

**APPLICATION for the
Alaska Citizen Review Panel**

Volunteer Citizen Review Panel Member

General Function:

Volunteer community members analyze trends, provide independent insights and outside validation of the child protection system, recommend and advocate for needed changes and resources, promote cooperation among community resources and child protection service agencies and increase community understanding and investment in protecting all children. They will examine child protection policies, procedures and practices of the state child protection agencies. They will evaluate the extent to which the agencies are discharging their child protection responsibilities. Panel members will gather information through interviews and observations, and review records, case files and reports. The members will prepare and make available to the public an annual report containing a summary of the panel's activities and recommendations to improve the child protection system.

What the volunteer experience can offer you:

- An opportunity to be an active participant on the behalf of abused and neglected children in your community and your state.
- An opportunity to put your interests, talents and expertise to good use for a worthy cause.
- In-service training on child abuse and neglect issues, foster care, case plans, efforts towards family reunification, alternatives to family reunification, the best interests of children, child development and attachment issues, cultural considerations including the Indian Child Welfare Act, chemical and mental health, education, community resources and the court process.
- Ongoing professional support and consultation.
- Access to a wide variety of community resources and people.
- Access to and an understanding of the child protection system in your community and state.
- An opportunity to promote and affect positive changes for the well-being of children.
- A meaningful, important volunteer experience that will add skills and provide new insights, interests, and challenges.

Qualifications and Skills:

- Genuine concern and compassion for those involved in the child protection service system.
- Desire to have a positive impact on the child protection service system and those involved.

- ❑ Desire to learn about the current child protection service system.
- ❑ Common sense and maturity.
- ❑ Sensitivity to cultural, ethnic and economic diversity.
- ❑ Ability to articulate ideas, concerns and thoughts.
- ❑ Ability to listen, be open minded, non judgmental and constructive.
- ❑ Ability to work as part of a team.
- ❑ Desire to promote needed changes in the child protection system as identified by the panel.
- ❑ A willingness to make an initial commitment of two years.
- ❑ May not currently be involved in a child protection, child custody dispute or criminal matter.
- ❑ Must maintain confidentiality.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Personal:

- ❑ Maintain confidentiality.
- ❑ Participate in in-service trainings sessions.
- ❑ Attend and participate in all meetings.
- ❑ Submit reimbursement claims, and other requested records in a timely manner.

As a member of the Panel:

- ❑ Gather information by conducting interviews, reviewing files, records and reports.
- ❑ Participate in educational activities to better understand the child protection system.
- ❑ Review the child protection service agency's consistency of practice and compliance with stated policies, laws and procedures.
- ❑ Assist in the analysis of the information gathered.
- ❑ Assist in the compilation of an annual report summarizing the activities of the panel.
- ❑ Provide feedback on what is working well.
- ❑ Make recommendations for needed policy changes and suggest corrective actions.
- ❑ Promote cooperation among community resources and child protection service agencies.
- ❑ Increase community understanding, ownership and investment in child protection.
- ❑ Be an advocate for needed resources to protect children from abuse and neglect.

Application for the Alaska Citizen Review Panel

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Additional Information:

1. Where did you hear about the Citizen Review Panel?

2. Please list special skills, interests or relevant experiences.

3. What strengths do you have that would be beneficial to the Panel?

4. Have you been convicted of a crime?
If yes, please explain. Yes ___ No ___

5. Have you or has anyone in your family been involved with the Social Services or Court systems? If yes, please explain. Yes ___ No ___

6. If yes, did you feel you were treated fairly? Yes ___ No ___ Explain:

7. Are you willing to serve an initial term of two years on the panel? Yes ___
No ___

8. Do you have any reservations about serving as a volunteer panel member?

In order to promote the integrity of the Citizen Review Panel and to protect the volunteer panel members we do require a confidentiality agreement be signed at the time of appointment to the CRP to ensure confidentiality is maintained.

References:

Please list the names, complete addresses, including the zip code, and daytime phone numbers of three references.

1.

2.

3.

I submit the statements on this application are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification on this application can disqualify me from consideration or can result in dismissal at a later time.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this application. Return the completed application to:

Sylvan Robb
CRP Coordinator
Information Insights
P.O. Box 73490
Fairbanks, AK 99707