

AEYC-SEA
Association for the Education of
Young Children-Southeast Alaska
907.789.1235
888.785.1235
www.aeyc-sea.org

AWARE
Aiding Women in Abuse and
Rape Emergencies
907.586.1090 (crisis)
907.586.6623 (business)
800.478.1090
www.juneau.com/aware/

Bartlett Beginnings
Bartlett Regional Hospital
907.796.8900
www.bartletthospital.org

**Healthy Families
Catholic Community Services**
907.463.6137
www.ccsjuneau.org

Juneau Family Birth Center
907.586.1203
www.juneaubirthcenter.org

Juneau Public Health Center
907.465.3353

Juneau School District
907.463.1700
www.jsd.k12.ak.us

Juneau Youth Services
907.789.7610
www.jys.org

Love, INC.
907.780.4090
www.loveincjuneau.org

**OCS—Office of
Children's Services**
907.465.1650
www.hss.state.ak.us/ocs/default.htm

Parents Inc.
907.586.6171
www.parentsinc.org

REACH Infant Learning.
907.586.8228
www.reachak.org

SEARHC
Southeast Alaska Regional
Health Consortium
907.463.4040
www.searhc.org

SERRC
Southeast Regional
Resource Center
907.586.6806
www.serrc.org

T&H Central Council Headstart
907.463.7100
www.ccthita.org/headstart.html



May 18th, 2005

National study released shows increased rates of preschool expulsion: Local program receives funding to stabilize care for young children.

38% of childcare centers in Alaska have asked that a child be withdrawn from its program due to social/emotional problems during 2004, according to the Childcare Center Market Rate Survey 2004. Walter Gilliam, a researcher at the Yale Child Study Center, is conducting a study about the rate of child expulsion from pre-kindergarten programs. He found that pre-kindergarteners are expelled from schools at three times the rate of K-12 students. However, this study focuses primarily on state funded preschool programs.

"Classroom-based behavioral consultation appears to be a promising method for reducing prekindergarten expulsion," said Gilliam. "When teachers reported having access to a behavioral consultant who was able to provide classroom-based strategies for dealing with challenging student behaviors, the likelihood of expulsion was nearly cut in half." The lowest rates of expulsion were reported by teachers who had an ongoing, regular relationship with a behavioral consultant. In classrooms where the teacher had no access to a behavioral consultant, students were expelled about twice as frequently.

The Partnerships for Families and Children in Juneau, a collaboration of 13 local agencies working with young children, has helped to reduce the number of children being "expelled" from early learning programs. The Partnerships for Families and Children's vision is to encircle young children in a "Blanket of Wellness" by supporting their social and emotional development. Through this project, early childhood programs work with licensed behavioral/mental health specialists who provide support and training to staff and parents.

The Blanket of Wellness Project in Southeast Alaska began as a two year pilot study in 2002 at the request of childcare providers who were concerned with the increase in children with behavioral problems. Thirty two childcare and early learning programs serving over 1,000 children and 200 staff in SE Alaska participated in the project. Program evaluations showed successful outcomes in increasing strategies to support children with emotional and social needs.

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Mission Statement: Partnerships for families and children works collaboratively to promote shared broad-based community support for young children and their families.

3100 Channel Drive, Suite 215 ? Juneau, Alaska 99801 ? www.southeastfamilies.org ? 907.789.1235 ? 888.785.1235

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The Crossett Foundation has awarded funding to AEYC-SEA (Association for the Education of Young Children – Southeast Alaska) to support the project until a full funding source can be secured. The Blanket of Wellness Project provides consulting services to childcare centers, Headstart, and home visiting programs.

The Partnership for Families and Children works collaboratively to promote shared broad-based community support for young children and their families. It is an inclusive group of people and programs working collaboratively to promote a seamless web of support services. The vision is that all families with young children will have access to community resources that support the health, growth and development of children. The Partnership consists of the following agencies: AEYC-SEA, AWARE, Bartlett Beginnings, Healthy Families Juneau, Juneau Family Birth Center, Juneau Public Health Center, Juneau School District, Juneau Youth Services, Office of Children Services, Parents Inc., REACH Infant Learning, SERRC, SEARHC, and Tlingit and Haida Headstart.

For more information please call Allison Warren at 789-1235

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