

Alaska Mental Health Board
FY 2004-2005 Capital Project Proposal

1) Proposer's Name Consumers Consortium	2) Contact Information Barry Creighton, 54932 Burdock Rd, Kasilof, Alaska 99610, (907) 262-2824, burdock@ionia.org	3) Project Title Agricultural Therapy
4) Project Description: This project is a demonstration model of how simple, meaningful agricultural activity can enrich the lives of consumers and their close family members, while providing financial rehabilitation. Farming and gardening are a viable practical step toward a full alternately-abled way of life. This approach needs to be emphasized and demonstrated in order to inspire consumers all over the state. Very little investment in agricultural equipment will result in years and years of effective agricultural therapy for Trust beneficiaries.		
5) Explain geographic area to be served. Are there similar projects/programs in geographic area where collaboration is possible? The proposal originates out of Ionia's program in Kasilof, but there is potential for qualifying projects from other places, such as for Field of Dreams' landscaping business in Palmer.		
6) What AMHB priorities or goals of <i>A Shared Vision II</i> and/or the Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan does this proposal support? Consumer Centered Services Comprehensive System Integrative/Collaborative System Strengths Perspective Home and Community Focus Preventive Services Outcome Based Systems Cost Effectiveness		
7) How will this proposal improve the quality of life of Trust beneficiaries? Agriculture is a simple basic group activity which requires in close interaction and teamwork. Everyone can participate on some level because these activities require little training and no special talents. Agricultural Therapy is a viable, curative treatment model for mental illness, alcoholism, developmental disabilities and other behavioral disorders. Trust beneficiaries personal contribution to an agricultural project is a source of pride for the individual and valued by their peers and the surrounding community. Consumers may never be able to provide for themselves as separate individuals in the regular world, however,		

they may be able to economically rehabilitate themselves as a group, working together. Agriculture counter measures the prejudice toward the mentally disabled through gaining the respect of our society.

8) If this is a continuing project, report on status. Indicate not applicable if this is a new project.

N/A

9) Project cost and funding sources

FY 04 \$50,000/MHTAAR

FY 05 \$50,000/MHTAAR

FY 06 \$0

FY 07 \$0

10) Start-up or ongoing operating costs.

Start-up: absorbed by organization

Ongoing: absorbed by organization

11) Signature and date