

# Annual Report



ASAGA from a saga because every guardianship has their own story...Betty Stanley, one of the ASAGA founders



The purpose of this association is to provide for the interaction of ideas, education and communication between groups and individuals interested in providing or furthering services to vulnerable individuals

# A Message from ASAGA

#### **Strategic Highlights**

FY 2021 has continued to challenge us all with the continuation of Covid. ASAGA has continued much of its online platforms seeing an increase in both registration and attendance. While we are pleased with the acceptance of Zoom and other online supports, we know that inperson connections are so very important. This is one reason we began the Family Guardian Network this past year. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, family guardians and conservators can gather via Zoom to support and network with each other in an informal setting. In addition, we added the Benefits Q & A as one of the three top questions we receive during the year are questions about benefits that need to be applied for and managed by guardians. Thanks to our partner, Office of Public Advocacy, we are able to hold this informal network session three times a year with a benefit specialist.

As we wrapped up our second year of a three-year grant from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, ASAGA continued to look forward to pursue our ultimate goal of having a sustainable guardianship assistance program in Alaska. We are hopeful that a grant applied for by one of our partners, the Alaska Court System will result in just that; the addition of guardianship trained staff with the courts already established self-help program. The grant was applied for in May 2021 and should be announced in September 2021. This will be a primary goal of our third and final year of funding; to ensure a sustainable program.

#### **Looking Ahead**

FY2022 looks like it should be a very interesting year. We are on track to receive an exciting addition to the guardianship assistance arena with our very own Income and Expense Tracker software. Over the past three years, we've worked with the Alaska Court System and Neota Logic on an application for guardians and conservators to keep track of income and expenses for easier accounting when filing annual reports, preparing tax information or other financial needs. We hope this new addition will be available in the fall of 2021 with a formal pilot starting in January 2022.

ASAGA thanks all of our board members, partners, volunteers and advocates for a satisfying FY2021 and looks forward to continuing our work as one of the most innovative and successful guardianship assistance programs in our nation.

Lisa Wawrzonek, Administrator



### **Financial Statements**

#### **Statement of Income & Expenses**

Description	ASAGA		AMHTA	
Beginning bank balance July 1, 2021	\$17,592.94		\$5.00	
Income FY 2021	\$6309.08	Conference & Donations	\$48,200.00	Full Trust Grant
Expenses FY 2021	\$3990.29		\$47,863.50	
Held Funds Funds	\$6000.00	AARP for Court Translation Program	0	
Ending ASAGA Balance June 30, 2021	\$12,790.78	ASAGA funds, not including Held Funds	5.00	Owed *9303.50 from Trust on remaining FY 21 payment. \$336.50 was not spent and removed from final payment request.

#### **Financial Summary**

- Income categories for the ASAGA account were from the annual conference or donations from ASAGA Ambassador.
- ASAGA's held funds of \$6000 are for translation of the Court educational videos for the ASAGA account. ASAGA has paid he \$5000 held in trust from the AMTHA grant for the Income and Expense Tracker app.
- ASAGA has reimbursed funds from payments made that should have been under our AMHTA grant that are not considered income but reimbursements and not included above.

ASAGA would like to thank the generous funding opportunity Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority who provided generous funding for FY20, FY21 and our final year for FY2022. Without their support, ASAGA wouldn't be able to commit to the level of service that we do.







# "ASAGA is a vital resource. A true lifeline."

Consultation
Participant

## Services Provided July 2020 through June 2021

#### SUMMARY

- ♣ 1001 individuals received 1553 units of service including I/R, consults and training.
- ASAGA Board provided 72 volunteer hours.
- ♣ ASAGA connected with individuals in 36 Alaskan communities and out of state families.
- ♣ We had 13,798 site visits to our webpage with the most visited page being Educational Resources.
- ♣ Out of the 1001, 604 were family members, 45 self-advocates, 352 professionals. 552 units could not be identified as unduplicated or identity was unknown.

#### Information & Referrals

ASAGA provided 591 units of information and/or referrals plus an additional 29 were triage with volunteers assisting to provide answers

#### **Consultations**

ASAGA provided 297 units of consultations. The top three topics for consultations were petitioning, questions on benefits and general guardianship.

#### **Training**

ASAGA holds a monthly class on how to be a guardian, various webinars and an annual conference. We also attend speaking engagements when invited and this year, held various workings around the State and a secondary workshop with an outside speaker. In FY 21, we provided 47 total trainings with 732 units of training with participants from 31 communities across the state attending.

#### **Outreach and Online**

Through IContact, we had soft contact with upwards of 1803 individuals across the State in 51 different informational emails including our Annual Report Reminder, newsletter and monthly emails on information and offerings. Through Facebook, we reached over 38,456 duplicated individuals with boosted posts about our programs and progress and to date to which there were 1257 engagements. We currently have 415 regular followers.



# **Giving Thanks**

The Alaska State Association for Guardianship and Advocacy is a non-profit organization and largely made up of volunteers donating their time to assist families and others navigate the guardianship system. We could not do this without the support of our Board of Directors that serve as our volunteers and our partners. ASAGA would like to thank our partners for their support and assistance this past year!





# Alaska Court System



# **ASAGA AMBASSADORS**

#### We thank our ASAGA Ambassadors & Advocates through 12/31/21

Sydney Eden	<u>Jennifer Ivory</u> *	Kelly Clouser
Sheila Shinn	Barb Chambers	Tonja Woelber
Kevin Turkington	Marilyn Maxwell	Jan Whalen
Ginger Drais	Deborah Taylor	Charlotte Honner
Vernonica Weddleton	<u>Diane Miller*</u>	Juan San Miguel
Sharon Wells	Elizabeth Russo	Ronica Davila
Akeema Hawk	Alvin Anchetta	Ryan Sweitzer
Lisamarie Russell	Betty Seavers	Nancy Alzheimer
Tonya Herrera	Susan Davis	Melvin Stiers
Laura Volmert	Anonymous (7)	

\*ASAGA Advocates

# We thank our Emerald Sponsors FY 2021





#### ASAGA also thanks the FY2021 Board of Directors

Laura Volmert
Jennifer Ivory
Kelley Clouser
Sydney Eden
Elizabeth Russo
Sharon Wells
Juan San Miguel



# **Company Information**

#### ALASKA STATE ASSOCIATION FOR GUARDIANSHIP & ADVOCACY

Located at Nesbett Courthouse – Please call for appointments.

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