

# Grant Approval Memo



**Grantee:** Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.  
**Request Amount:** \$60,000.00  
**Project Title:** Anchorage Reentry Coalition  
**Grant Term:** 7/1/2026 to 6/30/2027  
**Trust Staff:** Heather Phelps

## **Staff Analysis:**

- What does this project do?  
Trust funding will support the Anchorage Reentry Coalition Coordinator (RCC) for one final transition year. Trust funds support roughly half of the RCC position as well as operating costs associated with the coalition, including travel, facility space, supplies, equipment and a 10% fiscal fee for Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services' administration of the grant. Funding for the RCC capacity project began in 2016 and was originally intended to have a limited duration. As the Trust typically does not fund operational grants in perpetuity, the proposed funding for FY 27 is intended as a transition year, with the grant reduced to 50% of its previous amount. This transitional period was intended to ensure there was adequate time to explore other funding sources beyond Trust support.
- Who is receiving the funds?  
Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services Inc. is receiving the funds for the RCC position. This RCC position coordinates the Anchorage Reentry Coalition. NeighborWorks Alaska is dedicated to improving lives by creating opportunities for people to live in affordable homes and strong communities. The project will continue to primarily serve adults with current or past involvement in the criminal justice system who are returning from incarceration to the greater Anchorage area.
- Why is staff recommending this project?  
The Reentry Coalition Coordinator is instrumental in developing reentry infrastructure, serving as a central hub for information sharing, resource navigation, community education, and interagency coordination. Although the position does not primarily deliver direct services, its work improves service alignment for Trust beneficiaries who frequently experience mental illness, substance misuse, housing instability or cognitive/functional impairments. RCC's work supports the needs of all returning citizens who have been incarcerated, as they transition back into their communities. This role provides education to the community about the criminal justice system, identifying local challenges facing reentrants, identifying local gaps in services and corresponding collaborative solutions, and serving as a local point of contact for the Department of Corrections. The Anchorage RCC has focused on providing a resource clearinghouse and convening body that connects people, information, and service knowledge related to reentry and rehabilitation for those justice-involved in Anchorage.
- Will this be a multi-year project?  
This is the last year that the Anchorage RCC position will receive Trust funding. Following the conclusion of Mental Health Trust Authority funding, the Anchorage Reentry Coalition will maintain financial sustainability through strategic partnerships and diversified funding sources and plans to restructure the RCC position to that of a management role focused on reentry housing.

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## Trust Five Year Funding History

| <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Project Title</u>   | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Status</u> | <u>Final Expended</u>   |
|--------------------|--|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 2026               | Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative:<br>Reentry Coalition Capacity Development<br>– Anchorage | \$120,000     | Active        | Grant ends<br>6/30/2026 |
| 2026               | Housing Intervention Program   | \$254,757     | Active        | Grant ends<br>8/31/2026 |
| 2025               | Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative:<br>Reentry Coalition Capacity Development -<br>Anchorage | \$120,000     | Closed        | \$92,410                |
| 2024               | Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative:<br>Reentry Coalition Capacity Development -<br>Anchorage | \$120,000     | Closed        | \$88,654                |
| 2023               | Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative:<br>Reentry Coalition Capacity Development -<br>Anchorage | \$100,000     | Closed        | \$98,458                |
| 2022               | Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative:<br>Reentry Coalition Capacity Development -<br>Anchorage | \$100,000     | Closed        | \$93,455                |
| 2022               | NWAK Ready To Rent   | \$50,000      | Closed        | \$46,841                |

## Comp Plan Identification

| <u>Area of Focus</u>                                   | <u>Objective</u>  | <u>Comments</u> |
|--|---|-----------------|
| Area of Focus 8: Services in<br>Institutional Settings | 8.4 Ensure Alaskans who are<br>transitioning out of institutional<br>settings have essential supports |                 |

## Trust Focus Area Connection

| <u>Budget Area</u> | <u>Strategy</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Disability Justice | DJ - Re-entry   |                 |

## Project Description (from grant application)

### Problem addressed

Anchorage faces persistently high rates of criminal justice involvement and reentry, with many adults cycling between incarceration, homelessness, and untreated behavioral health, substance and alcohol misuse conditions. Contributing factors, such as the prevalence of substance use disorders among an estimated 80% of Alaska’s justice-involved population and inadequate housing inventory, are two of the leading drivers that perpetuate this cycle of reentry failure. Most individuals leaving our

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correctional facilities are unaware or unreferral to housing opportunities, have limited access to immediate or bridge treatment options, or lack proper release planning of effective support services. Alaska continues to navigate daunting recidivism trends: approximately 61% of individuals released from incarceration settings return within three years, with nearly two-thirds reoffending within the first six months. As Alaska's main urban hub and home to key facilities (Anchorage Correctional Complex, Hiland Mountain) Anchorage receives the majority of Department of Corrections' releases (estimated to be between 2,000-4,000 individuals annually) based on population insights and DOC Offender profile data.

The Anchorage Reentry Coalition (ARC) aims to disrupt this cycle by strengthening community level coordination and support for adults returning home to our community from incarceration. The project operates as a community led information and resource hub focused on improving reentry outcomes through enhanced access to housing, behavioral substance misuse and other health treatment, systems navigation, and streamlined resource support for justice-involved individuals and the workforce professionals who serve this complex population. This effort deploys proven reentry tactics, such as bolstered access and referral support to treatment, skills training, access to housing opportunities, and cross-sector alliances, rooted in risk-need-responsivity principles. Through targeted action and community buy-in, we target initiatives that have shown lasting drops in recidivism to do our part in building stronger, safer Alaska communities.

## What the project will do

Reentrants returning to the Anchorage community regularly provide feedback through inreach/outreach events and warm line communications, identifying consistent barriers to successful reintegration. The top four most reported challenges include: obtaining stable housing, maintaining food security, accessing identification documents and securing placement into treatment services. These barriers significantly influence an individual's ability to positively establish themselves back into the community effectively and are closely linked to recidivism rates and overall system costs. Utilizing the feedback from those with lived experience, the Coalition will continue its role as a resource clearinghouse and convening body that connects people, information, and service knowledge related to reentry and rehabilitation for those justice-involved in Anchorage. Core activities will include:

- Hosting coalition meetings that bring together community members, service providers, state departments, and people with lived experience to share information, identify gaps, and coordinate responses.

- Facilitating Outreach events (such as Reentry Simulations) and other community education events (such as Science Behind Stigma workforce trainings) to build broader understanding that foster engagement, solution orientation discussions and hands on learning of the barriers people face when returning from incarceration.

- Maintaining and enhancing a centralized resource directory and communication channels (email distribution, social media, and web-based information) to streamline access to reentry-related services such as housing, treatment, employment, and navigation supports focused within the Anchorage Municipality.

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-Providing limited direct assistance and navigation support in partnership with community-based reentry case managers and peers (e.g., linkage to housing, employment, behavioral health, IDs, transportation, and basic needs) and aligning these efforts with community initiatives such as NeighborWorks Alaska's housing and homelessness reduction work.

-Facilitating advocacy and systems-change efforts through the Coalition's to address Anchorage-specific infrastructure barriers (policy obstacles, lack of housing units for people with records, access to treatment and health equity.) Through policy and advocacy work, the Coalition highlights barriers faced by people with records, such as screening policies, limited units for those with criminal history, or gaps in transition planning, and advocates for more second-chance pathways and aligned funding.

-In-Reach for Information and Navigation: Coalition Coordinator provides in-reach services to incarcerated or soon-to-be-released individuals by maintaining and sharing up-to-date reentry resource information. This includes details on housing opportunities such as transitional housing, AHFC vouchers, Returning Home assistance for individuals on probation or parole, Transitional housing and private landlord options. Coordinator also disseminates a current directory of substance use and co-occurring treatment providers, as well as behavioral, mental, and physical health service access points within the community. These resources are distributed through informational materials, partner referrals, and direct engagement during facility in-reach at sites such as the Anchorage Correctional Complex, Hiland Mountain, Spring Creek, Goose Creek, Cordova Center, and Parkview, among others.

-Coordination with homelessness system: By participating in Anchorage's broader housing and homelessness discussions (including coordinated entry and local coalitions to end homelessness), the Coalition helps ensure that people coming out of prison are visible in by-name lists and case conferencing, improving their chances of being matched to appropriate units and supports.

## Program Sunsetting Priorities

Over the next grant period, the Anchorage Reentry Coalition (ARC) will focus on maintaining efforts related to resource navigation, education and awareness, while transitioning into a project that uses those resources to deliver participant based services, workforce partnership support and housing opportunities through COSSUP funding, while also preparing to wrap up the Coalition projects by end of the year. ARC has spent years bringing people together around reentry in Anchorage, connecting partners and people with lived experience to housing, treatment, jobs, and navigation help. As the Coalition efforts will shift into other reentry initiatives current to the needs of Anchorage, this provides a closing opportunity to move what has been achieved from ARC into long-term homes within local organizations and alternative funding, instead of dismantling completely.

With the Trust's support, reentry coalitions have been built across Alaska for a substantial amount of time, giving communities coordination, shared learning, and a stronger link to the Alaska Prisoner Reentry Initiative. In this final grant year, ARC will use that experience to target three sunset strategies for maximum benefit: (1) draft and share a final analysis of what has worked best in Anchorage (related to how information is shared, how "warm" referrals happen and strengths and barriers based off the Coalitions recommendations), (2) help partner agencies take on key coordination tasks, and (3) make sure people coming out of incarceration in Anchorage can still get to housing, behavioral health care, and navigation support after the Coalition is stepped down from the AMHTA framework.

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During this transition time, ARC will focus on a few concrete steps to keep the benefits of the Coalition going:

- Create a clear transition plan for Reentry Housing Officer within NeighborWorks to keep up reentry resource directory, email list, and online information so people leaving incarceration and frontline staff still know where to go for reentry resources.
- Fold ARC's housing and navigation pathways into Anchorage's existing homelessness and housing efforts, including coordinated entry and by-name lists, so people leaving prison stay visible in local housing conversations after the Coalition sunsets.
- Plug ARC's education and reentry simulation work into other ongoing community trainings and coalitions, so those events can continue under other banners without needing a separate ARC-branded effort. Continue to offer facilitation support, such as the partnership to host reentry simulations for Department of Labor's One Stop Training Academy for Staff Training and Development purposes.
- Work with key partners to identify at least one regular meeting (for example, an existing housing or behavioral health workgroup) where reentry topics will be a standing agenda item so that reentry does not "fall off the radar" after ARC ends.
- Use the final year to collect stories and feedback from people with lived experience and frontline staff, then share those lessons with local leaders and statewide partners to shape future reentry initiatives within Neighborworks Alaska.

The Trust support is especially important in this final phase as the staff time and partner work needed to wind things down in a thoughtful way is crucial to effectively complete this task. Instead of the Coalition just stopping abruptly and losing crucial built upon community relationships, this plan utilizes the final opportunity of funding from the Trust to hand off key roles and build them into existing community systems. This allows the Trust's past investment in reentry coalition work live on, while Anchorage's reentry system continues to move toward more coordinated, housing- and health-focused support for people coming home from incarceration.

## Target population and geographic area

The project will continue to primarily serve adults with current or past involvement in the criminal justice system who are returning from incarceration to the greater Anchorage area. This includes individuals releasing from state prisons, local jails, and community residential centers, as well as those on probation or parole who are addressing ongoing reentry-related barriers. Consistent with prior grant periods, many participants are low-income, unstably housed, or meet the HUD definition of homelessness who experience higher rates of incarceration and have fewer supports when returning to Anchorage. A substantial share of participants also meet the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority's definition of Trust beneficiaries, including individuals living with serious mental illness, substance use disorders, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and age-related cognitive impairments that affect their stability and successful reentry.

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The geographic service area remains the Municipality of Anchorage, including the city and surrounding communities where participants live, seek housing and employment, and access services. During the renewed grant period, the Coalition will continue to operate as a local anchor within the Alaska Reentry Partnership network, helping to maintain information flow, referral pathways, and shared practices between Anchorage and other regional coalitions, including for individuals returning from facilities located outside the city. The project will also continue to prioritize coordination with partners that serve Mental Health Trust beneficiaries to ensure that housing, treatment, and support services are as connected and seamless as possible for people returning from incarceration.

## Beneficiary groups

Within the broader population of justice-involved adults, the project will intentionally focus on:

- Trust beneficiaries and others with disabilities or serious mental illness who are at elevated risk of cycling between jails, hospitals, and homelessness without coordinated reentry support.
- People releasing from incarceration into homelessness or unstable housing who need rapid connection to shelter, rental assistance, and supportive housing options.
- Individuals with behavioral health conditions, including substance and alcohol misuse, who require linkages to treatment, recovery supports, and health care as a condition of successful reentry.

These beneficiary groups reflect the Coalition’s mission to prioritize humane, cost-effective approaches to reintegration and to challenge the notion that criminal justice involvement is a permanent status.

## Expected outcomes

Through strengthened coordination, education, and advocacy, ARC aims to create a more connected and effective reentry system in Anchorage. It will increase engagement among community partners, agencies, and people with lived experience through participation in coalition meetings, educational events, reentry simulations, and stakeholder proceedings, fostering a more responsive and collaborative network. The project will also improve access to essential reentry resources such as housing, employment, healthcare, treatment, identification, and transportation, as measured by referrals, linkages, and participant feedback. By reducing fragmentation in services and clarifying pathways for justice-involved individuals and practitioners seeking information, the initiative will strengthen the use of the Coalition’s communication channels and resource clearinghouse. It also continues advocacy for policy and systems changes that address reentry barriers, guided by the Coalition’s steering team and informed by local data and member input. Over the long term, these efforts support improved reentry stability and reduced recidivism among participants, aligning with statewide goals to decrease criminal justice involvement and promote community safety.

## Basic Logic Model

### Input

- Anchorage Reentry Coalition (ARC) coordinator and membership.

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- NeighborWorks Alaska infrastructure, Supportive Housing Department, and Reentry Housing Officer position.
- Funding from Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, COSSUP, and other public/philanthropic sources.
- Partnerships with DOC, Department of Health, AHFC, homelessness providers, behavioral health and SUD treatment agencies, peer organizations, tribal partners, and workforce systems.
- Lived experience, expertise and feedback from justice-involved individuals and families
- Existing statewide reentry infrastructure (Alaska Reentry Partnership, Statewide Reentry Coalitions, recidivism-reduction initiatives).

## Activities

- Convene regular coalition and workgroup meetings to coordinate housing, treatment, and navigation responses for people returning from incarceration.
- Provide in-reach to DOC facilities and CRCs to share reentry resource information and navigation support prior to and immediately after release.
- Maintain and enhance centralized, Anchorage-focused reentry resource directories, listserv, website, and warm line/consultation responses.
- Host Reentry Simulations, Science Behind Stigma trainings, and other workforce/community education events.
- Offer limited, targeted navigation and direct assistance (e.g., housing, IDs, transportation, treatment access, basic needs) in partnership with case managers and peers.
- Coordinate with coordinated entry, by-name lists, and homelessness coalitions so people leaving incarceration are visible in housing processes.
- Lead and support policy and systems-change advocacy to reduce housing, treatment, and reentry barriers for people with records and Trust beneficiaries.
- Use COSSUP Request for Service mechanisms and flexible funds to connect justice-involved people with SUD to treatment, housing, and supports from pretrial through post-release.
- Plan and implement a sunset/transition strategy, including transferring core functions to NeighborWorks or other agencies as agreed, embedding reentry into standing agendas, and documenting learned lessons.

## Output

- Number of coalition meetings, partner convenings held annually, and number of agencies and sectors represented.
- Number of in-reach contacts, facility presentations, and individuals reached with reentry information before release.
- Number of resource directory updates, listserv messages, website visits, warm line inquiries, and referrals completed.

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- Number of education events (reentry simulations, stigma trainings, community briefings) and participants trained.
- Number of individuals receiving navigation assistance or last-resort financial support for housing, transportation, phones, treatment, and basic needs.
- Number of justice-involved individuals added to or retained on coordinated entry and by-name lists, and number matched to units or vouchers.
- Number of policy/advocacy recommendations developed, meetings with decision-makers, and policies/practices modified to improve reentry.
- Number of transition/sustainability products, such as final analysis report, transition plan, documented workflows, and stories from people with lived experience.

## Short-Term View

- Increased access to clear, centralized reentry information for justice-involved individuals, families, and frontline staff, as reflected in inquiry, referral, and directory use data.
- Stronger cross-sector coordination among corrections, housing, behavioral health, SUD treatment, homelessness systems, and peers around reentry needs in Anchorage.
- Increased workforce and community understanding of reentry barriers and stigma, leading to more solution-focused conversations and referrals.
- More individuals leaving incarceration connected to housing options, IDs, treatment providers, and basic needs supports within the first weeks after release.
- Clear transition roadmap developed for transferring ARC convening, information-sharing, and education functions into NeighborWorks and other standing coalitions.

## Intermediate View

- Higher proportion of people releasing from incarceration who have stable housing, treatment linkage, or employment within 30–90 days of release.
- Reduced service fragmentation for Trust beneficiaries and other justice-involved individuals, with clearer pathways from custody to housing and care in the community.
- Core reentry activities (resource directory, listserv, simulations/trainings, reentry as a standing agenda topic) sustained within NeighborWorks and existing community structures after ARC's sunset.
- Increased utilization of COSSUP-funded flexible supports to prevent lapses in care and housing for people with opioid, stimulant, and other SUDs.
- More policies and organizational practices in Anchorage adjusted to reduce housing and treatment barriers for people with criminal records.

## Long-Term View

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- Improved reentry stability among participants, including sustained housing, engagement in behavioral health and SUD treatment, and reduced cycling between jail, hospitals, and homelessness.
- Decreased recidivism rates among justice-involved adults returning to Anchorage, particularly within the first six months and three years after release, contributing to safer communities and lower system costs.
- Durable, community-embedded reentry infrastructure in Anchorage that continues beyond ARC's original grant cycle, anchored within NeighborWorks and partner coalitions.
- More equitable, humane, and recovery-oriented responses to justice involvement for Trust beneficiaries and others with behavioral health conditions, challenging the idea that criminal records are a permanent barrier.

## Community support

The Anchorage Reentry Coalition is embedded within a broad community network that includes state departments, social service agencies, reentry case managers, peers with lived experience, and local organizations such as NeighborWorks Alaska. The coalition's steering team draws representatives from multiple sectors, and coalition membership is intentionally open-door, offering "a seat at the table for all" who wish to support education, advocacy, and resource sharing in reentry. With a Listserv of over 500 subscribers (503 approximately as of February 2026) and an average of 250 to 305 actively engaging with monthly digital content such as newsletters, resource guides, and the Coalition's website, there is clear evidence of a consistent need for accessible reentry information. This need spans both individuals seeking services and the professional workforce supporting them.

On average, Coordinator receives 11 to 15 inquiries per week through phone or digital communication. These inquiries typically involve requests for guidance or referrals for individuals who are soon to be released or recently released from incarceration and need housing, treatment, or other social services. Many inquiries originate from Corrections staff (including Probation and Parole Officers), legal professionals such as Public Defenders, and from families or individuals directly. Coalition responds by addressing the need directly, providing an appropriate referral or program connection, or linking the inquirer to a coalition partner with specialized expertise.

Coalitions across Alaska, including Anchorage, are supported through local, state, and federal resources and receive in-kind support from community partners and volunteers, demonstrating strong public and institutional backing for this work. NeighborWorks Alaska further supports the Anchorage Reentry Coalition by hosting the coordinator position and aligning reentry efforts with broader community initiatives to reduce homelessness and strengthen neighborhoods. Together, these partnerships show that the project is grounded and reinforced by significant community commitment to improving outcomes for reentrants in Anchorage.

## **Grantee Proposed Evaluation Measures (from grant application)**

Anchorage Reentry Coalition (ARC) – Performance Metrics Suggested Framework

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## 1. Output (Activity and Reach)

Measure what ARC does and how far it reaches.

- Coalition Coordination
- Number of coalition meetings/events and participant attendance.
- Number of participating agencies, partners, and sectors represented.
- Percentage of meetings that result in shared action items or follow-up coordination.
- Information Access
- Number of in-reach contacts across correctional facilities and Community Residential Centers.
- Number of individuals reached with reentry resource information pre- and post-release.
- Frequency of updates to resource directory, number of listserv emails sent, website visits, and social media engagement.
- Education and Outreach
- Number of community education/trainings held (e.g., simulations, stigma trainings).
- Number of participants trained and percentage reporting increased understanding or empathy toward reentry challenges.
- Navigation and Direct Support
- Number of individuals receiving navigation assistance or short-term financial support.
- Average time from initial inquiry to referral connection.
- Percentage of inquiries resulting in successful referrals or outcomes.
- Policy and Advocacy
- Number of policies, practices, or funding criteria influenced or modified.
- Number of advocacy meetings held with system leaders and policymakers.
- Number of reentry-related issues embedded as standing items in existing community meetings post-sunset.

## 2. Knowledge and Coordination

Measure improvements in access, awareness, and collaboration.

- Percentage increase in directory/listserv engagement (baseline vs. current period).
- Increase in cross-agency referrals and information sharing.
- Percentage of workforce trainees showing improved understanding of stigma or barriers (pre/post training).
- Percentage of individuals reporting timely access to housing, IDs, treatment, or navigation support within 30 days of release.
- Completion of transition roadmap (documented workflows, contact lists, and analysis of what worked).

## 3. System Integration

Measure participant stability and system continuity after initial services.

- Percentage of reentrants with stable housing, employment, or treatment engagement within 30–90 days post-release.

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- Number of justice-involved individuals recorded on and matched through Coordinated Entry/By-Name List systems.
- Number and proportion of COSSUP “Request for Service” applications successfully fulfilled.
- Reduction in service duplication or gaps (tracked via partner surveys or case conferencing reviews).
- Number of sustained ARC functions integrated into other entities (NeighborWorks, COC groups, workforce coalitions).

#### 4. Long-Term Metrics (Impact and Outcomes)

Measure community-level change and participant outcomes tied to reentry success.

- Reduction in Anchorage’s three-year recidivism rate among participants compared with baseline.
- Reduction in the proportion of participants reoffending within six months of release.
- Increased proportion of justice-involved individuals maintaining stable housing and treatment engagement at 6–12 month follow-up.
- Measurable decrease in returns to homelessness or psychiatric hospitalization among Trust beneficiaries.
- Demonstrated continuation of reentry coordination infrastructure within NeighborWorks and community partners after ARC sunset.
- Participant-reported improvement in community belonging, recovery stability, or readiness for sustained independence.

#### 5. Qualitative and Systems-Learning Metrics

Supplementary measures that highlight lessons learned and ongoing system cultural change.

- Collection and documentation of at least 10–15 lived experience narratives for the final analysis.
- Feedback from coalition members on the perceived effectiveness of coordination post-ARC.
- Evidence of sustained use of ARC materials, resource tools, and training modules by community partners after project closure.
- Inclusion of reentry data in local and statewide planning or funding decisions.

### **Proposed Project Performance Measures (developed by the Trust)**

Performance Measure 1:

No later than January 31, 2027, a written status update will be submitted via email to Carrie Predeger, Grants Accountability Manager at [carrie.predeger@alaska.gov](mailto:carrie.predeger@alaska.gov) to include:

- a. Executive summary:
  - i. Progress towards the Coalition’s goals outlined in the Comprehensive Community Reentry Plan.

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- ii. A summary of community outreach and education activities conducted by the Reentry Coalition Coordinator.
- b. A description of any identified system and/or local community-based service/support challenges for returning citizens
  - i. Expenditures to date
  - ii. Coalition accomplishments, highlights, or new challenges to date.

## Performance Measure 2:

No later than July 31, 2027, a written report covering the FY27 grant period will be submitted via email to Carrie Predeger, Grants Accountability Manager at [carrie.predeger@alaska.gov](mailto:carrie.predeger@alaska.gov). The report shall include, but is not limited to the following:

- a. Summary of the Coalition's six meetings and related Coalition committee or workgroup meetings:
  - i. Dates of Coalition meetings and events with list of organizations represented.
  - ii. Accomplishments from prior meeting(s) and/or identified challenges facing the Coalition, community or Trust beneficiary returning citizens.
- b. Summary list of community outreach and education activities conducted by the Reentry Coalition Coordinator (including presentations within a correctional facility).
- c. Any other Coalition highlights, activities, or topics wished to be included.

## **Sustainability (from grant application)**

Following the conclusion of Mental Health Trust Authority funding, the Anchorage Reentry Coalition (ARC) will maintain financial sustainability through strategic partnerships and diversified funding sources. NeighborWorks Alaska (NWAK), the Coalition's fiscal sponsor and administrative home, will continue to provide financial management, shared staffing support, and access to organization-wide infrastructure that enhances long-term stability. NWAK will continue to host ARC under its strong communities and community engagement mission through its Supportive Housing Department. NWAK remains committed to reentry as a core component of its mission and will retain the Coalition Coordinator through a restructured management role known as "Reentry Housing Officer." This position will oversee reentry operations while expanding integration into NWAK's housing and community development efforts. Through this partnership, ARC will continue to leverage NWAK's housing expertise to strengthen supportive housing linkages, policy advocacy, and capacity development. Embedding ARC within NeighborWorks' broader framework ensures alignment with statewide housing priorities while maintaining the Coalition's central mission of education, systems navigation, and equitable community reintegration in Anchorage.

NeighborWorks Alaska, supports Continuum of Care (CoC) efforts by providing grants, training, and technical assistance for initiatives addressing homelessness. These include resident leadership development, community building, and comprehensive strategies that align with CoC goals like housing stability and supportive services. Expanding support for integrating reentry housing needs into community-wide planning, advocating for dedicated units or set-asides for people exiting

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incarceration, and using its community development capacity to create stable housing pathways that support successful reentry will become the priority in this trajectory.

The Coalition has also secured funding through the federal Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP), which will not only offer participant funding as last resort financial assistance and/or community resource navigation to justice-involved individuals with substance use disorders during reentry from incarceration, but also core reentry coordination activities, partnership convening, and data collection efforts. With the award of this funding, the Coalition aims to develop and expand collaborative, community-based efforts that reduce the impact of substance use on involvement with the carceral system by improving linkage to care, housing stability, and community connections for disproportionately affected Alaskans, in partnership with The State of Alaska Department of Health's Division of Public Health and Bureau Justice Assistance (BJA) Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program dollars.

In addition to transitioning funding opportunities the primary target of this program will be to actively connect individuals with substance/alcohol misuse disorders (SUD) pretrial through post incarceration to culturally appropriate treatment services and supports by bridging the gap between identification of a SUD and engagement in treatment and actively encouraging individuals to seek help, while developing support structures that improve conditions for re-entry to Anchorage and Mat-Su community through Linkage to Care, Housing and Community supports. The primary method will utilize a flexible funding and warm hand off referral mechanism referred to as a "Request for Service" application that will either provide short term/emergency assistance funding for a pre-determined list of needs/items already allocated for, or a request of Referral/Navigation into community supports, based off the individual and advocates documented need. Funds will be used to cover critical, time-sensitive needs, such as short-term, one-time transitional housing costs, transportation, cell phone access, treatment fees, and necessities, when no other community funding is available, based on applications submitted by workforce and provider advocates. By strengthening linkages among corrections, behavioral health, housing, tribal, and peer recovery partners, the project hopes to increase access treatment and housing stability, reduce lapses in care, and ultimately decrease recidivism, substance-related harm, and overdose deaths among participants in Tribal region of Anchorage and Mat-Su.

The Coalition will also continue to pursue additional public and private funding opportunities, including state, municipal, and philanthropic resources, to expand its capacity and ensure continuity of services. Through these combined efforts, the Anchorage Reentry Coalition will remain positioned to advance equitable and effective reentry strategies across Anchorage and the broader Alaska reentry network. ARC will strengthen its sustainability through a comprehensive community partnership and advocate development strategy centered on diversifying long-term funding. This approach includes expanding relationships with local and national funders that support reentry priorities such as workforce development, health equity through access to behavioral health and substance use treatment, and increased housing opportunities. The Coalition will also pursue new funding pathways, including re-emerging federal initiatives such as SAMHSA Adult Reentry Program grants, state-level priorities that focus on justice-involved populations, and innovative models such as public-private collaborations, social impact investments, and cross-sector partnerships. By leveraging data and outcomes to demonstrate measurable impact, combined with the ability to provide necessary education, resources and anchorage-specific understanding of strengths and barriers, the Coalition

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aims to align with state and federal priorities and ensure the continued cost-benefit and positive community impact of reentry efforts.

## **Who We Serve (from grant application)**

The Anchorage Reentry Coalition was created and continues to directly benefit Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries who are justice-involved adults in Anchorage experiencing mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, or traumatic brain injuries. These conditions are overrepresented among people cycling between incarceration, homelessness, and crisis services, making coordinated reentry support critical to preventing further harm and promoting stability for Trust beneficiaries.

Through continued in-reach to correctional facilities, centralized reentry resource navigation, and targeted education efforts, ARC will improve Trust beneficiaries' access to safe and appropriate housing, behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment, and other community-based supports that help them remain stable after release. By embedding ARC's housing and navigation pathways within NeighborWorks Alaska's supportive housing work and Anchorage's homelessness response systems, the project aligns with the Trust's focus on Housing & Home and Community Based Services, ensuring that beneficiaries have clearer, sustained pathways from custody into housing and services in the least restrictive setting.

Trust beneficiaries will be better off as a result of this project through earlier and "warmer" connections to housing options, treatment providers, and practical supports such as identification, transportation, and basic needs, particularly in the critical first weeks and months after release. These improved linkages are expected to reduce lapses in care, prevent returns to homelessness or psychiatric hospitalization, and support ongoing recovery and community integration for beneficiaries with serious mental illness, substance use disorders, cognitive impairments, and other qualifying conditions. As ARC sunsets, the project's transition plan will further protect Trust beneficiaries by institutionalizing core reentry functions, resource directories, navigation supports, and reentry-focused education, within NeighborWorks Alaska and existing coalitions, ensuring that beneficiaries continue to have access to coordinated, housing- and health-focused reentry supports beyond the life of this grant.

Within the broader population of justice-involved adults, the project will intentionally focus on: Trust beneficiaries and others with disabilities or serious mental illness who are at elevated risk of cycling between jails, hospitals, and homelessness without coordinated reentry support. People releasing from incarceration into homelessness or unstable housing who need rapid connection to shelter, rental assistance, and supportive housing options.

Individuals with behavioral health conditions, including substance and alcohol misuse, who require linkages to treatment, recovery supports, and health care as a condition of successful reentry.

These beneficiary groups reflect the Coalition's mission to prioritize humane, cost-effective approaches to reintegration and to challenge the notion that criminal justice involvement is a permanent status.

# Grant Approval Memo



## **Estimated Numbers of Beneficiaries Served Experiencing (from grant application)**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Mental Illness:  | 20  |
| Developmental Disabilities:  | 10  |
| Alzheimer’s Disease & Related Dementias:   | 1   |
| Substance Abuse  | 50  |
| Traumatic Brain Injuries:  | 10  |
| Secondary Beneficiaries (family members or caregivers providing support to primary beneficiaries): | 100 |
| Number of people to be trained   | 500 |

## **Project Budget (from grant application)**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Personnel Services Costs                 | \$47,000.00  |
| Personnel Services Costs (Other Sources) | \$0.00   |
| Personnel Services Narrative             | <p>This line item includes salaries and associated fringe benefits for personnel directly involved in implementing and managing the Anchorage Reentry Coalition (ARC). Fringe benefits are calculated at an average rate of 30% of salaries and include employer contributions for health insurance, payroll taxes, retirement plans, workers' compensation, and other standard benefits. All staff listed below will contribute directly to the delivery of services, oversight, and performance reporting under this grant.</p> <p>.5 FTE Reentry Coalition Coordinator – \$47,000.00 (salary and fringe)</p> <p>This funding will support the Anchorage Reentry Coalition Coordinator in overseeing the structured and compliant wind-down of the Coalition to ensure an orderly transition of responsibilities and preservation of community partnerships. Responsibilities include developing and implementing a formal closure plan, facilitating final stakeholder meetings, and communicating transition timelines to partners, funders, and justice system stakeholders. The Coordinator will ensure fiscal reconciliation, completion of required reports, and proper close-out of any contracts or funding streams. Additionally, the Coordinator will compile and archive records, document coalition outcomes, and prepare a final summary report outlining impact and future system recommendations. These activities ensure responsible stewardship of resources, minimize disruption to justice-involved individuals seeking</p> |

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|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | housing and services, and maintain system integrity throughout the sunseting process.  |
| Travel Costs                              | \$1,000.00   |
| Travel Costs (Other Sources)              | \$0.00   |
| Travel Costs Narrative                    | Travel – Reentry Coalition Coordinator: Supports local and in-state transportation for required community outreach and participation in sponsored community-specific events, including trainings, outreach activities, statewide council implementation meetings, and stakeholder meetings in Anchorage and other locations, as justified, to support development and implementation of community reentry capacity building. Travel also includes trips within the road system to correctional institutions for in-reach activities, including pre-release planning, resource navigation, and housing referrals. |
| Space or Facilities Costs                 | \$1,000.00   |
| Space or Facilities Costs (Other Sources) | \$0.00   |
| Space or Facilities Narrative             | Space and Facilities: Supports reasonable costs associated with space and facilities needed to operate the reentry coalition, including office or meeting space, utilities, basic furnishings, and shared equipment required for coordination, outreach, meetings, and service navigation activities. Costs are limited to the portion of space and facility use directly attributable to coalition functions  |
| Supplies Costs                            | \$2,500.00   |
| Supplies Costs (Other Sources)            | \$2,500.00   |
| Supplies Narrative                        | Supplies: Covers consumable and program-related materials needed to support reentry coalition operations, outreach, and participant services, reentry simulation paper, promotional and event materials, outreach and engagement materials, basic technology accessories, and resource materials used in coordination and navigation activities. Costs are limited to reasonable, necessary items directly tied to coalition functions.  |
| Equipment Costs                           | \$2,500.00   |
| Equipment Costs (Other Sources)           | \$0.00   |
| Equipment Narrative                       | Equipment: Related office equipment maintenance to allow Reentry Coalition Coordinator to maintain shared and improve resource database, track participant outcomes, and communicate with partner agencies as necessary for reentry coalition coordination, data tracking, and communication with partners and beneficiaries, consistent with Trust guidance on essential program equipment. Equipment costs are limited to  |

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|--|---|
|  | items that are reasonable, cost-effective, and directly attributable to implementation of the reentry coalition's scope of work and to improved outcomes for Trust beneficiaries. |
|--|---|

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Other Costs                 | \$6,000.00  |
| Other Costs (Other Sources) | \$0.00  |
| Other Costs Narrative       | Fiscal Agent Fee Requested as Other Costed Associated |

## **Other Funding Sources (from grant application)**

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| (SECURED) State of Alaska Department of Health's Division of Public Health and Bureau Justice Assistance (BJA) Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program | \$86,080.00        |
| <b>Total Leveraged Funds</b>   | <b>\$86,080.00</b> |