

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR HUMAN SERVICES

STRENGTHS:

- Behavioral and mental health care is a high demand area in the state and the nation.
- The program provides a strong academic pathway from RHS cert, to HUMS AAS, to four-year Social Work degree. About 50% of the graduates of the HUMS AAS degree program go on into the BA in Social Work.
- There is a committed group of over 30 community partners across Alaska.
- The rural HUMS program uses a cohort model that meets the needs of rural students and has a high retention rate.
- The program's graduates fill important roles in their communities. Graduates are now in positions that, at one time, were held by non-local providers.

WEAKNESSES:

- Drastic reduction in faculty from 5 to .4 FTE over the years due to budget cuts, and reliance on adjunct instruction leads to reduced capacity to administer and stabilize the program.
- Inability to expand online course offerings due to faculty workload.
- It is increasingly difficult for students to find scholarships and external funding.
- Decline in enrollment in the CTC portion of the program.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Program expansion would provide key credentialing and certification needed throughout Alaska.
- The program could expand the number of students in the rural cohort and the offering of online courses if there were greater faculty resources.
- There is the potential to play a key role in One Health initiative and related focus.
- There is strong growth for behavioral health occupations projected over the next decade.

THREATS:

- Loss of HUMS distinctive mission if program housed under UAA College of Health.
- Continued budget reductions: there are currently no dedicated staff in the program, which leads to instability.

CENTRALITY TO MISSION:

- The program contributes to UAF's mission to educate and prepare students in a high demand area.

INDICATORS OF QUALITY:

- High degree completion rate.
- Strong academic pathway for students wishing to continue education.
- Program has strong community and industry support.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS:

- Above average student numbers with only a .5 FTE.

	MAJORS	DEGREES
Human Services AAS (all programs)	FY15: 119/ FY19: 68	FY15: 18/ FY19: 5

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Human Services AAS:

RECOMMENDATION:	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP:
Continuation w/ improvement plan (6 votes, 1 abstention)	Evaluate ability to fund additional faculty and support for program. Provide clear metrics for cost, enrollment, and graduation.	Two years