

**SB**

**383**

**SFIN**

**FILE**

SB 383

was referred to the  
Senate Finance  
Committee

No hearing was held  
on this bill



## Health, Education, and Social Services Committee Alaska State Senate

### SPONSOR STATEMENT

SB 383—*"An Act relating to the Alaska children's trust grant awards."*

The Alaska Children's Trust Board awards grants to community-based programs and projects that aim to prevent child abuse and neglect. Recipients of these grants must certify financial feasibility and demonstrate a plan for effective intervention. The Board measures these grantees according to their goals. To modify the parameters of this grant program, the Alaska Children's Trustees have developed SB 383.

SB 383 removes the \$50,000 cap on maximum annual grant awards. This provides more flexibility to in determining grant amounts, and prepares the program for an anticipated increase in federal funding.

SB 383 also refines the funding formula in these awards, as depicted in the following table.

<u>Grant year</u>	<u>Previous funding amount</u>	<u>New funding amount</u>
1	up to 75% of the program costs	up to 75% of the program costs
2	up to 75% of the program costs	up to 50% of the program costs
3	up to 50% of the program costs	up to 25% of the program costs
4	up to 50% of the program costs	up to 25% of the program costs
Subsequent	up to 25% of the program costs	

In addition to creating a 4-year limit on grant awards, SB 383 requires the grant recipient to include a plan for self-sustainability. The Trustees also seek to enforce grant reductions upon programs that do not accomplish their objectives.

These funding reductions allow the Alaska Children's Trust Board to emphasize that these grants are awarded as start-up funds. These changes will not be implemented immediately; the Board will work with grantees to transition into the new funding structure.



*Working in partnership with communities to prevent child abuse and neglect.*

**Alaska Children's Trust**  
**Summary of FY 2004 Grant Awards**  
In partnership with the  
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

**Continuing Grantees**

**Organization:** Alaska Legal Services Corporation  
**Project Name:** Children At-Risk  
**Community:** Anchorage  
**ACT / AMHTA Grant Award:** \$18,000

The *Children At-Risk* project will empower parents and children facing domestic violence to use the legal system to increase family safety, stability and self-sufficiency. The project will also coordinate with other family support providers to give parents and children access to a seamless continuum of holistic services.



**Organization:** Bartlett Regional Hospital  
**Project Name:** Fathers Project  
**Community:** Juneau  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$6,688

The *Fathers Project* will provide a pre- and postnatal support group for new fathers, as well as education to health care providers about the importance of fathers and ways to encourage their involvement.



**Organization:** Center for Community  
**Project Name:** Teach Your Children Well  
**Community:** Sitka  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$20,000

*Teach Your Children Well* is a parent support program featuring a radio program on parent and child health. Additional services include prenatal classes, newborn home visits, parenting classes, and a parent-child playgroup.



**Organization:** City of Saxman  
**Project Name:** Saxman Youth Breakfast and Homework Club  
**Community:** Saxman  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$15,000

The Saxman Youth Breakfast and Homework Club is a unique program that offers Saxman youth a nutritious morning snack prior to boarding the school bus. Youth are encouraged to participate in a variety of activities and discussions that teach them the skills to handle conflicts and build confidence. In addition, youth receive after school assistance with school projects and homework. Parent volunteers, a youth liaison and a local social worker staff the club.



**Organization:** Covenant House Alaska  
**Project Name:** Project Nurture  
**Community:** Anchorage  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$7,000

Passage House is a residential facility for single pregnant and parenting women ages 16 to 20. The ACT funds *Project Nurture*, an aftercare program that provides home visiting and supportive services over the 12-month period following discharge from Passage House. ACT funds will support a Young Mothers Empowerment Conference/Retreat for all residents and graduates of Passage House.



**Organization:** Fairbanks Counseling and Adoption  
**Project Name:** Responsible Fathers  
**Community:** Fairbanks  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$4,999

Responsible Fathers is a two-phase program to help teen fathers increase involvement with, and responsibility for, their children. The interactive components include supervised playtime, teen parent mediation services, work exchange for baby items, and parenting education. Outreach will be to all teens but will target teen fathers in the Fairbanks Youth Facility, new recruits at Ft. Wainwright Army base and senior high classes.



**Organization:** Fairbanks Resource Agency  
**Project Name:** Supported Parenting  
**Community:** Fairbanks  
**ACT / AMHTA Grant Award:** \$5,669

*Supported Parenting* is a hands-on parent education program designed for parents with developmental disabilities or other limitations, which prevent them from benefiting from traditional parent education. The project has developed a skill-building format that acknowledges the personal learning styles and cultural diversities of this "at risk" group of individuals. Childcare is offered on-site to provide opportunities for parents to practice class skills while interacting with their children. Home visits are also offered to support ongoing application of skills.

**Organization:** Homer Children's Services Inc.  
**Project Name:** The Birth 2 Three Project  
**Community:** Homer  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$7,353

The Birth 2 Three project is a universal access prenatal and early childhood family education and support program for families. The ACT funded project supports monthly pre and postnatal home visits to families to reinforce families' efforts to give infants and toddlers their best possible start in life.

**Organization:** Hoonah City Schools  
**Project Name:** Parents As Teachers  
**Community:** Hoonah  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$20,000

This project will provide primary prevention services to ensure children receive the healthiest start in life. Parenting education and support will be offered in prenatal and postpartum personal home visits, encouraging breast feeding as an attachment behavior. Additionally assistance will be provided to all families seeking Denali KidCare health benefits.

**Organization:** Juneau Family Birth Center  
**Project Name:** Young Families Program  
**Community:** Juneau  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$14,019

The Young Families Program is based on a holistic and attachment-based approach to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The program supports teen families throughout pregnancy and the parenting experience with a combination of pregnancy and parenting education, labor and birth support, home-based support, mentoring and community resource/referral services.

**Organization:** REACH, Inc.  
**Project Name:** Family Support Project  
**Community:** Juneau  
**ACT / AMHTA Grant Award:** \$18,650

The Family Support Project will provide behavioral and infant mental health training and consultation to staff of the REACH Infant Learning Program, Healthy Families Juneau, South East Regional Resource Center, Even Start and Tlingit-Haida Head Start home visiting programs.

**Organization:** Resource Center for Parents and Children (RCPC)  
**Project Name:** Community Outreach Video Project  
**Community:** Fairbanks and Northern Alaska  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$30,000

RCPC will continue to develop and produce a series of three parenting videos relevant to rural villages and small communities scattered throughout Northern Alaska as well as Alaska Natives living in the Fairbanks area. These videos will feature Athabascan families with a focus on promoting culturally respectful and appropriate parenting skills.

**Organization:** Safe & Fear-Free Environment, Inc. (S.A.F.E.)  
**Project Name:** SAFE for LIFE  
**Community:** Dillingham  
**ACT / AMHTA Grant Award:** \$14,976

The SAFE for LIFE program is an integrated and comprehensive approach to providing children and their families the tools and information necessary to prevent domestic violence, child abuse and other problems related to family violence. This grant supports a Child Advocate and a Children's Services Coordinator for the SAFE For Life program.

**Organization:** SeaView Community Services  
**Project Name:** Incest Awareness Campaign  
**Community:** Seward  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$18,381

The Incest Awareness Campaign is a multifaceted approach employing education, prevention and early intervention strategies to raise awareness about abuse in families. Specific curriculum presented by trained staff and volunteers on incest, bullying, violence, and abuse provides assistance to parents, youth, health-care providers, and educators in creating healthy family environments.

**Organization:** Sutton Elementary School  
**Project Name:** The Eagles Nest Transitional Preschool  
**Community:** Sutton  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$21,913

The Eagle's Nest is a family resource center located at the Sutton Elementary School. Early intervention and parental involvement is the focus. The ACT funded project funds a unique transitional preschool that shares its learning environment with the kindergarten class at the school.

**Organization:** Talkeetna Elementary School  
**Project Name:** Early Childhood Initiative  
**Community:** Talkeetna  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$30,000

The Early Childhood Initiative at the Talkeetna Elementary School is a comprehensive early childhood program providing equal access to all young children. Services are designed to target "at-risk" children and their families. Parents will receive support through home-visits, parenting classes, and special activities focusing on Dads. The children will gain important readiness skills for entering Kindergarten.



**Organization:** Tundra Women's Coalition (TWC)  
**Project Name:** Children's Program  
**Community:** Bethel and surrounding villages  
**ACT Grant Award:** \$30,000

TWC's Children's Program provides after-school groups to at-risk K-6 grade children, a support group for teen girls, parenting session with shelter residents, and the Talking About Touching (TAT) child sexual abuse prevention curriculum in Bethel and village classrooms. The Alaska Children's Trust will fund staff support in the Children's Program. Staff will be responsible for running after-school groups at TWC, conducting TAT presentations in schools, starting a parent support group and training to local service providers on a new project called "A Window Between Worlds."

### Article 03. ALASKA CHILDREN'S TRUST

Sec. 37.14.200. Alaska children's trust established.

- (a) The Alaska children's trust is established as a separate endowment trust of the state.
- (b) The principal of the trust consists of
  - (1) legislative appropriations to the trust; and
  - (2) gifts, bequests, and contributions of cash or other assets from a person.
- (c) The net income of the trust shall be determined by the commissioner of revenue in accordance with investment accounting principles and in a manner that preserves the distinction between principal and income.

Sec. 37.14.210. Powers and duties of the commissioner of revenue.

The commissioner of revenue is the treasurer of the trust and has the power and duty to

- (1) act as official custodian of the cash and investments belonging to the trust by securing adequate and safe custodial facilities;
- (2) receive all items of cash and investments belonging to the trust;
- (3) collect the principal and income from investments owned or acquired by the trust and deposit the amounts in separate principal and income accounts for the trust;
- (4) invest and reinvest the assets of the trust as provided in this section and as provided for the investment of funds under AS 14.25.180(c) and AS 37.14.170 ;
- (5) exercise the powers of an owner with respect to the assets of the trust;
- (6) maintain accounting records of the trust in accordance with investment accounting principles and with distinction between the principal and income accounts of the trust;
- (7) engage an independent firm of certified public accountants to annually audit the financial condition of the trust's investments and investment transactions;
- (8) enter into and enforce contracts or agreements considered necessary for the investment purposes of the trust;
- (9) report to the board the condition and investment performance of the trust;
- (10) do all acts, whether or not expressly authorized, that the commissioner of revenue considers necessary or proper in administering the assets of the trust.

Sec. 37.14.220. Administration of the trust.

The trust shall be administered by the Alaska Children's Trust Board.

Sec. 37.14.225. Trust board established.

The Alaska Children's Trust Board is established in the Office of the Governor. The board is composed of

- (1) the governor or a designee of the governor;
  - (2) the commissioner of health and social services or the commissioner's designee;
  - (3) the commissioner of education and early development or the commissioner's designee;
- and
- (4) four public members appointed by the governor; in appointing the public members, the governor shall give a preference to persons who have experience and expertise in
    - (A) children's or prevention programs; or
    - (B) private sector finance.

Sec. 37.14.230. Powers and duties of the board.

When acting as administrator of the trust, the board shall

- (1) hold regular and special meetings it considers necessary; the board may hold meetings by teleconference;
  - (2) award grants from the net income of the trust to community-based programs and projects that the board finds will aid in the prevention of child abuse and neglect;
  - (3) monitor approved programs and projects for compliance with AS 37.14.200 - 37.14.270;
  - (4) before providing assistance to a program or project, approve written findings on the program or project that include a consideration of the means of measuring the effectiveness of the program or project;
  - (5) apply for, and use net income from the trust to obtain, private and federal grants for the prevention of child abuse and neglect;
  - (6) solicit contributions, gifts, and bequests to the trust;
  - (7) keep audio tape recordings of each meeting of the board to be made available on request;
- and
- (8) submit to the governor and make available to the legislature by February 1 each year a report describing
    - (A) the child abuse and neglect prevention services that were provided by the programs and projects to which the board awarded grants; and
    - (B) the annual level of contributions, income, and expenses of the trust.

Sec. 37.14.240. Fund utilization.

- (a) Except as provided in (d) of this section, the principal of the trust and any capital gains or losses realized on the principal shall be retained perpetually in the trust for investment as specified in AS 37.14.210, and may not be used for the awarding of grants.
- (b) The net income of the trust may be appropriated only for the following purposes:
  - (1) the awarding of grants;
  - (2) obtaining private and federal grants for the trust;
  - (3) soliciting contributions, gifts, and bequests for the trust; and
  - (4) reimbursement to the Department of Revenue for the costs of establishing the trust.
- (c) Realized net income that has not been appropriated, or that has been appropriated but not expended, shall be invested until appropriated and expended.
- (d) Up to \$150,000 per year may be appropriated from the principal of the trust for the administrative expenses of the board relating to AS 37.14.200 - 37.14.270.

Sec. 37.14.250. Grants.

- (a) In awarding grants from the net income of the trust, the board shall consider the proposals of a qualified applicant only after the applicant has submitted a detailed proposal in the form prescribed by the board. The board may not award a grant unless the board makes written findings that
  - (1) the proposed project, if successful, will help prevent child abuse or neglect;
  - (2) the application for financial assistance contains an adequate plan for project implementation, including both financial feasibility and project effectiveness;
  - (3) the applicant demonstrates that sufficient technical expertise is available to accomplish the objectives of the proposed program or project; and
  - (4) the applicant has identified costs associated with and ancillary to the project, additional governmental costs, future obligations generated by the program or project, and necessary operating, maintenance, or other support costs for the life of the program or project.
- (b) The board may establish other requirements for the award of grants under this section if necessary to carry out the purpose of the trust.
- (c) The board shall award grants in amounts that

(1) are appropriate to the conditions of the applicant and the proposed program or project; and

(2) will make the most effective use of the money available.

(d) The amount of all grants awarded by the board during a 12-month period to a single project or program may not exceed \$50,000. The board may not finance more than 75 percent of the cost of a program or project during each of the first two years for which the program or project receives a grant, 50 percent during each of the third and fourth years, and 25 percent during each year thereafter.

(e) A recipient of a grant may not use more than 10 percent of the grant for administration of the program or project.

(f) To the extent consistent with the terms or conditions of the grant, a private or federal grant awarded to the board shall be distributed in the same manner as provided for grants under this section and AS 37.14.260 .

#### Sec. 37.14.260. Eligibility for grants.

The board may award a grant to an applicant if

(1) the applicant has submitted a proposal that is acceptable to the board; and

(2) programs and projects, if any, of the applicant that have previously received a grant from the board have complied with all requirements of that assistance and have performed with sufficient success or promise to warrant further financial assistance.

#### Sec. 37.14.270. Definitions.

In AS 37.14.200 - 37.14.270

(1) "board" means the Alaska Children's Trust Board;

(2) "child abuse and neglect" has the meaning given in AS 47.17.290 ;

(3) "prevention of child abuse and neglect" includes primary and secondary prevention programs; in this paragraph

(A) "primary prevention program" means an educational or training program intended to raise the awareness of and change attitudes concerning child abuse and neglect and its prevention;

(B) "secondary prevention program" means a service intended to reach high-risk groups and to prevent the occurrence or recurrence of child abuse and neglect;

(4) "trust" means the Alaska children's trust established in AS 37.14.200.

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

WES/JAZAN  
  
FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 110601  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0601  
PHONE: (907) 465-3030  
FAX: (907) 465-3068

Dear Friends of the Alaska Children's Trust,

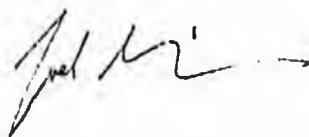
Statistics continue to show an unacceptably high rate of child abuse and neglect in Alaska. In FY '03 there were a total of 14,308 reports of harm to children recorded by the Department of Health and Social Services. Of these reports, 8,497 involved neglect, and 3,258 involved physical abuse. In addition, there were 1,303 reports of sexual abuse. Our goal is to significantly change these statistics for the better.

To combat these staggering numbers, there are many community-based programs and organizations that are funded annually through Alaska Children's Trust (ACT), Department of Health and Social Services and our partners - the Alaska Mental Health Trust, the Friends of the Alaska Children's Trust and numerous corporate and individual donors. It is through these innovative prevention programs that we continue our commitment to protect and improve the lives of Alaska's children.

Today, I'm enclosing a copy of Alaska Children's Trust's 2003 Annual Report, "Making A Difference with Our Commitment." Please take a few moments to review it. In 2003, the year-end financial statement for ACT totaled \$9.6 million in assets, and we look forward to its continued growth. It is the annual earnings of the fund that allows the Trustees to award grants.

And, it is the commitment of our individual and corporate donors, state legislators, community volunteers, grantees, and social workers that enables the Alaska Children's Trust to support prevention programs to protect and "make a difference" in our children's lives. I thank each of you for your willingness to be part of the solution.

Sincerely,



Joel Gilbertson  
Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services

**SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT  
First Committee of Referral**

DATE: 3/31/04

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 3/25/04  
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED  
IN TO OFFICE: 4.14.04

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 383

**SB 383 CHILDREN'S TRUST GRANTS**

"An Act relating to the Alaska children's trust grant awards."

and recommends:

- be replaced with \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- adopt previous \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by \_\_\_\_\_ Committee
- further referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

<b>Senate Bill:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title
<b>House Bill:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Title Change
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title w/ SCR # _____

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#
HSS	4/05			✓	1

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
<i>[Signature]</i>				✓
<i>Linda Green</i>				✓
<i>Betty Davis</i>	X			
<i>Erny Wilton</i>			✓	
CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>	X			

Green  
Green  
Davis  
Wilton  
  
Dyeon