



PARENTS

Families Assisting Families of Children With Disabilities

\$1,000,000 for PARENTS, Inc. in Alaska for implementation and expansion of their project to train teachers, specialists, and parents in the use of technology to assist students with disabilities.

Description: For FY 2001 PARENTS, Inc. was given an appropriation stating :

“\$450,000 for PARENTS, Inc. in Alaska to train teachers and specialists in the use of technology to support service delivery to children with disabilities in rural Alaska.”

This appropriation will be used to purchase the necessary technology, write the training curriculum, set up a statewide committee to help determine the best way to proceed on this project and assist with its continuation, and to test it on at least one rural school district.

The FY 2002 request is for implementation of it to serve a wide range of communities, and to include parents as a working partner in the use of the curriculum and technology. This will make it accessible to families whose children receive their education at home, and allow families to assist in educating new teachers and specialist in rural areas that have a high turnover rate of education professionals.

Numerous partners from within Alaska and from national organizations have asked to partner with PARENTS, Inc. on this initiative. This includes Yukon-Koyukuk School District, Unalaska School District, Mat-Su School District, The Denali Commission, Anchorage School District, the National Technical Assistance Alliance for Parent Training and Information Centers, and PACER Center of Minnesota. This interest in the project at its very beginning shows that this project is in great demand and has wide support, both in Alaska and as a nationwide model that many other states will look to for the future.

4743 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 337-7678 ♦ Fax (907) 337-7671 ♦ TTY (907) 337-7629 ♦ Toll-Free in Alaska: 1-800-478-7678
E-mail: parents@parentsinc.org ♦ Web: www.parentsinc.org

A Non-Profit Corporation