

State of Alaska FY2002 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Administration
Alaska Longevity Programs
Budget Request Unit

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BRU Mission

To issue longevity bonus payments to eligible individuals and manage the Alaska Pioneers' Homes.

BRU Services Provided

Administration of the six Pioneers' Homes and the Alaska Longevity Bonus program.

BRU Goals and Strategies

- 1) **PROVIDE A HOME-LIKE MODEL OF CARE THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF PIONEERS' HOMES RESIDENTS IN AN ASSISTED LIVING ENVIRONMENT**
 - Work with nationally recognized experts in the field of gerontology and ADRD to develop and optimize gerontological services for residents with ADRD
- 2) **FIND OPPORTUNITIES TO REALIZE OPERATING EFFICIENCIES**
 - Decrease facility energy use, supplies costs, workers' compensation and medication costs
- 3) **PROVIDE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE TO THE PIONEERS' HOME STAFF**
 - Provide programmatic and administrative (nursing, personnel, policy, financial and procurement) support to staff of the six Pioneers' Homes.
 - Facilitate on-going training opportunities to Pioneers' Home staff to increase their knowledge regarding the needs and specialized care requirements for residents with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (ADRD).
- 4) **EFFECTIVELY MANAGE THE LONGEVITY BONUS PROGRAM DURING ITS PHASE-OUT PERIOD**
 - Ensure warrants are delivered to the US Post Office on the last working day of the month.
 - Respond to inquiries about the program within one working day.

Key BRU Issues for FY2001 – 2002

Deferred Maintenance - The Pioneers' Homes program must develop some means to address the ongoing deferred facilities maintenance issues. The backlog of maintenance issues continues to grow as funding levels only allow maintenance for immediate threats to the health and safety of residents, with virtually no funding for proactive maintenance.

Need for increased Pioneers' Home staffing - Increasing age and frailty of the population served, increasing amount of service provision, and increasing need for labor-intensive dementia care continue to result in a need for additional direct care staff. If present staffing is not deemed adequate to serve the population, the only option for the Homes is to reduce census and not fill all vacant beds.

Implement a Quality Assurance Program that includes a standardized unusual occurrence tracking system - While we recognize that unusual occurrences can and do happen, we will minimize their negative effect by assessing our processes, identifying inadequacies and developing interventions.

Pursue Nationally Recognized Accreditation for the Pioneers' Homes - This demonstrates our commitment to excellence. The accreditation process focuses on performance based standards and quality improvement analytic techniques.

Major BRU Accomplishments for FY2000

- . The Eden Alternative was implemented in all six Pioneers' Homes during FY2000 and two additional homes became Eden Alternative certified. The program provides a safe home setting and includes plants, animals and children and has been demonstrated to be very effective in combating loneliness and depression in the elderly.
- . Nationally Recognized Gerontology Experts Review Anchorage Pioneers' Home - A Team of experts conducted the review and published a report of findings and recommendations one of which stated there was no need to reinstitute a skilled nursing program.
- . The Pioneers Home Pharmacy completed the goal of serving all six homes.
- . Pharmacy Expansion - The pharmacy expansion provides for increased medication storage space and consequently increased service provision.
- . Awarded Food Service Contract - These services cost the Pioneers' Homes approximately \$2.0 million per year.
- . Cost Containment - Continued to pursue strategies for cost containment including centralization, computerization and standardization. Group purchasing, division-wide facilities management and the in-house pharmacy all provide immediate cost savings.
- . Designed and Implemented Quality Assurance Program - This included the evaluation of numerous long term care incident reporting programs and the selection of appropriate software. Our overall goal is increased resident safety. The main program objectives are tracking and trouble shooting unusual occurrences, identifying trends and providing the legislature with statistical information as required by statute.

**Alaska Longevity Programs
BRU Financial Summary by Component**

All dollars in thousands

	FY2000 Actuals				FY2001 Authorized				FY2002 Governor			
	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds
Formula Expenditures												
None.												
Non-Formula Expenditures												
Pioneers Homes	32,269.3	0.0	127.6	32,396.9	21,447.3	0.0	12,383.7	33,831.0	23,739.6	0.0	15,227.1	38,966.7
AK Longevity Programs Mgmt	1,053.7	0.0	322.1	1,375.8	991.4	0.0	376.4	1,367.8	988.2	0.0	376.7	1,364.9
Totals	33,323.0	0.0	449.7	33,772.7	22,438.7	0.0	12,760.1	35,198.8	24,727.8	0.0	15,603.8	40,331.6

Alaska Longevity Programs

Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2002

Increasing Care Requirements- The resident population of the Pioneers' Homes has changed dramatically over the past ten years with over 190 Pioneers' Homes beds converted from "residential" (coordinated services) to other levels of care. The result is that the needs of Pioneers' Home residents and the amount of direct-care staff assistance required to meet those needs has substantially increased.

In addition, there are now residents in the Pioneers' Homes system that, at times, require one-on-one care and supervision due to their aggressive behavior. An increase in the direct care staffing levels is required to ensure the protection of both the aggressive residents and all other residents.

Although the FY2001 budget does not include a request for additional staff, it does include increments to meet the anticipated contractual, supplies and equipment needs of the Homes. Each Home continually assesses staffing in relation to the population served. If adequate staffing is not available to meet resident needs and safety requirements, vacant beds will not be filled until the residents-to-staff ratio is acceptable.

Alaska Longevity Programs

Summary of BRU Budget Changes by Component

From FY2001 Authorized to FY2002 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2001 Authorized	22,438.7	0.0	12,760.1	35,198.8
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Pioneers Homes	-182.4	0.0	210.4	28.0
-AK Longevity Programs Mgmt	-3.2	0.0	0.3	-2.9
Proposed budget increases:				
-Pioneers Homes	2,474.7	0.0	2,633.0	5,107.7
FY2002 Governor	24,727.8	0.0	15,603.8	40,331.6