

# Alaska Medicaid Demonstration Project

## Residential Psychiatric Treatment Center Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Waiver

### Summary

Section 1115 of the Social Security Act gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services authority to approve experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects that promote the objectives of the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program.

Alaska piloted a new Medicaid service that was available for a limited number of Medicaid eligible Alaskan youth between the ages of 14 and 20, who have a severe emotional disturbance (SED) are in a Residential Psychiatric Treatment Center (RPTC), or are eligible for RPTC services. The child must also have a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder or be suspected of having an FASD. Also, known as the 3-M model it focused on modeling, mentoring, monitoring.

### Purpose

Alaska's RPTC/FASD Waiver was launched with the goal of reducing the number of youth ages 14 to 21, in residential psychiatric treatment centers who are dual diagnosed with FASD and SED. The project allows Alaska providers the alternative to use Medicaid funds, formerly spent on residential psychiatric treatment, on new home and community-based services designed to meet the needs of youth known or suspected to be impacted by an FASD. The pilot included a research and evaluation requirement.

### Model Legislation

**Eligibility:** youth must be:

- Under age 21
- Eligible for Medicaid
- Have an evaluation by a psychiatrist within 60 days of admission to the program, that identifies a need for the level and intensity of services provided in a Residential Psychiatric Treatment Center
- Have a diagnosis of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. (If a youth is suspected of having an FASD, but has not yet received a diagnosis, the youth may receive an FASD diagnosis as part of the screening process)
- Want to receive services in in community-based services in Alaska instead of in an RPTC.

Waiver services include:

- Mentoring Services
- Daily and Hourly Respite
- Residential Habilitation
- Day Habilitation
- Supported Employment
- Training and Consultative Services

The plan of care is tailored to the specific needs of each individual program participant