



Alaska Geriatrics Interdisciplinary
Leadership Development Program

AK GILD Leadership Track Spring 2017 Program Details and Application Instructions

APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED THROUGH December 2, 2016! Please read these instructions carefully before contacting the program office to apply

The **AK GILD program** provides face-to-face and distance delivered interdisciplinary leadership training (150 hours) over an academic semester to prepare leaders to promote systems change and advocacy to meet the needs of Older Alaskans, Alaskan Native elders, and their families in rural and frontier communities. AK GILD participants will engage in a highly customized experiential learning environment, based on their personal and professional leadership goals.

Criteria for applying:

A minimum associates degree in a health or behavioral health field. In lieu of a degree, at least 5 years of progressively responsible experience in a health or behavioral health discipline may be substituted. Family member/unpaid caregiver/ advocate that has an academic degree or professional training may also be eligible to apply. In addition to the above all applicants must have a long-term professional goal to focus on an aspect of leadership in geriatrics.

Benefits to Participants:

- Experience new models of care delivery while earning a UAA College of Health Certificate in Geriatrics
- Acquire leadership skills to better serve older Alaskans and Elders
- Meet and network with other professionals and paraprofessionals
- Stipends and travel (as applicable) is covered

Timeline and Expectations:

The **AK GILD** program provides face-to-face and distance delivered interdisciplinary leadership training (150 hours) over one academic semester to prepare leaders to promote systems change and advocacy to meet the needs of Older Alaskan's, Alaskan Native elders, and their families in rural and frontier communities.

- Attend in-person 2 days AK GILD program orientation and symposium, January 26 and 27, 2017. This includes a Southcentral Foundation Elder program site visit
- Participate in weekly seminars – every Thursday beginning February 2, 2017 (4:00-5:30 pm), and ending April 20, 2017. Each class is 1.5 hours and distance delivered using UAA's Blackboard website. Headsets will be provided to each participant.
- Participate in an externship at a local agency or health facility of your choosing – up to 30 hours – will be customized based on your goals

- Complete a project specific to your experience in this externship that will be shared with others at a future date. Product development *examples*:
 - Projects specific to externship host site
 - Development of a presentation/webinar that can be shared with a broader audience
 - Specific agency patient-centered models of care that can be implemented into your own workplace
 - Advocacy initiatives
 - New program development/grant opportunities
 - And more...be creative!

Steps to completing your AK GILD program application:

1. Review the criteria at the top of this document to make sure you are eligible. If in doubt, contact the program office.

2. Write a personal statement of interest that addresses the following questions:

- Describe your past experiences working with older adults and/or their families.
- What do you have to gain from participating in an interdisciplinary program, focused on leadership development related to geriatrics and gerontology?
- What does leadership mean to you and what qualities do you think speak to your leadership potential?
- Briefly describe your current knowledge of the Alaska Native Tribal Health system.
- Is there a specific topic(s) you'd like to focus on if accepted into the AK GILD program? (i.e. Alzheimer's and related dementia, community-based services, long-term supports, advocacy, etc.)

3. Resume and/or vita: please make sure your resume or vita includes your education, work experiences, professional honors and/or awards, and professional activities.

4. A letter of support from your Supervisor that shows support and encouragement of your participation (including time off of work as applicable for externship and weekly seminars)

When you are ready to formally apply, please contact the program office and a secure web access link will be emailed to you. Application deadline is **December 2, 2016**.

Program contact: Sheila Shinn, 907-264-6251, email sjsoule@alaska.edu, or Rosellen Rosich, 907-264-6251, email rmrosich@alaska.edu

The AK GILD program is a partnership between Southcentral Foundation's Nuka System of Care and the University of Alaska Anchorage, College of Health, Center for Human Development and funded by HRSA grant #U1QHP28706, Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program.

