the impression that you were both supercilious and condescending. Of course, the fact that your attitude was otherwise would be irrelevant to the effect of the impression. It is truly unfortunate that such erroneous impressions may occur but the fact that they do is something I'm certain you've learned to recognize and deal with in other cultural contexts.

Alaska Natives as a whole are faced with the task of cultural transition. Their former culture and life style has been largely wrecked by the intrusion of the white man (How can one be honored as a great walrus hunter when there are very few walrus left to hunt?) and they must now develop a new culture that is viable within the dominant society but still their own. Their heritage includes patience and a careful consideration (which we whites often interpret as "slowness" when we bother to notice that in a group discussion no Natives are speaking) before stating an opinion. I sincerely hope that they are able to develop something different and better than our sick society with all its terrorism and kinky crime. As a result, I react strongly to even the hint that someone is applying WASP concepts to Alaska Natives; thus, my report on my impressions from Bethel.

Your letter may have convinced me of your sincerity, but that people who must really be convinced that they're not having something thrust upon


Ms. Gail C. Shortell
March 3, 1975
Page three

them by an overbearing culture and a pompous bureaucracy are those who live in rural Alaska. I hope that these few suggestions may contain the clues you need to begin educating yourself toward developing a working relationship with Alaska Natives in rural areas that will include mutual respect and productive results.

I know that it's difficult to admit that all the knowledge gained in academic training and years of experience may in certain situations reduce one to a few steps below ignorance, even to becoming an actual danger. I went through that mill when I left my rural Alaska background for the lower 48 at the tender age of 14 and became a danger to myself. However, after reading your letter, I believe that your character is equal to the task.

I hope that you will accept these suggestions for consideration in the spirit that they were offered. If I can be of any assistance in referring you to some Native experts on Native and rural Alaska culture or on matters requiring liaison with Native groups, please call on me.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Moore
Technical Assistant

P. S. I recently noted a story about a Raven project deserter (director?) in a publication by the Alaska Native Brotherhood. I have it from a generally reliable source that this is how SODA is perceived in Southeast Alaska. I wish you the best of luck in changing this image.

MGM:eh

cc: Dennis Tiepleman
Senator Ted Stevens
Lt. Governor Lowell Thomas, Jr.
State Senator George Holman
Martin Moore
Gordon Jackson
George Barril
Charles Oxereok
Tom Anderson
Fred Pete, Sr.
Margaret Wilmore
Dr. Nightingale
Dave Vallo
Herb Powless
Steve LaBuff
State Senator John Sackett
State Senator Chancy Crofts
Carl Jack
Dr. Bill Richards
Members of ANCADA Board
Mary Beth Hilburn

April 11, 1975

FROM: Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals
Pouch 6540
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

RE: Office of Alcoholism Budget 1975-76

Dear Legislator,

The attached copies of: a letter to Governor Hammond, the current fiscal request for the Office of Alcoholism, a copy of The NCA - Alaska Region News, and a recommended budget are for your information. . . and we hope action.

The State Office of Alcoholism has just advised all programs in Alaska that they must submit budget requests for the exact same dollar amount as last year. If this budget situation is effective, many programs may have to close down completely. Others will have to cut services 30 to 40%.

We recognize the tremendous fiscal pressure you bear this year when each special interest group pleads for funds to meet soaring inflation costs. We do ask, however, that you consider some facts and then determine if alcoholism treatment in the state is receiving proper priority.

1. Alcoholism is Alaska's number one health, mental health, corrections and welfare problem.

2. Alaska has the dubious distinction of competing with the District of Columbia for the number one alcoholism problem area in the United States.

3. State general revenue funds requested by the Administration for 1975-76 are only 65% of the general revenue funds which were allocated in 1971 ('71 - \$600,000 - '75 - \$399,000). We (the state) have a smaller commitment to alcoholism today than we did four years ago.

4. The priorities of the current Department of Health and Social Services budget which includes huge increases for Mental Health, Public Health, Corrections and Welfare and actually cut back on direct service programs for alcoholism seem (to say the least) to be unrealistic.

5. Office of Alcoholism programs are contracted to private not-for-profit local agencies which provide services at a lower cost than state operated programs.

These local not-for-profit agencies, however, are not part of the self perpetuating bureaucracy which is involved in the process of Administration budget development.

6. Alcohol causes this disease, and liquor tax revenue to the state was in excess of \$6,000,000 last year. Our budget request asks for 25% of this income to treat and prevent the problem.

We urge you to:

1. Examine the current and recommended fiscal notes.
2. Examine the NCA News article page four which details an existing formulae for distribution to low-cost effective local programs in your district.
3. Check with your local constituents in alcoholism and get their input.
4. Look at the state budget and see where funds might be directed or transferred from less pressing and cost-effective areas to the vitally important program area of alcoholism.
5. Urge your colleagues in the HESS, Finance and Free Conference committees to support the proposed AAAP recommended budget.

Thank you for your attention to our request.

Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

HS/mt

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

POUCH 6540
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE (907) 272-8575

April 2, 1975

For: Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

Governor Jay Hammond
Pouch A
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Hammond:

We wish to thank you for your prompt response to our letter of February 7th.

First, the reply from Mrs. Green was both courteous and positive. Secondly, Commissioner Williamson, after investigation of the problems besetting the entire system of alcoholism programming statewide, made immediate decisions and took prompt administrative action.

His decision to appoint Bob Cole as Coordinator of the Office of Alcoholism and his decision to transfer the office to a level in which it can function effectively, should alleviate ninety percent of the administrative problems which have plagued this office for the last seventeen months.

Because of these decisions as well as our assessment of his administrative capabilities, the Association voted unanimously to endorse his confirmation for the office of Commissioner and we have both informally and formally lobbied with members of the State Legislature urging his confirmation.

Dr. Williamson made absolutely no commitments to us other than he would again investigate the matter of the level of funding for this office during fiscal year 1975-76.

We have for a long time been recommending a level of four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) for the operation of the State office and its grant and aid program. There seems to be a great deal of confusion regarding your current intent to support your written campaign statement which indicated that your administration would initiate a budget request for four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) level for the State Office of Alcoholism.

Fiscal notes are often confusing. The attached suggestion of income to support a four million dollar (\$4,000,000.00) state program may be of interest both to you and Mrs. Green.

The former Commissioner submitted a budget request to the legislature which asked for an increase of ten thousand seven hundred dollars (\$10,700.00) over fiscal year 1974-75. This is less than 5/10th of one percent in a year which has produced almost disastrous inflationary increases and almost crippled the existing programming. At the same time the Commissioner submitted a budget request for the Division of Mental Health which included an increase of over three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) worth of general revenue funds to support that activity. An increase of approximately 40 percent. Considering that "most mental health" problems as well as 80% of the corrections, problems in the state are directly related to alcohol abuse I think you will agree that Fred's priorities (tempered by his moral attitude towards alcohol use of any kind) were more than a little out of line.

We are circulating the attached fiscal notes and suggestions to the legislature and requesting that the HESS and Finance Committees work with you and Dr. Williamson to see if something like this might be appropriate to continue the effort against Alaska's number one health problem. In order to bring the office program level up to the four million dollar (\$4,000,000.00) mark it would require an addition of only 1.1 million of state revenue funds or a total budget request of approximately 1.6 million in general revenue funds. May we point out that this is approximately 25% of the income received by the state in direct liquor taxes.

We will appreciate your re-examination of the entire funding situation as relates to the Office of Alcoholism and your comment as to whether the administration will support or oppose such a recommendation.

We compliment you on your selection of Dr. Williamson for the position of Commissioner of Health and Social Services and your active interest in alcoholism programming statewide. Thank you again for your consideration.

Cordially,



Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of
Alcoholism Professionals

HS/mb

cc: Frank Williamson, Commissioner

Attachment

CURRENT REQUEST:

	<u>ALLOCATION</u>	<u>APPROP</u>	<u>SOURCES</u> <u>CENTRAL FUND</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
<u>ALCOHOLISM</u>				
Administration & Consultation	230,800			*
Grants to Communities	<u>2,000,000</u>		<u>399,900</u>	<u>1,830.900</u>
Sub Total		2,230,800		

Explanation:

* "Other" in this request includes

1) 1,327,800	HEW TITLE VIa & XVI
2) 200,000	HEW NIAAA State Formulae Grant
3) 25,000	HEW NIAAA Prevention Grant
4) 278,100	Local cash from communities

It is to be noted:

1. Actual money available to support local community programs statewide from the state is only \$1,392,600
2. While total Program request is 2,230,800 - an apparent increase of \$10,700 over FY 75 budget of \$2,217,100 - (approximately .05% increase)...
3. The 25,000 Prevention Grant was not included in FY 75 budget - and is part of administration...
4. Actual monies available for programs decreases in this budget request by approximately 1.2%.
5. In light of inflation this fiscal request is a decrease of over 30% at a time when programs are just beginning to reach maturity and produce measurable results.

Governors Budget
Current Request

Proposed by Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

Recommended Fiscal Request - 1975-1976

	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Sources</u>	
			<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Other</u>
Alcoholism				
Administration & Consultation	400,000			
Grants to Communities	<u>3,600,000</u>			*
		<u>4,000,000</u>	= <u>1,519,100</u>	<u>2,480,900</u>

In this budget "other" includes:

1.	1,327,800	HEW Title IVa & XVI
	200,000	HEW NIAAA State Formulae Grant
	25,000	HEW NIAAA Prevention
	278,100	Local Community Cash
	<u>650,000</u>	HEW NIAAA Pipeline Impact (3 years)
	<u>\$2,480,900</u>	

A \$650,000 NIAAA "pipeline" impact award has been received by the state and approved by the legislature. \$200,000 of this, however, is committed to direct services on the pipeline.

The \$1,519,000 general revenue request is approximately 25% of the state's direct income from liquor taxes.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

POUCH 6540
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE (907) 272-8575

April 18, 1975

Mr. George Hohman
Chairman, HESS
Senate of the State of Alaska
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear George,

The attached letter to Commissioner Williamson is self explanatory.

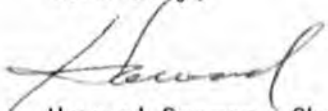
The shut-down authorization voted on yesterday in Anchorage is a serious issue which we hope can be resolved without action.

*PROBABLY STARTED BY
MAY 1.*

Would you please be our guest at lunch noon Wednesday the 23rd of April at the Latchstring to meet with Commissioner Williamson and see if the problem can be solved.

I realize your schedules are busy and every special interest group in the state is pressing with demands for your time. Please send someone to represent you if your schedule is committed that day.
Thanks.

Cordially,



Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of
Alcoholism Professionals

HS/mt

attach.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

POUCH 6540
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE (907) 272-8575

April 18, 1975

Francis S. L. Williamson
Commissioner
Health and Social Services
Pouch H
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Commissioner Williamson,

David Freer has set up an appointment for us on Wednesday, April 23, at 11:15 a.m. I hope you will be able to join me for lunch with several members of the legislature also.

There are two areas of concern.

1. The Re-Education Unit eviction at A.P.I. may be solved by construction of another wing at the SDC facility and combining the two programs. Mental Health officials have indicated a relocations willingness to assist financially in the move in lieu of the \$195,000 yearly contribution Mental Health makes to that program.

Here we need your arbitration, judgement, and perhaps a friendly assist at the Division of Lands.

2. The more serious problem is the funding question. If the current budget is all we can expect, some programs will be forced to close completely, others will have to cut direct services by 35 to 40%. We realize your position and are directing our action and efforts to the Governor and the state legislature.

Unfortunately it may be necessary to take positive action to draw attention to the problem. The Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals of the Anchorage area, by unanimous vote of all Program Directors and employees, authorized an indefinite strike/shut-down of all programs in Anchorage based on the decision of a negotiating committee to be appointed. We are awaiting the formal written authorization from the other areas of the state before I can officially announce that this would be a statewide shut-down (telephone commitments have indicated that all other programs would join the shut-down) the results of such action would be chaotic.

Unlike other strikes or shut-downs where employee groups are demanding personal salary increases, this group asks for funds to provide services to clients.

The State legislature took the responsibility for handling alcoholism out of the hands of local police and city governments and gave the same responsibility to local not-for-profit agencies through the Office of Alcoholism, and then has forgotten to provide funding ever since.

In Anchorage alone it used to cost the city government \$600,000 per year in 1972 dollars to merely "keep the streets clean" by locking up drunks. The city now contributes nothing and the state's total commitment is \$399,000 in general revenue funds, \$200,000 less than 1971. We really do not want to force the issue by closing down local programs, but we are prepared with no reservations to act on the shut-down authorization.

The budget process which led to this fiasco is simple to understand. While alcoholism people are all in effect contract employees of the Commissioner, we had no input whatsoever in the budget process. The Office was without staff for seventeen months, and there was no effective voice to either assess needs or speak to the issue.

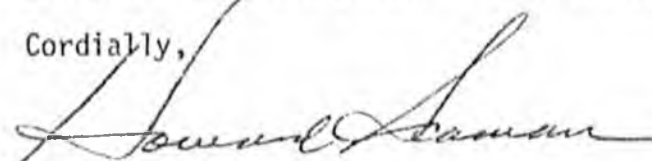
I sincerely believe that the question can be worked out privately, simply by an understanding of the facts, and a possible re-allocation of funds.

We are not publicity seekers as you know, and will studiously avoid communications with the media in order to avoid any embarrassment or public conflict with the Administration, unless it becomes absolutely necessary to implement a shut-down. In no event would any shut-down action be taken without giving a few days notice to the state so that corrections clients could be returned to prisons, the local hospitals could prepare to accept the detox clients and the local police departments could gear-up to handle the problem on the streets.

By copy of this letter and phone calls I am inviting Senators Croft, Ray, and Hohman, and Representatives, Bradner, Sullivan, and Malone to discuss the issue at lunch with us on Wednesday, April 23.

We again wish to compliment you on Bob Cole, he is doing an excellent job picking up the pieces in the Office of Alcoholism.

Cordially,



Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of
Alcoholism Professionals

HS/mt

Commissioner Williamson

Page 3

cc: A. Governor Jay Hammond
1. Chancy Croft
2. Bill Ray
3. George Hohman
4. Mike Bradner
5. Hugh Malone
6. Susan Sullivan

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

8.4

POUCH 6540
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE (907) 272-8575

FOR: Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

February 7, 1975

Governor Jay Hammond
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Hammond,

This letter is an official communication, authorized at a meeting held on February 6, 1975 in Anchorage, from the Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals who represent program directors and staff of all urban and rural alcoholism programs statewide.

Many of us (at least 290 that I can think of) voted for you partially on the basis of your written campaign pledges to initiate administrative order in the Department of Health and Social Services and most specifically because of your stated commitment to combating the State's number one problem: Alcoholism.

You pledged heavy financial support (\$4,000,000) and the necessary administrative support to implement and evaluate the programs.

We applaud your acceptance of Commissioner McGinnis' resignation. Although personally, I would have been much happier if he had been reassigned to some other duty such as Chaplain to the House or Senate, rather than retain an influential position with the Department.

We are sure that you are not aware of the chaos and disorder which you have inherited in the Office of Alcoholism. However, we are confident that you can correct the situation as soon as you are aware of the facts.

The reason for this letter is another major crisis which is bringing the entire statewide program down in shambles. The Associate Coordinator of the Office (Acting Coordinator for the past two months) has resigned effective March 15th. She is an extremely competent administrator who had the humility to recognize her lack of experience in the field of Alcoholism and she did an admirable job in spite of the impossible handicaps within the Department. We are officially on record in commending her to you for her efforts as Acting Coordinator.

Barbara's resignation leaves the office with one staff member and clerical assistants while the office is budgeted for three positions this year.

Simply stated, here are the facts as we see them:

1. We cannot operate Alcoholism programs in the state without a State Office.
2. Since the Coordinator (John Keating) resigned in October of 1973, the office has been a mess.

3. This position (Coordinator) has been vacant for 15 months.
4. The Office of Alcoholism was placed by order of the Commissioner under the Division of Family and Children's Services. Repeated attempts during the past years to move it from this absolutely irrational structure have been ignored.
5. Almost every recommendation of the Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism has been noted by the Commissioner, approved and then ignored completely.
6. The real policy direction of the Office of Alcoholism has been, by default and assumption of authority, delegated to the audit section of the Division of Administration.
7. NIAAA, (the National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse) which is the major funding source for the state's programs, makes direct grants to the state programs. While they attempt to cooperate with the state in the planning process, they send us the grant applications for review. The grants are sent by Administrative order to the Division of Comprehensive Health Planning which has no relationship to the State Office of Alcoholism or to your Advisory Board.
8. In the budget review process, your Commissioner ignored your stated campaign promises, and submitted a maintenance level budget for the Office. From the little information we can gather, no one in the department or your office attempted to support your intent.
9. While the "State Plan" for Alcoholism calls for evaluation of the grantee/contract programs, no evaluation has been done during the past year, and the only technical advise available to the programs has been in the form of after the fact audits, which attempt to control and regulate by budget audit.
10. Grant/contract applications were submitted to the State before April 1, 1974 last year. Bureaucratic bungling between the Division of Family and Children's Services, the Commissioner and the Division of Administrative Services delayed the processing of most of these contracts until October 1st, 1974, (3 months after the initiation date of July 1st) and then most grants were cut 5% (retroactively) by administrative action.

Can you imagine operating the State government from July through September with no revenue and then finding out your budget was \$20,000,000 less than you thought?
11. Renewal funding grants are being written today all over the state for submission on March 1st. As of March 15th, there will be only one person in the office to review them.

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11. Renewal funding grants are being written today all over the state for submission on March 1st. As of March 15th, there will be only one person in the office to review them.

The Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals will probably be presenting testimony to the Health, Education and Social Services Committees of the House and Senate on the 27th of February. It is my understanding that the National Council of Alcoholism, the Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse and the Greater Anchorage Area Borough Health Department will also be there. We are hopeful that we can build support within the legislature to assist you in rectifying the situation.

We urge you in the strongest possible terms to:

1. Support the programs.
2. Staff the Office immediately so they can do their job (2 out of 3 positions will be vacant). Perhaps an immediate appointment of a contracted team of Administrative organizers would straighten it out (with your direct backing) until your new Commissioner can choose a permanent Coordinator. We suggest you re-open the recruitment immediately.
3. Re-open the budget hearings and insist upon a strong Alcoholism evaluation unit to both monitor programs for effectiveness and provide badly needed field technical assistance.
4. Reconsider the placement of the office under the Division of Family and Children's Services. The Department's erroneous rationale for moving the office there in the first place was that "Federal Regulations" (Title IVa and XVI of the Social Security Act) required it. This is pure unadulterated bullshit!
5. Please have someone from your office attend the House (and perhaps Senate) hearings on February 27th.
6. Please have someone from your office attend the meeting of the Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism February 28th, March 1st and 2nd in Petersburg.

The operating programs and agencies in the field of Alcoholism are disgraced, demoralized and confused. We look to you confidently, to correct these errors with dispatch. We thank you for your assistance.

Cordially,



Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

HS/sj

cc: Lowell Thomas, Jr.
Bob Palmer
Clem Tillion
Sue Green
Fred McGinnis

cc: (cont'd) Stan Harris
Ben Iverson
Virginia Blanchard
Mike Bradner
Chancy Croft
John Keating
George Barril
A. B. Colyar
Ed Stewart
Members - Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals
Members - Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism
Members - Committees H. E. & S. S. House and Senate

Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

528 West 5th Avenue, Suite 3
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Phone (907) 274-7435

February 20, 1975

Office of the Governor
Governor Jay Hammond
State Capitol
3rd Floor, Pouch A
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Hammond:

This letter is an official communication of the Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. The Commission represents the twelve Native corporations in matters concerning alcoholism and drug abuse statewide as outlined in the state plan.

At various times throughout your campaign you spoke of implementing evaluation processes in alcoholism programs and we agree that in order for state funded programs to deliver services in a responsible manner this must be done. However, it cannot be done on a maintenance level budget which is again proposed for the coming fiscal year. We feel that in order to implement some kind of responsibility within the Office of Alcoholism, various steps need to be accomplished. Among these are the appointment as soon as possible of a coordinator for the State Office of Alcoholism. Also permanent and competent staffing for that office. This is not to say that the previous acting coordinator (Ms. Barbara Miklos) was not a competent administrator. We applaud her efforts as she did the best she could under the circumstances. However, the efforts of one person however competent that person may be is not enough to insure order and responsibility within that office. We believe also the Office of Alcoholism cannot function properly under the Department Of Family And Children Services and should be a department of it's own under the Department Of Health And Social Services.

I believe you have received communication from other programs within the state addressing these same problems and others which we will be speaking on in more detail on the 27th of February. We are scheduled to meet with members of the Health, Education & Social Services Committee on that date and we expect at that time that members of that committee will be aware of the problems as we program people have stated them. We look forward to meeting with either yourself or your representative while we are in Juneau.

Sincerely,



George Barril
Executive Director

GB/dd

cc: Lowell Thomas, Jr., Lt. Governor
Bob Palmer
Clem Tillion
Sue Green
Fred McGinnis
Stan Harris
Ben Iverson
Virginia Blanchard
Mike Bradner
Chancy Croft
John Keating
A. B. Colyar
Ed Stewart
Dennis Tjepelman
Members - Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals
Members - Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism
Members - Committees H. E. & S. S. House and Senate

March 31, 1975

Theodore H. Cordua
President, Board of Directors
National Council on Alcoholism
4510 International Airport Road
Suite 1
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Cordua:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 13, 1975,
relating to the alcoholism budget in Alaska.

I am very concerned about the alcoholism program and
doing everything I can to promote its recognition as
one of the serious diseases that afflicts many people
in the State of Alaska.

The Legislature is considering many avenues of attack
on the alcoholism problem and although we feel that
the program cannot be funded to the level that will really
make serious inroads into the problem, I am working as
hard as possible to make certain that the State continues
to devote much of their efforts in health and social
services to the problem of alcoholism.

Thank you very much for your correspondence.

Sincerely,

George Hohman
State Senator

GH:pt

*Reply
file Alcoholism*

**National
Council
on
Alcoholism**  **Alaska Region**

4510 International Airport Road, Suite 1
Anchorage, Alaska 99502
Phone 279-3575

March 13, 1975

Mr. George Hohman
Box 100
Bethel, AK 99559

Dear Mr. Hohman:

The National Council on Alcoholism-Alaska Region requests that you take two actions in reporting out the Governor's budget for the next fiscal year:

1. Apply not less than Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000.00) in funds to the Office of Alcoholism's budget to carry on the work just begun in Alaska's most serious health and social problem area.
2. Provide a specific line-item in the University of Alaska's budget for not less than Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) to provide core staff for the U. of A. Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies.

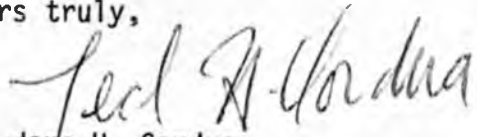
The adoption of these two actions by your committee will use less than the equivalent of two-thirds of the dollar amount generated to the State by the sale of alcoholic beverages. It is our contention that, unless funds are provided in reasonable amounts to deal with this problem, the residual cost of policing, of welfare and medical services will continue to increase. These are the only funds provided by the State to deal specifically with reducing the cost associated with alcoholism and alcohol abuse. These programs should be encouraged even at the expense of other maintenance programs dealing with the problems of alcoholism which are unable to provide solutions.

The request for a specific line-item in the University's budget is to provide so-called "hard money" for the continuation of core staff for that project which has been maintained over the period of the past three years by funds from the Office of Alcoholism and other sources.

Page 2
March 13, 1975
Finance Committee Members

The justification for the savings which can be affected by these moves can be obtained by discussing the matter with our Executive Director, Mr. John H. Keating, and his staff at our offices in Anchorage.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Theodore H. Cordua".

Theodore H. Cordua
President, Board of Directors

THC/les

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

File Alcohol Budget
JAY S. HAMMOND, Governor

March 5, 1975

Mr. George Hohman, Chairperson
Senate HESS Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Mr. Hohman:

The Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism, by official action, urges you to consider and support the inclusion of the budget line item which supports staffing for the Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies of the University of Alaska.

We consider training and research to be vital components of the comprehensive statewide program which is developing into an effective system of combating Alaska's number one health problem.

The budget allocated to the Office of Alcoholism is directed primarily at supporting treatment and prevention programs. Without an active training program, their effectiveness is reduced.

Please consider and support this staffing line item. In so doing, we will be answering a major need, and these state monies will be proof of commitment to federal funding agencies which are, at this time, considering financial support of the Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies.

Thank you for your attention.

Cordially,

Joseph L. Fuller
Joseph L. Fuller
Vice Chairman
Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism

cc: Joseph Fuller
William Diebels
Robert Cole
Robert Winslow
Marcello Quinto
William Rader
10 copies: Please distribute

AB 190

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, Governor

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

March 5, 1975

Mr. George Hohman, Chairperson
Senate HESS Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801

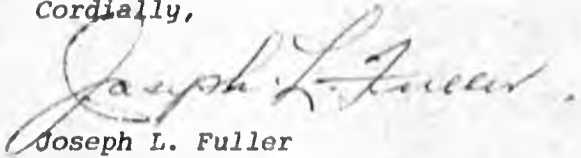
Dear Mr. Hohman:

The Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism, by official action, urges you to consider and support House Bill No. 190, "An Act relating to treatment of alcoholism and drug addiction under group health and disability insurance plans."

Alcoholism is the number one health problem in Alaska and drug addiction is all too rapidly on the increase. We must recognize these health menaces for the illnesses they are and provide the fullest possible measure of treatment as well as prevention and education programs. To do so properly requires the implementation of inpatient treatment at licensed health facilities. To facilitate such treatment, coverage of alcoholism and drug addiction by group and blanket disability insurance policies becomes imperative.

We, therefore, urge that you give House Bill No. 190 your sincere consideration and support.

Cordially,



Joseph L. Fuller
Vice Chairman
Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism

- cc: Dr. Francis Williamson
- Robert Cole
- Joseph Fuller
- William Diebels
- Marcello Quinto
- William Rader
- Robert Winslow
- 10 Copies: Please distribute

My Bet
1/20

Box 208
Sellington, Alaska 99576
January 14, 1975

Senator George H. Hollman
Box 100
Bethel, Alaska 99557

Dear George:

The legislature has not yet come into session, so I assume you probably are still in Bethel.

If there is any vacancy to be filled on the Alaska General Council Board, we, in Sellington, will appreciate your recommending MARIE KALLSTRÖM to the governor. I have already made contact with Jay Hammond about this, but do not know of any vacancy spots now.

You know from Marie Kallström, and you would feel no hesitation in mentioning her as a candidate. She is respected in the business community and is known for her friendly nature and conduct.

She has been more than ten years now as manager of the Anchorage Hotel. She has been assistant to the manager, city manager, and even then that as a Northern Cook's Institute diploma holder.

It is about time that more of the ladies be appointed to the regulatory boards and more of them from the bush areas.

Sincerely yours,

Julia B. Carson

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

POUCH 6510
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE (907) 272-8575

March 3, 1975

Susan Sullivan, Chairperson
House HESS Committee
Pouch V,
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

Thank you very much for arranging the hearings on alcoholism problems on February 27th, 1975, in Juneau. We had no idea there would be so many questions from the Committee and I apologize that the hearings lasted until such a late hour. As you are all aware from the tone of our testimony, we were merely attempting to offer positive suggestions rather than criticize anyone for past performance. As a direct result of the impending hearings and the hearings themselves, Commissioner Williamson has taken some very positive steps:

- 1) A Coordinator has been appointed for the first time in sixteen months. Mr. Bob Cole who now holds that position, has met with us individually and collectively. We believe his appointment should solve a number of problems within the statewide system of alcoholism treatment and prevention.
- 2) Commissioner Williamson has, after investigating the administrative dilemma of the Office of Alcoholism, formally agreed to transfer this office from the Division of Family and Children's Services to a level which will permit direct communication between the Commissioner and the Coordinator of the State Office.

In these two areas the administration has made a positive response to the action we requested from your Committee, and taken steps which hopefully will solve most of the internal problems of the State Office of Alcoholism.

There are two points remaining which are most properly the province of the legislature and we again bring them to your attention:

- 1) Transfer of Title IVa and XVI funding: It is apparent from everything we know that the transfer of Title IVa and XVI funding to another division of the Department of Health Education and Social Services is both legal and desirable. It is evident, however, that this kind of transfer would be a "bureaucratic" impossibility in the short time remaining before final approval of the state budget. Therefore, we

have agreed to work with the Department and assist them in preparing fiscal notes for recommendation of this transfer to the legislature next year. We have lived with the state imposed regulations for three years now, and hopefully many of the "mickey mouse" rules and regulations which impede us in the Title IVa and XVI funding process can be removed or softened by the State Office itself.

2) This leaves the only major problem of alcoholism program funding which is currently requested at the level of approximately two million dollars (\$2,000,000). This is less than a maintenance level budget! You have heard us ask for a funding level of approximately four million dollars (\$4,000,000) statewide to continue and upgrade the programs of Prevention, Treatment, Research, and Training which are so badly needed to combat Alaska's number one health problem. By leaving the Federal Title IVa and XVI monies in the State Office of Alcoholism budget, and considering the six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000) "pipeline impact" NIAAA funds which will be added to our state budget during the next three years annually, it would require only a relatively small addition of state general revenue funds to augment and compliment the large Federal portion in order to bring the funding level up to the State Office of Alcoholism to the four million dollar (\$4,000,000) required budget.

Therefore, we again urge you to support a budget request for the Office of Alcoholism which totals four million dollars (\$4,000,000) including both Title IVa and XVI as well as the "pipeline impact" monies.

The State funds required to meet this level would amount to less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000). May we also point out that liquor tax revenues are in excess of six million dollars (\$6,000,000) annually.

Again, thank you for your cooperation and assistance. The very fact that both sides were able to come together in a spirit of good will and cooperation before your Committee has produced remarkably practical results in a very short time. The Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals was extremely impressed with the performance, personality and actions of Dr. Williamson and we have requested his confirmation by the legislature (this official notification is being sent under separate cover).

Cordially,



Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of
Alcoholism Professionals

HS/mb

cc: Senator Hohman, Chairman HESS
Committee members, HESS, House & Senate
Committee members, Finance, House & Senate
Speaker of the House
President of the Senate

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

POUCH 6540
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE (907) 272-8575

8.4

Alcoholism
Jt. Meeting
2/27

January 8, 1975

Honorable George Hohman
Senate of the State of Alaska
Pouch V,
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Hohman,

We have made arrangements with the House Committee on H.E. & S.S. to present testimony regarding Alcoholism programming problems on February 27th in Juneau.

The attached copies of our letter to Governor Hammond are for distribution to your Committee members and present a very brief description of the problem.

We believe that legislative intent regarding Alcoholism programming in the state has been, and is being, deliberately thwarted by the Department of Health and Social Services and we would like to present information to you to justify the allegations made in our letter to the Governor.

Would it be possible to appear before your Committee on the 27th of February, or perhaps hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on that date? I have asked Susan Moss to coordinate with Eric to see if arrangements could be made for this.

Our travel budgets are very limited and the four individuals who represent the major components of the statewide programs will be in Juneau on the 27th on our way to Petersburg.

The situation is really critical, George, and we need the help of the legislature in supporting the new Governor's pledge to get the mess straightened out.

Please advise me if that date would be convenient, either directly or through the House Committee.

Cordially,



Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

cc: House Committee on H.E. & S.S.
Attachments (10)

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

POUCH 6540
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE (907) 272-8575

FOR: Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

February 7, 1975

Governor Jay Hammond
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Hammond,

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You pledged heavy financial support (\$4,000,000) and the necessary administrative support to implement and evaluate the programs.

We applaud your acceptance of Commissioner McGinnis' resignation. Although personally, I would have been much happier if he had been reassigned to some other duty such as Chaplain to the House or Senate, rather than retain an influential position with the Department.

We are sure that you are not aware of the chaos and disorder which you have inherited in the Office of Alcoholism. However, we are confident that you can correct the situation as soon as you are aware of the facts.

The reason for this letter is another major crisis which is bringing the entire statewide program down in shambles. The Associate Coordinator of the Office (Acting Coordinator for the past two months) has resigned effective March 15th. She is an extremely competent administrator who had the humility to recognize her lack of experience in the field of Alcoholism and she did an admirable job in spite of the impossible handicaps within the Department. We are officially on record in commending her to you for her efforts as Acting Coordinator.

Barbara's resignation leaves the office with one staff member and clerical assistants while the office is budgeted for three positions this year.

Simply stated, here are the facts as we see them:

1. We cannot operate Alcoholism programs in the state without a State Office.
2. Since the Coordinator (John Keating) resigned in October of 1973, the office has been a mess.

3. This position (Coordinator) has been vacant for 15 months.
4. The Office of Alcoholism was placed by order of the Commissioner under the Division of Family and Children's Services. Repeated attempts during the past years to move it from this absolutely irrational structure have been ignored.
5. Almost every recommendation of the Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism has been noted by the Commissioner, approved and then ignored completely.
6. The real policy direction of the Office of Alcoholism has been, by default and assumption of authority, delegated to the audit section of the Division of Administration.
7. NIAAA, (the National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse) which is the major funding source for the state's programs, makes direct grants to the state programs. While they attempt to cooperate with the state in the planning process, they send us the grant applications for review. The grants are sent by Administrative order to the Division of Comprehensive Health Planning which has no relationship to the State Office of Alcoholism or to your Advisory Board.
8. In the budget review process, your Commissioner ignored your stated campaign promises, and submitted a maintenance level budget for the Office. From the little information we can gather, no one in the department or your office attempted to support your intent.
9. While the "State Plan" for Alcoholism calls for evaluation of the grantee/contract programs, no evaluation has been done during the past year, and the only technical advise available to the programs has been in the form of after the fact audits, which attempt to control and regulate by budget audit.
10. Grant/contract applications were submitted to the State before April 1, 1974 last year. Bureaucratic bungling between the Division of Family and Children's Services, the Commissioner and the Division of Administrative Services delayed the processing of most of these contracts until October 1st, 1974, (3 months after the initiation date of July 1st) and then most grants were cut 5% (retroactively) by administrative action.

Can you imagine operating the State government from July through September with no revenue and then finding out your budget was \$20,000,000 less than you thought?

11. Renewal funding grants are being written today all over the state for submission on March 1st. As of March 15th, there will be only one person in the office to review them.

The Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals will probably be presenting testimony to the Health, Education and Social Services Committees of the House and Senate on the 27th of February. It is my understanding that the National Council of Alcoholism, the Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse and the Greater Anchorage Area Borough Health Department will also be there. We are hopeful that we can build support within the legislature to assist you in rectifying the situation.

We urge you in the strongest possible terms to:

1. Support the programs.
2. Staff the Office immediately so they can do their job (2 out of 3 positions will be vacant). Perhaps an immediate appointment of a contracted team of Administrative organizers would straighten it out (with your direct backing) until your new Commissioner can choose a permanent Coordinator. We suggest you re-open the recruitment immediately.
3. Re-open the budget hearings and insist upon a strong Alcoholism evaluation unit to both monitor programs for effectiveness and provide badly needed field technical assistance.
4. Reconsider the placement of the office under the Division of Family and Children's Services. The Department's erroneous rationale for moving the office there in the first place was that "Federal Regulations" (Title 1Va and XVI of the Social Security Act) required it. This is pure unadulterated bullshit!
5. Please have someone from your office attend the House (and perhaps Senate) hearings on February 27th.
6. Please have someone from your office attend the meeting of the Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism February 28th, March 1st and 2nd in Petersburg.

The operating programs and agencies in the field of Alcoholism are disgusted, demoralized and confused. We look to you confidently, to correct these errors with dispatch. We thank you for your assistance.

Cordially,



Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

HS/sj

cc: Lowell Thomas, Jr.
Bob Palmer
Clem Tillion
Sue Green
Fred McGinnis

cc: (cont'd) Stan Harris
Ben Iverson
Virginia Blanchard
Mike Bradner
Chancy Croft
John Keating
George Barri1
A. B. Colyar
Ed Stewart
Members - Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals
Members - Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism
Members - Committees H. E. & S. S. House and Senate

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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February 19, 1975

Susie Moss
House HESS Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Susie:

Thank you for your note of February 13th. Is that a typographical error in your last paragraph? All of us who are coming to Southeastern Alaska will be in Petersburg on the 28th for the State Advisory Board meeting. I hope that the hearing has been scheduled for 3:00 o'clock on the 27th, as we requested. Is it a joint House-Senate hearing?

The basic problems facing the State's alcoholism programs are outlined in my letter to the Governor which I hope was circulated to members of your Committee. This and a number of similar letters from programs and associations throughout the state have received no direct response from Governor Hammond's office yet. We are, however, aware that he is moving with all possible dispatch to correct the situation. Hopefully, by February 27th a number of items will be already corrected by administrative action. However, if this has not been accomplished by the 27th, we will request the following action from the legislature;

- 1) Moving the Office of Alcoholism from a "sub-basement" level in the Division of Family and Children's Services to a ranking office along with the Office of Drug Abuse, Office of Ageing, etc., and reporting directly to the Commissioner of Health and Social Services.

This would literally eliminate about one hundred miles of red tap and give the office an opportunity to perform its function properly.

- 2) We will request that the legislature insist that this administration comply with legislative intent, and staff the office to its proper compliment of people. The position of Coordinator (the Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Alcoholism) has been vacant for fifteen months and the resignation of the current Acting Coordinator leaves the office understaffed and operating at approximately forty percent efficiency. This, at the most crucial time of the year when the entire Grant renewal process is underway.
- 3) We will request that the legislature insist upon a heavy evaluation component within the Office of Alcoholism budget. Those of us who run viable and effective programs in the state want to be evaluated on our performance, receive technical assistance and advice and do our jobs properly. However, a tremendous amount of State and Federal money is being wasted daily by inefficient and poor programs which have never been evaluated by the State they just continue to get funding.

Alcoholism
2-24

Alcoholism
2/27
jt. meeting

- why?
- 4) We will request that the State Legislature transfer the monies currently being spent in alcoholism (Title IVa and SVI) to another division of the Department of Health and Social Services and replace them with monies from that division which have their origins and general revenue funds.
 - 5) We will recommend to the State Legislature that they carefully review and examine the budget submitted by the former Commissioner of Health and Social Services which is in effect, less than a maintenance level budget for the same period last year, at a time when we are finally beginning to see some progress in combating this disease. Hopefully a number of other legislators not on the HESS Committee will be in attendance that afternoon to hear our presentation.

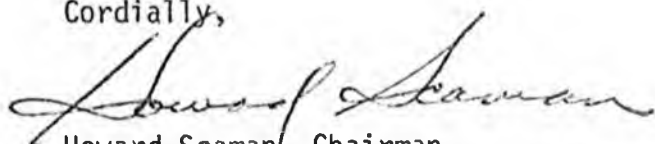
At this time I would like to request that time on the agenda be scheduled for:

- 1) National Council on Alcoholism Alaska Region.
- 2) The Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals.
- 3) The Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

If possible, and within your perogatives, it would be extremely helpful to us if the Committee could request the appearance of Commissioner Frank Williamson, Deputy Commissioner McGinnis, Mr. Stanley Harris, Director of Division of Family and Children's Services, Ms Barbara Miklos, Acting Coordinator of the Office of Alcoholism and Mrs. Virginia Blanchard, Auditor Division of Administrative Services. We will be making some rather serious allegations regarding administrative inefficiency as well as a deliberate attempt to negate legislative intent and I'm sure that they would want to respond to these allegations.

I look forward to seeing you and the members of the Committees in Juneau.

Cordially,



Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

HS/nb

cc: Susan Sullivan
George Hohman

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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PHONE (907) 272-8575

Ms. Susan Moss
Administrative Assistant
Committee on H.E. & S.S.
House of Representatives
Pouch V, Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Ms. Moss,

Thanks for your cooperation on the phone yesterday. Attached are copies of our letter to Governor Hammond for distribution to the members of your committee.

We would greatly appreciate an opportunity to present our problem to your committee on February 27th. Most of the concerned individuals will be able to stop in Juneau inexpensively that day on our way to Petersburg for the meeting of the State Advisory Board.

Those wishing to testify before your committee are: Mr. John Keating - Executive Director of the National Council on Alcoholism, Alaska Region (representing the forty plus councils on Alcoholism statewide); Mr. George Barril - Executive Director of the Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, (representing Native programs statewide); myself - Chairman of the Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals (representing staff of programs statewide); and Mr. Ed Stewart - Director of the Anchorage Borough Health Department Comprehensive Alcoholism Program.

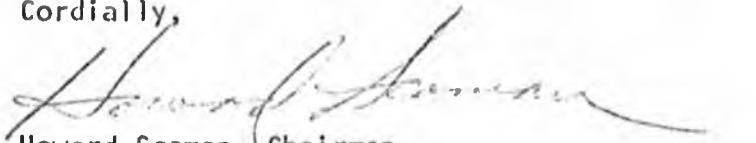
We feel that legislative intent regarding alcoholism has been and is being deliberately thwarted by the Department. You may wish to ask members of the Department to attend to respond to our allegations.

I am addressing a similar letter to Senator Hohman requesting, if possible, that the Senate hold similar hearings the same day or join you in a joint hearing.

We have no preference for a closed or open hearing. We are not looking for publicity, only to rectify the situation. Is it possible for us all to testify under oath?

Please advise me if the 27th is a firm date. Thanks for your help.

Cordially,


Howard Scaman, Chairman
Alaska Association of Alcoholism Professionals

Attachments (11)