



Assets, Inc.

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2024

Serving the Anchorage Community since 1980

2330 Nichols St. Anchorage, Alaska 99508

www.AssetsInc.org

This Year's Highlights and Updates

Housing Safety and Maintenance

Understanding affordable housing for persons with disabilities is almost nonexistent in Anchorage. Assets owns a 9-plex apartment and rents at low rates affordable for all our client tenants. Unfortunately, with such low rents, being able to maintain or make major repairs to the building is financially prohibitive.



This year, thanks to a very generous grant award from the State of Alaska Department of Health, Division of Behavioral Health, Assets was able to completely replace an aging and deteriorating large second floor deck and entryway to multiple apartments. This not only improved the safety of the homes, but improved the aesthetics of the building as well.

Retirement Accounts for Employees with Disabilities

Assets supports all employees by offering a 401k plan with a company match.

Unfortunately, many of our employees who experience developmental disabilities receive social security benefits which precludes most of them from benefiting from our 401k plan due to the risk of losing that benefit.

This year, the Assets Board of Directors authorized management to unveil a plan supporting ABLÉ accounts for this group of employees. ABLÉ accounts are IRS approved savings plans for eligible individuals that permit them to save up to \$100,000 for retirement and certain ongoing needs like housing and education. Assets makes the same percentage contribution to employees' ABLÉ accounts as we do for those employees contributing to a 401k.

New Future Homes

The lack of safe and affordable housing is one of the most powerful barriers to recovery for persons experiencing mental illness. Anchorage is critically short of affordable housing for all people. In recognition of that fact, Assets Board of Directors approved a motion authorizing management to purchase a large lot adjacent to one of our current supportive apartment sites.

This purchase is the first step to developing new housing for up to eight individual apartments or tiny homes. Next, Assets will move into a pre-development phase of research and funding.



This Year's Highlights and Updates (cont.)

Bus Campaign

It may be pride or ego, but Assets has never done a direct appeal for donations in the history of the company. This year, a used but much needed bus that was used to help clients reach cultural, recreational and treatment destinations had a major engine failure. There were no reserves for making the expensive repairs, so we made our first attempt to reach out to the community for help.

Our Print Shop Manager had the skills to create social media and other email generated

appeals. Mailings to various zip codes and old-fashioned flyers distributed by staff were also deployed. We were surprised and extremely thankful for the response from the community members that donated over a third of the repair bill.

We still may have not gotten there, but for the Rasmuson Foundation stepping in and generously granting us the balance of the Mechanics bill. Clients and staff alike are overjoyed with the ability to get back out into the community for these preferred events. We are so grateful to all those folks that helped.



Training Compliance

One of the lingering impacts of Covid for our organization was a critical increase in the number of staff lapsing in a variety of key trainings. Lockdowns, limits on occupancy of training areas, staff shortages and a lack of online certified trainings all led to the issue.

This year we created a new training program, hired a position dedicated to training and increased incentives and enforcement of non-compliance with critical learning requirements. The plan has been very successful. Some trainings have seen as much as an 86% increase in compliance and the average increase for all employees and trainings is up by over 40%. We don't intend to stop there with our training coordinator regularly researching additional training modalities and staff incentives for full compliance.

Text Messaging Breakthrough

During this fiscal year the Human Resource Department discovered and then implemented a text messaging system named YOUR CO. The impact was immediate and positive for a range of business functions.

We can now ask applicants which of 150 languages they would prefer to communicate in for interviewing and hiring. We are now prepared to communicate with almost all of our 260+ employees for critical messages like disaster planning, closures etc. Service providers now get immediate assistance from Document Control staff with any issues they have completing their required documentation. Last, but not least, we can invite people directly for special events such as our recent mobile mammogram day.

YOUR  **CO**

Fun Stuff

While our days are filled with providing formal treatment and habilitation there's always a will to have fun. This year, our clients competed in our 8th annual ice fishing invitational on finger lake. Clarence met an urgent goal of catching his first king salmon before his 60th birthday and clients and staff alike enjoyed our 3rd annual mini golf tournament.



Accomplishments Through The Year

Individual Accomplishments

Assets supports around 90 adults experiencing either developmental disabilities, mental illness or both to live in the community with as much independence as they strive to achieve. There are likely small “successes” every day, but a couple major achievements this year by persons we serve warrant a mention.

One young man we serve obtained his Bachelor of Business Administration in Management this year. While Assets offered ongoing support, this person worked incredibly hard through his education and mental health recovery. He did this while also working a part time job and living independently.

To the best of my recollection this is our first college degree earner in our 40 plus years of

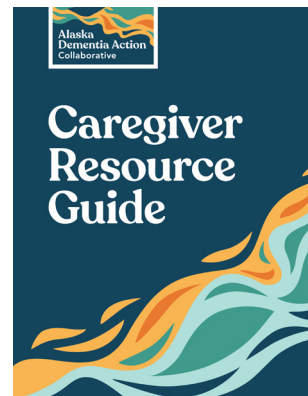
supporting people.

A second success involved an Alaska Native woman who came to us seven years ago with a number of diagnoses that were interfering with her ability to live a healthy lifestyle or identify long term goals for herself. A number of years of support and a variety of living arrangements eventually helped her to open up to staff and begin to demonstrate insight into her interfering behaviors.

As she made progress, her team was able to help advocate for her goal of returning to her village and family. In January of this year, she did just that. She now regularly calls back to Assets to relay her happiness at being home and express her gratitude for the help on her path to get there.

Printing Accomplishment

The Assets Print Shop was able to work on a few NEW exciting projects this year, including printing and distributing 10,000 copies of the Alaska Dementia Action Collaborative “Caregiver Resource Guide” coordinated through the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, the State of Alaska Department of Health, and AARP Alaska!



10,000 copies
printed
&
distributed

Graduating from Supported Employment

Assets strives to always be there to support people to work at the job of their choice. Ultimately, we desire to teach the individuals the skills they need and to help develop natural supports on the job so we can fade our supports. This past year after a decade of ongoing services our Employment department joyously “graduated” a gentleman. This

employee of a private business here in Anchorage has, after many years of learning new tasks and those soft skills necessary to be successful in a community job, said goodbye to Assets. He continues to be happy and successful at his job and word has it has also become engaged to his longtime girlfriend.

Recognizing Our Cherished Donors

Our 2023 Pick Click and Give Donors

Pick Click and Give donors to Assets are a small but loyal group. Every dollar these folks trust us with goes directly to client specific needs. Many folks would go without were it not for these folks since this is our only source for these needs. Thanks to:

Lesa Allen	Bonnie Hughes	Elisabeth Kachline	Janna Preston
Ann Anderson	Amber Jay	Larry Kelone	Linda Rabideau
Elisabeth Bomhof	Stephen Johnson	Teresa Lundy	
Courtney Fleishman	Matthew Jones	Ronald Panigeo	

2024 BUS Fund

These community members stepped forward and answered our call for help to put our community service bus back on the road, giving clients access to recreational, cultural and therapeutic activities. This was our first direct appeal in the history of our organization.

Terry Rosso	Renee Hannon	Mam Gaye	David Large
Kelley Clouser	Karma Yonten	Matthew Jones	Amber Campbell
Lisa Pinkston	Alexandra Gerlt	Terri Stark	Leif Hatlen
Carmen Malm	Jane Imholte	Heather Polick	Dwight Fox
Judie Romero	Raphael Fomba	Elisabeth Kachline	
Marti Romero	Mark Skrade	Titus Sorenson	
Brianna Campbell	Colletta Bradbury	Evelyn and Leon Knutson	

Corporate Donors

These special businesses provided financial and/or in-kind support throughout the year.

West Coast Paper
Anchorage Ace Hardware
Gary Lloyd
B & J Sporting Goods
Parker, Smith and Feek



Grantors

These government or private foundations provided much needed grants that supported training, infrastructure, building renovation or our Bus fund.

The Rasmuson foundation
State of Alaska Division of Behavioral Health
Source America
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority



Assets Mission

The Mission of Assets is to continuously improve the employment opportunities, home environments and community connections of individuals with developmental disabilities or mental illness who need substantial supports so that their independence and self-worth are enhanced and the community in which they live, and work realizes the benefits of their citizenship.

Core Values

Make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities
Treat each person with dignity and respect
Continuously improve – forever
Adapt, overcome, improvise



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