

Fairbanks Resource Agency

Annual Report 2023



Our Mission

Fairbanks Resource Agency is a non-profit Alaska corporation dedicated to assuring that Interior Alaskans with disabilities and their families have equal opportunity to be fully included in the community where education, employment, housing, recreation and family services are available in the same places, at the same times, and with the same respect afforded any member of the community.



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Families are like the branches of a tree.
We grow in different directions
Yet our roots remain as one.
Author Unknown



As we close 2023, I want to share my gratitude for the FRA Family. Long before the pandemic, we often referred to the “FRA Family,” as a way of describing the agency’s culture. Many employees who provide FRA services find themselves becoming an integral part of a family or supporting the personal life of an individual during the course of their work. In some instances, FRA becomes the stand-in family for people who no longer have families of their own. This may well describe many of our employees who count on FRA as a valued source of friendship and support.

During the pandemic, responsibilities required of FRA employees were no less and often much more than could be expected from a large, loving and responsive family. The examples of the exceptional calls to duty, the concern and caring and the deep-rooted conviction to serve under the most difficult circumstances cannot be described in a short narrative.

Briefly and best stated, the extraordinary responses of FRA employees to the needs of others whose lives were disrupted by the unfathomable effects of the pandemic were far beyond what could be found in a list of job duties. For this, my gratitude is unending.

Life has likely changed for everyone. While it brought out the best in the FRA Family, it also left sadness and loss for which we still grieve. We look forward to the new year, confident of the arrival of renewed energy and a clear vision essential to the reset of FRA’s ordinary routines and its special celebrations.

My best wishes to you for the New Year.

Sincerely,

Emily J. Ennis

2023 Highlights

Key Coalition of Alaska - 2023 Key Campaign



Key Coalition of Alaska is a non-profit, statewide advocacy group made of people with disabilities, their families, friends, and other supporters who advocate for community-based services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Key Coalition advocates for independent living, equity, disability civil rights, and access to quality mental and physical health care services. Local chapters of the Key Coalition meet to plan both state and local advocacy efforts.

February 20 through 24, 2023- Key Coalition of Fairbanks met with legislators over Zoom.

February 28 through March 2, 2023 - Key Coalition members attended meetings with legislators at the Capitol in Juneau.

Working together to repair the present and secure the future for Alaskans with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.



- A Coalition of:
- Parents, Family Members, Self-Advocates & Friends
 - Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities (AADD)
 - Alaska Alliance of Direct Support Professionals (AADSP)
 - Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education
 - Peer Power



Ultimate Goal: To realize the DD Shared Vision where Alaskans with disabilities live the life they choose with the support they direct.

2023 Highlights

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company Partnership

- Funded a recruitment commercial
- Completed a service project at FRA with its leadership team on May 8
- Funded the Discovery Center Book Nook



Couch to 10K Training Program - April to June

One part of Midnight Sun Run race production is a training called Couch to 10K, a community training program to prepare individuals for the June race. In 2023, 223 individuals completed the entire program, earning a free Midnight Sun Run registration.



41st Annual Midnight Sun Run - June 24

FRA's largest fundraising event takes under the Midnight Sun! Considered a 'bucket list' race, the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner Midnight Sun Run is a uniquely Alaskan event enjoyed by up to 4,000 participants and thousands more spectators.



ADA Day at the Fair - August 2

People First of Fairbanks volunteered at the Tanana Valley State Fair's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Day.

People First is a self-advocacy group run by and for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



**Direct Support Professionals Week -
September 10 to 16, 2023**

FRA celebrated its DSP workforce, whose dedication and commitment deserve our deepest gratitude and admiration.



"Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing." -Theodore Roosevelt





17th Annual Fashion Show - October 5

The 17th Annual United Way Fashion Show, themed Friends and Family, celebrated people in our lives who provide friendship and support. FRA models took to the stage in Value Village fashions.



Family Services Holiday Party - December 7

The Family Services Holiday Party brings together friends and family served by the department for a night of gifts and games, along with a holiday feast. The 2023 celebration was Hollywood themed, delighting guests with red carpet treatment.



17th Annual City Sampler - October 19

FRA's annual fundraiser benefiting its Senior Services program is a sell-out event that allows restaurants and vendors to showcase their signature dishes for 300 attendees.



Annual Gala - December 13

The FRA Annual Gala, FRA's annual holiday celebration and general membership meeting, welcomed special guests Geri Jewel and Kathy Buckley.



Residential Services

Leia has been a direct support professional in FRA's Residential Service program for more than 11 years, helping adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities live as independently as possible. Support staff like Leia provide assistance with daily living activities including personal care, assistance with medical and health care, and transportation to the places individuals want to go.

"I just love doing this work. It is challenging, but the reward is so much greater," said Leia. She loves to help people find their voice to be heard and understood.



Family Services

Vicki is a direct support professional with FRA's Family Services Department. She has been supporting Alan for over 20 years. The two of them spend their days volunteering at the Food Bank, baking, crafting, sewing, gardening, watching their favorite movies and so much more.

The Family Services program offers a variety of flexible, ongoing supports designed around the unique needs of each individual and family. Family Services supports allow families to continue living together in their home and to access their community.



Senior Services

At the heart of FRA's Senior Services Adult Day Center is Maria Griffin. For almost 30 years Maria has worked to ensure seniors enjoy community life while lessening the stress of caregiving. Her face beams when she talks about her work. "I just love it," she said. "We have so much fun."

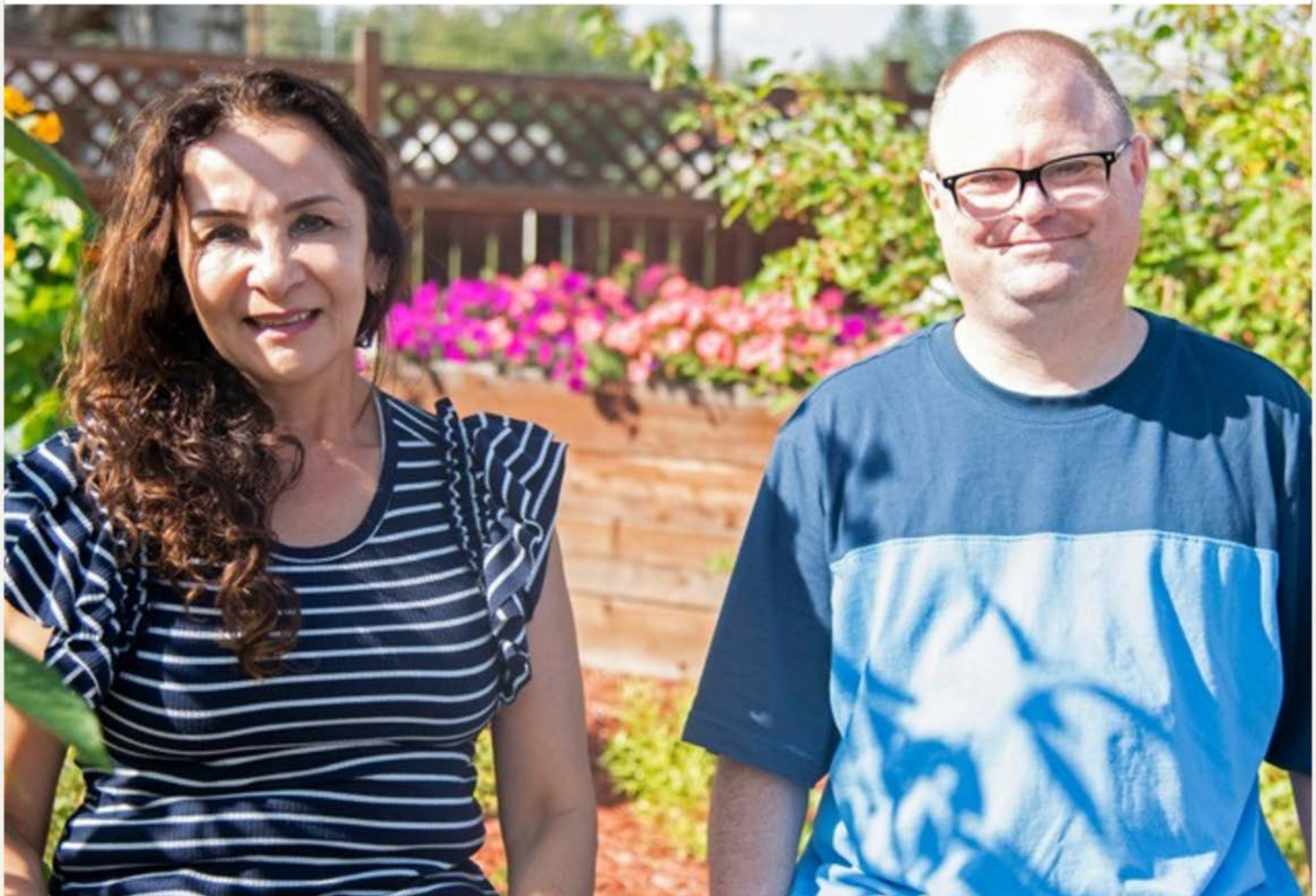
The Senior Services program assists adults with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias or other disabling conditions to remain in their homes for as long as possible through respite and chore services and FRA's Adult Day Center.



Employment Services

As Employment Services Manager, Alba helps individuals with disabilities gain skills and confidence that allow them to pursue their career goals. "I want them to feel capable and successful," she said. For 15 years it has been important to Alba to help people find a job that is a good fit where they can learn and grow.

Employment provides us all with the opportunity to be a proud member of the workforce. Alba says work helps people feel good about themselves and their place in the community.



With Grateful Appreciation

Fairbanks Resource Agency is grateful to all of our steadfast supporters who express belief in our mission through their thoughtful gifts. Each donation from families, individuals, businesses and organizations, whether large or small, helps Fairbanks Resource Agency make sure the individuals we serve have the opportunity and support needed to pursue the life of their choosing.

Friends of FRA **\$5,000 and up**

100+ Golden Heart Women
Who Care
Weeks Charitable
Foundation

Benefactors **\$1,000 to \$4,999**

Blackbaud Giving Fund
Roger & DeLois Burgraff
Emily Ennis
Maria Messina
Garry & Kathryn Reid
Yvette Thompson

Sustainers **\$250 to \$999**

Robert & Annie Armstrong
Tracie Cogdill
Elk's Lodge No. 1551
John Hargesheimer
Susan Henrichs
Ben Kates
Scott McDevitt
Noel Murray
Amanda Nelson
James Richardson
Karen Sitton
Kayla Smith -
Salty's Gives Back
Verice Doble &
Jackie Stormer

Advocates **\$100 to \$249**

Diana Burgess
Hal J Cloward
Wendy Cloyd
Lavonna Currey
Larry Evans
Lynette Falke
Marvin & Becky
Hassebroek
Wallace Hisamoto
Michael Hostina
Samantha Kennett
Joseph Krizek
Eric Lamesjerant
Kim Luskleet
Barton Maize
Fred & Kathy
Nichols
Jennifer Smith
Elizabeth Sweet
Jacqueline Tinker
Janet Wakefield
Jeri Wigdahl
Mary Ruth Zalar

Supporters **Up to \$99**

Lee Bethune
Melissa Bidwell
Daniel Brower
Elaine Carothers
Vayla Colonell
Oonaugh Cusick
Denis Devoll
Kelly Doughty
Talon Doughty
Tara Dunn
Alyssa Enriquez
Melinda Evans
Logan Fields
Tracyann George
Darla Gillen
Judith Hastings
Joe Hayes
Lois Heine
Cris Hill
Michael Johnson
Samantha Lannet
Madeline Lieb
John Minano

Supporters *Continued*

Abigail Paul
Oran Paul
Ruthe Peterson
Christina Petri
Ann Robert
Hugh Rose
Cindy Shilling
Paul Schlosser Jr.
Patrick Terry
Daniele Thompson
Patricia Trott
Cindy Turnbough
Delaney Vinson
Wanda Wingfield
Douglas Winters
Aldena Woody

*The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the
compassionate actions of its members."*

– Coretta Scott King



With Grateful Appreciation

Fairbanks Resource Agency is grateful to the following organizations for their annual contributions designated to support specific programs, services and special projects.



The United Way's Community Care Fund allocations significantly impact agency programs by providing unrestricted funds to purchase program supplies, such as craft materials for the Discovery Center.



The Rotary Club of Fairbanks was a contributing sponsor of the 2023 Annual Family Services Holiday Party, a gathering for families and individuals served by the agency.



Key Bank of Alaska was a major sponsor of the 2023 Annual Family Services Holiday Party. In addition, Key Bank provided funding to help FRA's Discovery Center Day program purchase art supplies for its art program, and adaptive furniture that facilitate accessibility to Discovery Center activities.



Recognizing the workforce challenges facing FRA, Alyeska Pipeline Service Company funded the production of a recruitment commercial to boost the visibility of the vital role of the direct support professional to services provided by Fairbanks Resource Agency.



100+ Golden Heart Women Who Care nominates a local non-profit to receive the quarterly donations of the club's contributing members. FRA was the 2023 Q3 recipient of these funds. Unrestricted funds like these help FRA programs purchase the essentials of doing business.

Be a Part of the FRA Family

We welcome individual, corporate and organizational support and invite you to join our association membership. For more information about association membership, contact the Fairbanks Resource Agency Community Development Department or visit our website at www.fra-alaska.org.



The 41st Annual Midnight Sun Run

Fairbanks Resource Agency became the race producer of Fairbanks' largest running event in 2013 and benefits from the proceeds. This race attracts over 3,500 local and out-of-town participants, along with thousands of racecourse spectators, who enjoy an action-packed solstice evening of summer fun under the midnight sun.



These 2023 Race Sponsors Made it Possible



2023 Midnight Sun Run Community Support



2023 Top Male Finisher



2023 Top Female Finisher

Usibelli Series Race



2023 Midnight Sun Run Board of Directors

DeeDee Caciari
Kathy Catron
Shawnee Dunham
Tracey Martinson
Sarah Schlichting



Prize Contributors

Arctic Sun Virtual Reality
Canoe Alaska
Cold Stone Creamery
Explore Fairbanks
Fairbanks Children's Museum
Lane's Quickie Tacos
Old Time Photos
Prospector Outfitters
Toy Quest

Special Thanks

Alan Mitchell
Alaska Department of Transportation
Alaska Salmon Bake
Alaska State Troopers
Alaska Universal Productions
A & W Restaurant
City of Fairbanks
Delta Sigma Theta
Delta Company 1-52nd Aviation Regiment
Don Kiely
Executive Events
Fairbank Children's Museum
Fairbanks Cycle Club
Fairbanks Disc Golf Association
Fairbanks Laborers' Local 942
Fairbanks North Star Borough
Fairbanks Police Department
Fairbanks Tech Support
Frosty Feet Timing Company
Ft. Wainwright B.O.S.S. Program
Golden Heart Performing Arts
Mark Lindberg & Running Dog Consulting



Special Thanks Continued

Pioneer Park Staff
Quality Sales
Rebekah Matar & Exclusive Paving
Road Runners Club of America
Rocky Barnette
Running Club North
Seekins Ford
South Cushman Social Club
Subway of Alaska
Team Cutters
Tony Taylor & Muzik Medicine
Tyler Richardson & Quillwood Branding
UAF Facilities Services
UAF Fire Department
UAF Patty Center
UAF Police Department
Volunteers in Policing
Webcraft Creative



Guest Coaches

Bonni Brooks
Stacy Fisk
Ella Iorga
Nick Janssen
Joleen LeFever
Tracey Martinson
Kamalei Otero
Nick Rasmussen
Susan Schwartz

Host Sites

AUP
Beaver Sports
Frosty Feet
Sophie Station

Sponsored by



The 17th Annual City Sampler - 2023

Presenting Sponsor

KENDALL

TOYOTA of FAIRBANKS

Major



Event Vendors





Special Thanks

Glenn Anderson - Emcee
 Fairbanks MediaActive
 Lizzie Hartman
 FRA Board of Directors
 FRA Staff & Volunteers
 Rocky Barnette - iHeart Radio
 Fairbanks Community Jazz Band
 Westmark Hotel



Event Door Prize Donors



Supporting Senior Services

FRA's 17th Annual City Sampler was held October 19th, 2023 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Westmark Hotel's Gold Room. Proceeds from this annual event help FRA support seniors with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, and other frail and disabling conditions. FRA's Senior Services supports include:

- Adult Day Center
- Respite Care
- Chore Services
- Family Caregiver Services
- Community Outreach



Board of Directors

FRA Board of Directors is responsible for developing policies and conducting business of the agency. FRF Board of Directors is responsible for managing properties for the benefit of FRA.

Joe Hayes, President
FRA Director
Chief of Staff, Senator Kawasaki
20 years on board

Oran Paul, Vice President
FRA, FRF and HUD Director
Utility Services of Alaska
13 years on board

Melissa Bidwell, Secretary
FRA, FRF and HUD Director
MVI Realty
28 years on board

Diana Burgess, Treasurer
FRA Director
Department of the Army
Ft. Wainwright
20 years on board

Carol Anthony
FRA Director
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital
7 years on board

Derek Averett
FRF and HUD Director
Averett & Holmes
11 years on board

Cory Borgeson
FRA Director
Retired
28 years on board

Walter Carlo
FRF and HUD Director
Operating Engineers
Local 302
31 years on board

Vayla Colonell
FRA Director
Retired
35 years on board

Suzy Fischer
FRA Director
7 years on board

Diego Kelly
FRA Director
Kendall Auto
7 years on board

Andra Lozano
FRA Director
Denali State Bank
9 years on board

Maria Messina
FRA, FRF, and HUD Director
Team Cutters
28 years on board

Becki Phipps
FRA Director
Retired
24 years on board

Cindy Shilling
FRF and HUD Director
Retired
8 years on board

Darren Webster
FRF and HUD Director
Webster Mechanical
6 years on board

Jeri Wigdahl
FRA Director
Retired
14 years on board

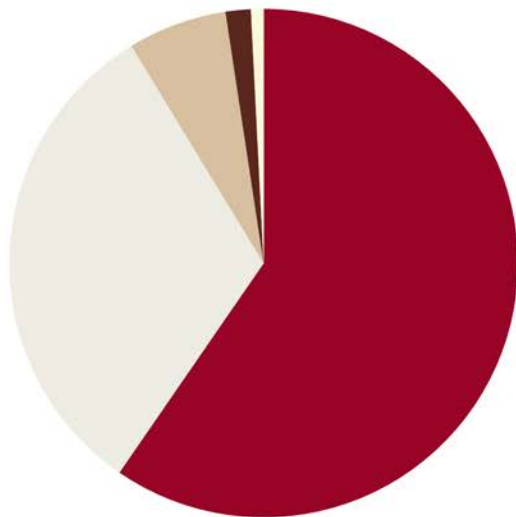
Thank you

for your dedication
to the FRA Family

Financial Summary

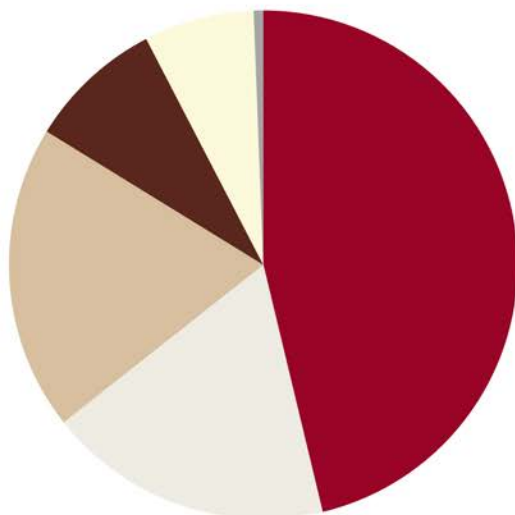
For fiscal year ending June 30, 2023

Revenue



- Medicaid Revenue**
\$6,840,015.51
- Earned Income**
\$3,637,839.59
- State of Alaska Grants**
\$718,434.98
- Contributions**
\$184,256.23
- Grants and Other Revenue**
\$89,205.41

Expenses



- Residential Services**
\$5,311,711.63
- Employment Services**
\$2,079,041.56
- Administration**
\$2,227,852.68
- Family Services**
\$990,559.43
- Senior Services**
\$807,259.64
- Case Management**
\$69,789.49

The FRA Promise

**To support an extraordinary life
To keep families together
To put people to work**

**To help our elders age at home
To champion capability
To stand behind independence**

**To expand ability
To assure a home of one's own
To educate about diversity**

**To share values and shape attitudes
To improve lives through connections
To frame our future**

FRA FRA FRA
FAIRBANKS RESOURCE AGENCY
www.fra-alaska.org

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