



ANB – ANS JUNEAU, ALASKA – September 2015

Resolution #15-16

Title: Need for a Regional Inpatient and Outpatient Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Facility

WHEREAS, an effective dual-diagnosis mental health, drug and alcohol treatment facility is long overdue and needed in Southeast Alaska based on the level and complexity of addiction in our region's communities and lack of available services locally; and

WHEREAS, such a treatment facility could decrease the need and expense for prison space by creating a diversion program where treatment at such a facility would be an option available to judges for sentencing; and

WHEREAS, in order to be effective such a facility would need to address adolescents and families in addition to both male and female clients; and

WHEREAS, currently Southeast Natives are served by the Bill Brady Healing Center a drug or alcohol rehabilitation center with a primary focus on alcohol abuse and provides only a 20 bed short-term residential treatment care and no special groups, programs or language services are available; and

WHEREAS, the average annual suicide rate among Alaska Natives was 40.4 per 100,000 people, compared with 17.7 per 100,000 people in the non-Native population, and Alaska Native males between the ages of 20 and 29 had the highest suicide rate, at 155.3 per 100,000 people (which is approximately nine times the rate in the non-Native population); and

WHEREAS, numerous example of Southeast Native adult and children needing to be sent far from their families, sometimes as far as San Diego California, exists requiring a locally available solution in a centrally located Southeast community with reliable weekly transportation services; and

WHEREAS, a key factor to combating drugs, alcohol, suicide and mental illness in general is access to proven treatment techniques and facilities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANS Camp 2 and the ANB & ANS Camp 70, assembled in a joint meeting in September 2015, request the Alaska Native Brotherhood and the Alaska Native Sisterhood in Grand Camp assembled in October 2015, the Centennial Year of the ANS, declare that all efforts to construct a Regional Inpatient and Outpatient Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Facility within Southeast Alaska should be encourage and that the State of Alaska, Tribal and federal officials should coordinate with all private entities who have a

demonstrated track record of building and operating such a facility in a centrally located community with available work force and supportive and caring environment; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ANB and ANS Grand Camp declares that the facility should utilize Native hire and trained Native counselors and integrate mainstream therapies with culturally competent, traditional ways of healing, recovery and treatment.

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