

Project Planning Team Description

POW Behavioral Health Network Planning Project

Project Description and Needs Assessment

Project Description

The Prince of Wales (POW) Health Network was formed to improve collaboration and facilitate planning and communication between healthcare providers on Prince of Wales Island; provide leadership in healthcare on Prince of Wales; and, to act as a catalyst in improving the quality of and access to healthcare for all residents of Prince of Wales.

When Communities Organized for Health Options (COHO) unexpectedly closed its doors in January 2009, the POW Health Network responded by initiating a process to work with all stakeholders to plan for an improved and sustainable behavioral health delivery system for Prince of Wales communities, with a focus on prevention and early intervention. In July of 2009, PeaceHealth, on behalf of the Prince of Wales Health Network received a grant from the State of Alaska, Division of Behavioral Health, Prevention and Early Intervention Program to conduct a needs assessment and develop a plan for delivering comprehensive and integrated behavioral health prevention and early intervention services for residents of Prince of Wales Island.

The Prince of Wales Health Network has contracted with Agnew::Beck Consulting, LLC, a community planning and development firm located in Anchorage, to carry out a needs assessment, capacity building and strategic planning process. Agnew::Beck has experience in the development of human service programs on both a statewide level and in individual rural communities of Alaska.

The first step of this process will be for Agnew::Beck staff to travel to Prince of Wales to talk to service providers, community members and consumers of services to gather data that will inform the needs assessment portion of this project.

Melissa Rodriguez and Beth McLaughlin will be on Prince of Wales on September 15th, 16th and 17th and are hoping to schedule meetings with community members and service providers on those days to gather information for the needs assessment.

If you have questions or concerns about the project or just want to discuss it, please contact Melissa Rodriguez or Beth McLaughlin at Agnew::Beck or Esther Erhmann at the Prince of Wales Health Network:

Melissa Rodriguez: melissa@agnewbeck.com (907) 222-5424

Beth McLaughlin: beth@agnewbeck.com (907) 222-5424

Esther Erhmann: pownetwork@aptalaska.net (907) 826-2410