Persons Who May Be Alaska Mental Health Trust Beneficiaries had more Adverse Childhood Experiences

Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries include Alaskans with mental illness, developmental disabilities, chronic alcohol or drug addiction, Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia, and traumatic brain injuries.

Women who were possibly **Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries** were **2x** more likely to have experienced

Four or more total **Adverse Childhood Experiences** than women who were **non-beneficiaries**

Women in Alaska who were possibly **Trust beneficiaries** were **more likely** to have experienced each type of **adverse childhood experience** compared to women who were **non-beneficiaries**

- **Verbal/emotional abuse**: 28% vs 61%
- **Mental illness in home**: 37% vs 57%
- **Substance abuse in home**: 30% vs 44%
- **Separation or divorce**: 31% vs 44%
- **Sexual abuse**: 24% vs 42%
- **Physical abuse**: 23% vs 41%
- **Witnessed domestic violence**: 8% vs 19%
- **Incarcerated family member**: 11% vs 19%

Data Source: 2020 AVS
The Alaska Victimization Survey
The Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS) is funded by the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and conducted by the University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center. A total of 2,100 English-speaking women in Alaska aged 18 or older participated by telephone in the AVS between July 2020 and November 2020. The 2020 AVS asked respondents about their mental health history to determine if they may be an Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiary, identifying Alaskans with mental illness, developmental disabilities, chronic alcohol or drug addiction, Alzheimer's disease and related dementia, and traumatic brain injuries. For more details on how Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and possible Trust beneficiary status were measured in the AVS, see the full report at http://hdl.handle.net/11122/12259.

The Alaska Justice Information Center
The Alaska Justice Information Center (AJiC) is a research center housed at the University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center. AJiC’s mission is to compile, analyze, and report on criminal justice topics to policymakers and practitioners in order to improve public safety, increase criminal justice accountability, and reduce recidivism. See uaa.alaska.edu/ajic.

Contact Us
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This is a Fact Sheet from the Alaska Justice Information Center’s (AJiC) report, “Adverse Childhood Experiences, Intimate Partner Violence, and Sexual Violence Among Persons Who May Be Alaska Mental Health Trust Beneficiaries: Findings from the Alaska Victimization Survey.” See uaa.alaska.edu/ajic/publications.

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