

Contact:
Carley Lawrence
Chief Communications Officer
Carley.lawrence@alaska.gov
907.334.2531

MENTAL HEALTH TRUST ANNOUNCES NEW LAND OFFICE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (November 17, 2017) —The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority announced the hiring of Wyn Menefee as executive director of the Trust Land Office. Menefee has been serving as the acting executive director since September 1.

“Wyn is a proven leader and brings great stability to our team and will oversee a diverse portfolio of assets,” said Mike Abbott, chief executive officer.

The Trust Land Office is charged with generating revenue and managing the Trust’s nearly one million acres of land. The TLO carries out its stewardship role by managing and protecting the inherent value of the Trust’s real property portfolio for today’s development opportunities and into perpetuity. Resources are categorized in the following classes: forestry, materials and minerals, real estate, energy, program-related investments, and land. “I’m excited about this opportunity to lead an outstanding team of professionals and work to maximize revenue and manage our resources in the best interest of Trust beneficiaries,” said Menefee.

In FY17, the TLO produced nearly \$12 million in revenue. The revenue generated by the land office is then reinvested or available for the Trust to utilize for grants. In fiscal year 2018, the Trust anticipates granting nearly \$18 million to state agencies, nonprofits, tribal organizations, providers, and individual beneficiaries across Alaska. The Trust currently prioritizes funding requests in the following areas: Medicaid reform, criminal justice reform, housing and long-term services, substance abuse prevention & treatment, and beneficiary employment & engagement.

-###-

About the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

The Trust operates much like a private foundation, using its resources to fund system change, demonstration projects, funding partnerships, technical assistance and Trust-initiated projects. The Trust is overseen by a seven-member board of trustees. Trustees are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Legislature. The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority is a state corporation that administers a perpetual trust created to ensure that Alaska has a comprehensive mental health program to serve people with mental illness, developmental disabilities, substance related disorders, Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia, and traumatic brain injury.