

MH Consumer Designed and Managed Projects**FY2005 Request: \$250,000****Reference No: 34042****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Construction**Category:** Health/Human Services**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Larry Streuber**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-1870**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2004 - 06/30/2009**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Proposals request funds to plan or carry out consumer-run facility and community projects.

Funding:	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	Total
MHTAAR	\$250,000						\$250,000
Total:	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

CH84/SLA03/P10/L12 – \$131.3 MHTAAR

CH95/SLA02/P12/L21 – \$175.0 MHTAAR

CH62/SLA01/P10/L20 – \$175.0 MHTAAR

Project Description/Justification:

The Alaska Mental Health Board continues to support this project in response to various proposals from consumer groups seeking autonomy and choice. As Alaska continues to move toward a more consumer-centric mental health system, consumer-directed programs have and will continue to play a prominent role. Consumer-run organizations have exhibited great success with minimal financial resources. Consumer organizations such as Ionia, Inc. and Polaris House provide direct support to other newly developing consumer organizations and to individuals. Consumers are now directly involved in the operation of advocacy groups such as NAMI-Alaska and taking their places on the governing boards of service providers and advisory boards. Consumers in areas across the state continue to express intent to organize and begin directing their own recovery efforts. In many cases, the groups involved consist of higher functioning or recovered consumers who may not meet the priority service criteria of community mental health centers.

This proposal sustains support for this under-funded population. Peer programs such as the Computer Connection and Clubhouse in Anchorage serve up to 800 consumers a month at relatively little cost to the state. Participants are generally adults with serious and persistent mental illness. Many use no other programs and some are homeless. This program allows consumers to engage in meaningful activities, to have direct peer support, and to reconnect to their community. Many people have avoided re-hospitalization because of the availability of the Computer Connection, Ionia, Inc., Circle of Wings and other consumer designed and managed organizations. This proposal seeks to expand and to make permanent such efforts, with an eventual goal of peer-run programs in all communities with community mental health centers.

In-Step Plan Area: Projects like this have the potential to impact all four of Plan result areas, including increases in positive mental health status, economic security through training and educational opportunities, safety and living with dignity.

