

**CITY OF WASILLA
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 04-51**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WASILLA CITY COUNCIL ENDORSING THE
CONTINUATION OF THE MAT-SU JUVENILE ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

WHEREAS, in 2000 the Mat-Su Borough School District collaborated with community agencies to secure and implement a Safe Schools/Healthy Students initiative grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (USDHHS) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that included the opening of the Mat-Su Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) in October 2000; and

WHEREAS, since start-up the JAC has provided free service to approximately 2000 youth-in-crises from 35 of the 37 schools within the Mat-Su Borough School District, with assessments and referrals provided to 1200 of those youth at a rate of some 400 per year; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of the JAC has been demonstrated by consistently high satisfaction surveys from parents and officials of collaborating agencies and positive reports from independent contract evaluators; and

WHEREAS, the JAC operation has been reduced to a sustainable staff of one Master-level clinician and one clerk providing at least five-days per week service, located at the Saxton Youth (emergency) Shelter; and

WHEREAS, in 2004 the JAC steering committee, comprised of representatives from the Mat-Su Borough School District; Division of Juvenile Justice; Wasilla, Palmer

and State Police; Behavioral Health Services of Mat-Su; Mat-Su Recovery Center and citizen volunteers has recommended that the JAC services continue as an integral part of the borough-wide social services continuum of care; and

WHEREAS, an indication of support from the City of Wasilla is appropriate to help secure both local and outside support to continue the JAC and its services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Wasilla City Council that we endorse the continuation of the Mat-Su Juvenile Assessment Center; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support applications by Kids Are People, Inc. for funding of the JAC program.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on December 13, 2004.



DIANNE M. KELLER, Mayor

ATTEST:



KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC
City Clerk

[SEAL]