

### **What is happening with the AK POLST Education Workgroup?**

While POLST education work will be ongoing, we are merging the AK POLST Education Workgroup with Elizabeth Manning's (Communications Manager with DHSS) AK POLST Outreach and Public Information Campaign Workgroup-- as next steps are outreach efforts to AK health care professionals, institutions, and public about AK POLST and the sunsetting of Comfort One. From this combined group: **AK POLST Education and Outreach** we can have subgroups to work on educational materials, as needed.

For those who are receiving this email b/c you were added to this group list b/c of your interest in keeping informed about AK POLST we have two new offerings:

1. website [www.akpolst.org](http://www.akpolst.org) : probably live next week (pls save this website and check back if not live when you try)
2. POLST information update email list: we also are collecting a list of names/emails of people who want to receive updates about POLST that Jann Mylett, Communications Director of ASHNHA , is managing along with the website (Thank you, Jann!).

At this time of transition, please confirm by email if you would like to be included in either or both offerings:

1. to participate in this combined workgroup for "AK POLST Education and Outreach" and remain included in the monthly ZOOM invitations and meeting communications
2. to be added to the [www.akpolst.org](http://www.akpolst.org)/ ASHNHA email list to receive communications on AK POLST updates

**When does POLST take effect?** The POLST form is a legal medical order that became effective when the regulations were signed earlier this year. All health care professionals are required to honor the orders on a physician signed POLST, if presented. However, the POLST Task Force recommends physicians and institutions hold off on issuing POLST forms until Jan. 1, 2022 to prepare for this transition and allow for outreach to Alaska's health care community. thank you all for your work and interest in AK POLST

### **Will there be webinars?**

--Yes, with the support of ASHNHA we are preparing POLST webinars for professional education on POLST, starting in January- these will be available to attend live or viewable later posted on [www.akpolst.org](http://www.akpolst.org)

-- We're also doing a series on POLST for health care professionals for our UAA Palliative Care ECHO starting January- these are held first Tuesday of the month noon-1pm, register here: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)