

Contact:
Carley Lawrence
Chief Communications Officer
Carley.lawrence@alaska.gov
[907.334.2531](tel:907.334.2531)

MENTAL HEALTH TRUST ANNOUNCES THE ADDITION OF THREE NEW PROFESSIONALS

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (May 30, 2018) —The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (Trust) announced the hiring of three experienced Alaskans to join the team of dynamic professionals working on behalf of Trust beneficiaries. All three will be starting in their new roles on June 4.

- Eric Boyer is joining the Trust to focus on workforce related initiatives and to expand its behavioral health capacity. Eric has more than 20 years in youth and family community behavioral health and most recently has been with the Alaska Training Cooperative providing critical training and technical assistance to organizations across Alaska. Eric will bring specific expertise to the Trust with his knowledge and background in suicide prevention, traumatic brain injury and a robust Alaska professional network of individuals and organizations serving trust beneficiaries.
- Travis Welch is joining the Trust to extend its work on criminal justice initiatives. Travis joins the Trust with more than 10 years of law enforcement experience, most recently serving as the Chief of Police for the North Slope Borough. Travis has a particular interest in prevention, juvenile justice and substantial experience with rural communities. He will be engaged in adult and juvenile disability justice initiatives.
- Autumn Veal has 10 years of experience with the statewide behavioral health system in the Department of Health and Social Services and most recently with the Department of Corrections. Her knowledge and skills will be an asset to the Trust and its beneficiaries. Autumn will work closely with Michael Baldwin, Senior Evaluation & Planning Officer, to perform a continuous review and analysis of internal data and policy functions.

“All three of these Alaskans brings a tremendous diversity of experience to the Trust team,” said Mike Abbott, Chief Executive Officer. “They join our team of dedicated professionals who work every day to improve the lives of Trust beneficiaries.”

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About the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

The Trust operates much like a private foundation, using its resources to fund system change, demonstration projects, funding partnerships, technical assistance and Trust-initiated projects. The Trust is overseen by a seven-member board of trustees. Trustees are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Legislature. The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority is a state corporation that administers a perpetual trust created to ensure that Alaska has a comprehensive mental health program to serve people with mental illness, developmental disabilities, substance related disorders, Alzheimer's disease and related dementia, and traumatic brain injury.