

**AEYC-SEA**  
Association for the Education of  
Young Children-Southeast Alaska  
907.789.1235  
888.785.1235  
www.aeyc-sea.org

**AWARE**  
Aiding Women in Abuse and  
Rape Emergencies  
907.586.1090 (crisis)  
907.586.6623 (business)  
800.478.1090  
www.juneau.com/aware/

**Bartlett Beginnings**  
Bartlett Regional Hospital  
907.796.8900  
www.bartletthospital.org

**Healthy Families  
Catholic Community Services**  
907.463.6137  
www.ccsjuneau.org

**Juneau Family Birth Center**  
907.586.1203  
www.juneaubirthcenter.org

**Juneau Public Health Center**  
907.465.3353

**Juneau School District**  
907.463.1700  
www.jsd.k12.ak.us

**Juneau Youth Services**  
907.789.7610  
www.jys.org

**Love, INC.**  
907.780.4090  
www.loveincjuneau.org

**OCS—Office of  
Children's Services**  
907.465.1650  
www.hss.state.ak.us/ocs/default.htm

**Parents Inc.**  
907.586.6171  
www.parentsinc.org

**REACH Infant Learning.**  
907.586.8228  
www.reachak.org

**SEARHC**  
Southeast Alaska Regional  
Health Consortium  
907.463.4040  
www.searhc.org

**SERRC**  
Southeast Regional  
Resource Center  
907.586.6806  
www.serrc.org

**T&H Central Council Headstart**  
907.463.7100  
www.ccthita.org/headstart.html



**May 18th, 2005**

**National study released shows increased rates of preschool expulsion: Local program receives funding to stabilize care for young children.**

38% of childcare centers in Alaska have asked that a child be withdrawn from its program due to social/emotional problems during 2004, according to the Childcare Center Market Rate Survey 2004. Walter Gilliam, a researcher at the Yale Child Study Center, is conducting a study about the rate of child expulsion from pre-kindergarten programs. He found that pre-kindergarteners are expelled from schools at three times the rate of K-12 students. However, this study focuses primarily on state funded preschool programs.

"Classroom-based behavioral consultation appears to be a promising method for reducing prekindergarten expulsion," said Gilliam. "When teachers reported having access to a behavioral consultant who was able to provide classroom-based strategies for dealing with challenging student behaviors, the likelihood of expulsion was nearly cut in half." The lowest rates of expulsion were reported by teachers who had an ongoing, regular relationship with a behavioral consultant. In classrooms where the teacher had no access to a behavioral consultant, students were expelled about twice as frequently.

The Partnerships for Families and Children in Juneau, a collaboration of 13 local agencies working with young children, has helped to reduce the number of children being "expelled" from early learning programs. The Partnerships for Families and Children's vision is to encircle young children in a "Blanket of Wellness" by supporting their social and emotional development. Through this project, early childhood programs work with licensed behavioral/mental health specialists who provide support and training to staff and parents.

The Blanket of Wellness Project in Southeast Alaska began as a two year pilot study in 2002 at the request of childcare providers who were concerned with the increase in children with behavioral problems. Thirty two childcare and early learning programs serving over 1,000 children and 200 staff in SE Alaska participated in the project. Program evaluations showed successful outcomes in increasing strategies to support children with emotional and social needs.

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***Mission Statement: Partnerships for families and children works collaboratively to promote shared broad-based community support for young children and their families.***

**3100 Channel Drive, Suite 215 ? Juneau, Alaska 99801 ? [www.southeastfamilies.org](http://www.southeastfamilies.org) ? 907.789.1235 ? 888.785.1235**

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The Crossett Foundation has awarded funding to AEYC-SEA (Association for the Education of Young Children – Southeast Alaska) to support the project until a full funding source can be secured. The Blanket of Wellness Project provides consulting services to childcare centers, Headstart, and home visiting programs.

The Partnership for Families and Children works collaboratively to promote shared broad-based community support for young children and their families. It is an inclusive group of people and programs working collaboratively to promote a seamless web of support services. The vision is that all families with young children will have access to community resources that support the health, growth and development of children. The Partnership consists of the following agencies: AEYC-SEA, AWARE, Bartlett Beginnings, Healthy Families Juneau, Juneau Family Birth Center, Juneau Public Health Center, Juneau School District, Juneau Youth Services, Office of Children Services, Parents Inc., REACH Infant Learning, SERRC, SEARHC, and Tlingit and Haida Headstart.

For more information please call Allison Warren at 789-1235

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