



Director's Report

Board of Director's Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Announcements

- Hired Gwen McDonald in Ketchikan for a 6-week work assessment. The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is paying SAIL for providing the service.
- On Nov. 18, I'll be meeting with the Director of DVR, John Cannon, and the Director of Senior and Disability Services (SDS), Duane Mayes, to continue to work on our transition out of DVR to SDS, set to be effective July 1, 2016.
- The CIL Directors are convening in Anchorage in an all-day work session on December 2nd. The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) will pay my expenses to travel up a day early as the SILC quarterly meeting is scheduled for the following two days, December 3 & 4.
- I was re-elected SILC board chair for the term Jan 1-December 30, 2016
- The SILC is working on our 3-year plan, due June 30th. SAIL will assist with community forums in Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan & possibly Haines, to gather public input.
- The SILC will be conducting a statewide consumer satisfaction survey. I'll share the results when they are available.
- At the request of the Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA), I'll be presenting @ the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) Roadmap Stakeholders' meeting in Anchorage Nov. 19. The Alaska ADRD Roadmap specifically identifies HomeMAP as a best practice that should be replicated statewide.
- I'm on vacation Friday, Nov. 20th, returning to the office Nov. 30th. Sierra and Tristan will cover E.D. duties while I'm out.
- Our Ketchikan Recreation Specialist position remains vacant. Maria White is working one day a week while we try to fill the position.
- Sherri von Wolfe, SAIL's new Accessibility Specialist, started on Nov. 10th. She'll be very part-time until Jan. 7th, then ¾-time going forward.

Mark Your Calendars

- **November 21st** Ketchikan Dinner and Auction.
- **February 5:** Have a Heart for SAIL in Juneau!

- **March 15, 16 & 17:** With funding from the Trust, we are partnering with Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska to co-host all-day (9am-4pm) presentations in Anchorage and Juneau with two notable presenters, G. Allen Power and Rosemary Bakker (our Trust grant will pay for Rosemary). The duo will present in Anchorage on March 15th and in Juneau on March 16th. I'm working with the Alaska Online with Libraries (OWL) system to have Ms. Bakker present for 1.5 hours live across the state on March 17th.

Grants

- ORCA was awarded a \$7,400 grant from the Trust to help pay for ski instructor training at Breckenridge, Colorado, in December and adaptive kayak training in the spring. Staff members Lindsay Hallvik and Megan Ahleman will travel to the ski training. All ORCA staff will attend the adaptive kayak training and we will bring a trainer up from down south.
- Alaska DOT&PF grants for community transit are out, due Dec. 11. For the first time, they are requiring letters of commitment for the required 20% match.
 - In Juneau, our taxi vendor, Juneau Taxi and Tours, has agreed to provide a letter committing to paying the needed match for a new accessible taxi;
 - In Haines, Sierra has been working with the Borough on a potential partnership for an accessible vehicle for the Borough to use for tourists in the summer, and SAIL to use for occasional staff and consumer transport. Sierra is working with the Borough Assembly Members to pass a resolution committing to the needed 20% match;
 - In Ketchikan, the SAIL Program Director, Keith Smith, is working with the City Council on a systemic win: new taxi permits (a limited commodity in Ketchikan) strictly for accessible taxis. The City Council has voted to take up the matter. **I recommend the board pass a resolution committing to the 20% match needed for an accessible taxi in Ketchikan.** Again, this is required with our application, due Dec. 11th.

Fees for Service

HomeMAP

Met w/ Amanda Lofgren of the Trust and Deb Ethridge and Jetta Whittaker from the State, Senior and Disability Services (SDS) to explore additional funding opportunities to pay for HomeMAP assessments, i.e., the E-Mod waiver program. One complication: the E-Mod program is a waiver program and the Alaska Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) need to receive an exemption from the State to remain ADRC's and bill Medicaid. The State

protocol is rooted in the philosophy that ADRC's are to be non-biased, conflict free, information and referral centers. In discussions to date, the Trust and the State are indicating an exemption shouldn't be a problem if we go forward. The State is in the process of reviewing waiver and waiver services, so our timing may be good. That said, SAIL has purposefully never billed Medicaid, nor have we created the infrastructure to do so. Many agencies use a 3rd party biller for Medicaid, so that's potentially one way forward. More as things develop...

Accessible Tourism

Our pursuit of a battery-assisted commercial tour using the paved Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei Trail (also called the "Kax" trail) at Brotherhood Bridge has hit a couple road blocks. It turns out that twenty years ago the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) Assembly deemed the trail exclusively for non-commercial use. And, sometime prior to that, CBJ passed an ordinance that all CBJ trails were to be for "non-motorized" use only (commercial and non-commercial alike).

In March of 2011, new Dept. of Justice rules allow "power-driven mobility devices (OPDMD) to be used on trails by "individuals with mobility disabilities." It therefore appears that it would be in CBJ's best interest to update their ordinance and/or provide more concrete guidance regarding OPDMD's. Jason Burke has provided some technical assistance and we plan to strategize further (thank you, Jason!). In my subsequent discussions with the CBJ Parks and Recreation Director, Kirk Duncan, he has indicated CBJ may be willing to pay SAIL for technical assistance. More as things develop...

Financial

We have hired the Certified Public Accountant, Rick Jones from Pennsylvania, recommended by our auditors to assist us through the process of submitting an Indirect Cost Rate proposal to the feds. The negotiated flat fee for his services is \$4K and the work is to be completed prior to the end of December. Finalizing our audit will not take place until after this work is complete.

This is to certify that SAIL has paid all payroll taxes, employee pensions & health insurance premiums due as of today's date. Additionally, this certifies that the Ex. Director reviewed all accounting adjustments w/ the bookkeeper.