

Alaska Tribal Health System

Providing Health Services to 143,000+ Alaskans

House Finance Committee

Health and Social Services Budget Subcommittee

September 6, 2013



Federal government provides health care in recognition of government to government relationship between Tribes and the U.S. to members of federally recognized Tribes and their descendants

Alaska Tribal Health Compact

- **Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium - 229**
- **Aleutian Pribilof Is. Assn - 13**
- **Arctic Slope Native Assn - 8**
- **Bristol Bay Area Health Corp - 34**
- **Chickaloon**
- **Chugachmiut - 7**
- **Copper River Native Assn - 5**
- **Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments - 10**
- **Eastern Aleutian Tribes**
- **Native Village of Eklutna**
- **Eyak**
- **Kenaitze Indian Tribe**
- **Ketchikan Indian Community - 2**
- **Knik Tribal Council**
- **Kodiak Area Native Assn - 11**
- **Maniilaq Assn - 12**
- **Metlakatla Indian Community**
- **Mount Sanford Tribal Consortium - 2**
- **Norton Sound Health Corp-20**
- **Seldovia Village Tribe**
- **Southcentral Foundation**
- **SouthEast Alaska Regional Tribal Health Consortium - 18**
- **Tanana Chiefs Conference - 42**
- **Yakutat Tlingit Tribe**
- **Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corp - 58**

Delivering Health Services for Alaska Natives

- The Alaska Tribal Health System provides health services for Alaska Natives and American Indians in
 - 180 Village Clinics
 - 25 Subregional mid-level clinics
 - 6 Multi-physician health centers
 - 6 Regional hospitals and
 - Alaska Native Medical Center
- Provide health care in every Alaskan community
- 7,000 Alaskans employed

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

- **Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) created by Congress in 1997 to:**
 - **jointly manage the Alaska Native Medical Center**
 - **assume responsibility for IHS statewide programs.**
- **ANTHC's Board of Directors represented by:**
 - **13 Regional Tribal Health Organizations and**
 - **2 Unaffiliated Tribes**
- **2,000 Alaskans employed**

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

- **ANMC by the Numbers**
 - **8,000+ inpatient admissions (2012)**
 - **287,800+ outpatient admissions (2012)**
 - **1,550+ babies born (2012)**
 - **150,000 telehealth cases referred to ANMC**

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

- **Community Health Aide/Practitioner trainer**
- **Statewide Telehealth Network manager**
- **Behavioral Health Initiatives coordinator**
- **Patient Referral coordinator**
- **Patient Travel coordinator**
- **Dental Health Aide Therapy Program trainer**
- **State partner on issues of mutual interest**
- **And more . . .**

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

- **Water and Sanitation Systems Construction**
 - Critical to public health
 - Lead agency for half of rural communities
 - Engineers employed to design systems and provide follow-up.
 - We strive to hire locally
 - Alaska Rural Utilities Collaborative

Federal Tribal Health Funding

- **Not an entitlement program**
- **Discretionary funding is appropriated by Congress to the Indian Health Service.**
- **Funded at 50% of the level of need.**

Tribal Health Funding

- **Congress authorized the Indian Health Service to supplement funding through third party reimbursement:**
 - Medicaid
 - Children's Health Insurance Program
 - Private insurance
 - Medicare
- **Critical sustainability issue**

ATHS Innovations

- **Telehealth (2001 – June 2013)**
 - 74,405 patients served
 - 170,622 cases created
 - 3,594 providers involved
- **Estimated Annual Travel Savings due to Telehealth**
 - \$8.3M for all patients, including
 - \$3.9 M for Medicaid patients
- **Estimated Total Travel Savings since 2003**
 - \$38M for all patients, including
 - \$18.5 M for Medicaid patients

ATHS Innovations

- **New Telehealth Opportunities & State Partnerships**
 - **Expanded video conferencing**
 - Telepulminology
 - Teleendocrinology
 - Teletrauma
 - Acute Care (orthopedics, etc.)
 - **Innovation Grant submitted for Statewide Comprehensive Virtual Medical Home for Children with Complex Medical Conditions**
 - Children discharged from NICU and PICU
 - Average \$40,000 – 50,000 post discharge in first year
 - Includes average 7 emergency room visits
 - Reduce costs by 37% through telehealth and care management
 - Target 80 children per year

ATHS Innovations

- **The Dental Health Aide Therapy Program is a national model for oral health care delivery.**
 - 25 certified DHATs
 - 35,000 Alaskans now have access to oral health care
- **Safe water and sanitation engineering innovations and renewable energy projects result in energy savings at the community level**

Partnerships

- **Tribal, State, & Federal partnerships work**
- **State DHSS grants ensure services in rural communities that otherwise could not be provided.**

Partnerships

- **Village clinics serve everyone who needs care**
- **Veterans Administration partnership means more veterans, Native and non-Native, are getting health care in their home communities.**
- **Alaska Native Epidemiology Center works closely with the State Epidemiology Center to make good health decisions for Alaskans**

ATHS & State Benefit from Medicaid

- **For average Medicaid beneficiary, CMS pays:**
 - **Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) to States to help pay for Medicaid services**
- **States make up the difference.**
- **For a \$1,000 service in a state with 50% FMAP:**
 - **\$ 500 federal dollars**
 - **\$ 500 state match**
\$1,000 total

ATHS & State Benefit from Medicaid

- **For AI/AN Medicaid beneficiaries:**
 - **States receive 100% FMAP,**
 - **For care received in an IHS facility in recognition of the federal trust responsibility**
- **For a \$1,000 service with 50% FMAP for AI/AN who receives care in IHS facility :**
 - **\$1,000 federal dollars**
 - **\$ 0 state match**
\$1,000 total
- **\$500 savings to the State General Fund when AI/AN Medicaid patients use the Indian Health System.**

Alaska Tribal Health System and Medicaid

- **When capacity is limited we contract for care elsewhere**
- **How do we best serve our patients and stretch our health dollars?**

Alaska Tribal Health System

- **Tribal, State, and Federal Partnerships make the difference in our state.**
- **When we work together, great things happen.**
 - **Senate Bill 88, Patient Housing**

Questions

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