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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Department Awards Grants for Parents As Teachers Programs

JUNEAU – The Alaska Department of Education & Early Development has awarded three-year Parents As Teachers grants to Kids' Corps Inc. in Anchorage; RurAL CAP in Anchorage; the Association for the Education of Young Children, Southeast Alaska, in Juneau; and Sprout Family Services in Homer.

Parents As Teachers programs provide the information, support and encouragement parents need in order to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life. The Parents As Teachers model has four components: 1) one-on-one personal or home visits; 2) group connections or meetings; 3) health and developmental screenings for children; and 4) a resource network for families.

Specifically, Parents As Teachers offers parents research-based information on how children grow and develop; types of activities and toys that will foster learning and nurture development; methods of positive discipline; techniques for problem solving; realistic expectations for children's behavior; and attitudes that will raise children's self-esteem.

The state appropriated funding to expand the Parents As Teachers program. The following grant awards are for each year of a three-year term.

Kids' Corps will receive \$143,244 a year to serve 40 families in Anchorage. RurAL CAP will receive \$107,792 a year to serve 24 families in Anchorage. The Association for the Education of Young Children, Southeast Alaska will receive \$150,000 a year to serve 60 families in Juneau. Sprout Family Services will receive \$100,000 a year to serve 55 families in Homer and nine regional communities.

The awards are scheduled to be made Oct. 15, pending a protest period.

For more information about Parents As Teachers, contact PAT Coordinator Phyllis Carlson at 907-465-6416 or phyllis.carlson@alaska.gov.

The contacts for the grant recipients are:

Kids' Corps, Inc., Dirk Shumaker, 907-279-2021.
RurAL CAP, Inc., Debi Baldwin, 907-865-7317.
Association for the Education of Young Children-SE Alaska, Joy Lyon, 907-789-1235.
Sprout, Jillian Lush, 907-235-6044.

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