

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Here is a list of common acronyms and abbreviations that caregivers need to know.

ACS Alaska Children's Services is a psychiatric residential treatment center for children and adolescents with moderate to severe emotional and behavioral disorders. Other services include aftercare case management, recruitment of therapeutic foster homes, intensive day treatment, and activity therapy.

ADJ Adjudication generally refers to processes of decision making that involve a neutral third party with the authority to determine a binding resolution through some form of judgment or award. [1] Adjudication is carried out in various forms, but most commonly occurs in the court system.

AG Attorney General is the chief law officer of the government.

AJR Adult and Juvenile Representative

APD Anchorage Police Department

API Alaska Psychiatric Institute provides inpatient psychiatric care to individuals from all regions of the state.

APIA Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, A non-profit tribal organization of the Aleut people in Alaska providing services including cultural heritage, health, education, social, psychological, employment, vocational training, environment, natural resources and public safety services.

ARCA Arc of Anchorage assists individuals who experience disabilities with an opportunity to chose and realize their goals or where and how they learn, live, work and play.

ARCH Adolescent Rehab Center for Health

ASFA Adoption and Safe Family Act is a federal act that establishes timelines and standards for child protection in an effort to move children more quickly out of foster care and into permanency.

AHFC Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (formerly referred to as ASHA or Alaska State Housing Authority) a state funded agency that assists with low income housing

AWAIC Alaska Women's Aid in Crisis is a safe temporary shelter for women and children impacted by domestic violence.

AWRC Alaska Women's Resource Center offers a continuum of substance abuse treatment services.

AYPF Alaska Youth & Parent Foundation provides information to youth and families on Alaska juvenile law, short-term counseling and community education.

BIA Bureau of Indian Affairs is the principal bureau, within the federal government, responsible for administration of federal programs for federally recognized Indian Tribes.

CASA Court Appointed Special Advocate is a volunteer, trained by the Office of Public Advocacy (OPA) Alaska CASA Program, to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in court.

CINA Child in Need of Aid a person who is under the age of 18 and is determined by the court to receive help from the State of Alaska because the child is not receiving proper care or is in a bad situation.

CITC Cook Inlet Tribal Council has financial assistance and child welfare programs and services for Alaska Native families in Anchorage.

CSED Child Support Enforcement Division

DA District Attorney in the legal system of the United States, the public prosecuting officer within a defined district.

DBH Division of Behavioral Health

DD Developmentally Disabled

DDP Developmental Disabilities Program

DJJ Department of Juvenile Justice holds juvenile offenders accountable for their behavior. Promotes the safety and restoration of victims and communities and assist offenders and their families in developing skills to prevent crime.

DISPO Disposition is held after the court has adjudicated the child as a child in need of aid. Its purpose is to determine the best plan for the child.

DV Domestic Violence physically or emotionally harmful acts between husbands and wives or between other individuals in intimate relationships.

ECAC Eklutna Child Advocacy Center provides court intervention and social services to improve enforcement of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

ETC----- Ernie Turner Center provides prevention and treatment services which include residential care, day treatment, outpatient care and a family strengthening project. The ETC is one of a handful of residential treatment programs in the US designed specifically for the elderly.

FAS----- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is a pattern of mental and physical defects which develops in some unborn babies when the mother drinks too much alcohol during pregnancy.

FASD----- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder is a medical condition describing birth defects in children whose mothers drank alcohol when they were pregnant.

FCC----- Family C.ARE Court (CARE: Community Assisted Recovery Effort) is a special court for Child in Need of Aid cases (CINA) where a child has been removed from their

home as a result of the parent's) alcohol and/or drug abuse.

GAL ----- **Guardian Ad Litem** acts to advocate for a child's best interests and rights throughout the child's involvement in the court process.

HIPAA----- **HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996**

Hx ----- **History** of a chronological record of events, as of the life of development or a people or institution, often including an explanation of or commentary on those events: a history of the Vikings; An established record or pattern of behavior: an inmate with a history of substance abuse.

ICC----- **Interim Case Conference** a second type of pre-adjudication review occurs only in Anchorage. The Anchorage children's court requires parties to meet outside the courtroom 30 days after probable cause has been established to believe that the child is in need of aid. The purpose of the review is to bring the parties together to review the case status and plan for the future.

ICPC ----- **Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children** is a statutory law in all 52 member jurisdictions and a binding contract between member jurisdictions. The ICPC established uniform legal and administrative procedures governing the interstate placement of children.

ICWA ----- **Indian Child Welfare Act** is a federal law that was passed in 1978. ICWA applies to child custody cases where an Indian Child is being taken away from a parent or Indian custodian, or where parental rights are being "terminated" (ended).

IEP ----- **Individual Education Program** is a written plan developed by the parents and the schools special education team that specifies the student's academic goals and the method to obtain these goals.

ILP ----- **Infant Learning Program** provides services to communities throughout Northern Southeast Alaska. The infant learning program can help in assisting children in developing, access resources, and encourage your child's natural curiosity and desire to learn.

JPO **Juvenile Probation Officer** monitors, assists, and guides a juvenile and the juvenile's family towards successful completion of court ordered probation

LD----- **Learning Disabilities** are hidden disabilities that affect many individuals who usually have average or above average intelligence, but are unable to achieve at their potential.

MYC ----- **McLaughlin Youth Center** is a place that offers specialized programs for sex offenders, girls, older teens, those who have participated in gangs, and youth posing significant risk to themselves and others.

OCS ----- **Office of Children's Services** works in partnership with families and communities to support the well-being of Alaska's children. Their services attempt to enhance a

family's capacity to give their children a healthy start, to provide them with safe, permanent homes, and to maintain cultural connections so that all may realize their potential.

OPA ----- **Office of Public Advocacy** provides legal defense services to indigent persons.

PC ----- **Probable Cause** is a reasonable belief that a person has committed a crime. The test the court of appeals employs to determine whether probable cause existed for purpose of arrest is whether facts and circumstances within the officer's knowledge are sufficient to warrant a prudent person to believe a suspect has committed, is committing, or is about to commit a crime.

PCA ----- **Protective Capacity Assessment**

PD ----- **Public Defender** a lawyer who works for a state or local agency representing clients accused of a crime who cannot afford to pay.

PIC ----- **Programs for Infants and Children** provides evaluation and intervention services for children, birth to age three, with special needs and their families.

PL ----- **Public Law**

PO ----- **Probation Officer** provides protection and services through the enforcement of court orders and the investigations, supervision and monitoring of offenders. Probation officers provide up-to-date information and recommendation to the courts.

RTC **Residential Treatment Center** a facility that provides Level 1 services licensed per 9 A.A.C. 20 to provide services to persons under the age of 21.

SACK ----- **Salvation Army Cares for Kids** provides safe haven for children 0-10, who have been removed from their home environment when there is a concern for the safety or welfare of the child.

SCCC ----- **Southcentral Counseling Center** assists by providing state of the art behavioral healthcare; provides comprehensive behavioral healthcare services that enhances the lives of people in the Anchorage community.

SCF ----- **Southcentral Foundation** is an Alaska Native non-profit health corporation formed under the tribal authority of Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated (CIRI).

SED ----- **Severe Emotional Disturbance** describes the presence or psychological trauma or dysfunction. Some children from this group are far more predisposed toward terrorist behaviors, such as the highly publicized school shooting incidents happening across the country. These students often manifest highly observable behavioral symptoms of their mental anguish.

STIP ----- **Stipulation** is a legal agreement signed by all the parties (or attorneys on their behalf when dealing with procedural issues.)

SW ----- **Social Worker**

TCC **Tanana Chief's Conference** is the traditional Tribal consortium of the 42 villages of Interior Alaska, it is based on belief in Tribal self-determination and the need for regional Native unity.

THC Marijuana is a common name for a drug made from dried leaves and flowering tops of the Indian hemp plant. People smoke it.

TPR Termination of Parental Rights results in the complete legal severance of the parent-child relationship unless a right of visitation is retained through relinquishment.

VOA Volunteers of America provide prevention services offering several components, including Camp Hope—summer prevention camp for children of alcoholics; Classroom Prevention Exploration, No Empty Nest Support Groups; and All Stars Prevention Services in the middle schools

IV-E Review - OCS Review Meeting/Process is a meeting held to make sure OCS is compliant with the federal regulations.