




DATE: May 3, 2022
TO: Skagway Traditional Council
FROM: Judean Gordon 
SEARHC Board Representative
SUBJECT: SEARHC Board and Committee Meetings, April 27-29, 2022

Due to the spike in Omicron cases in Southeast Alaska, the SEARHC Board of Directors (Board) met virtually on April 27, 28, 29, 2022.

Accreditation Governing Body Committee (AGB)

The Accreditation Governing Body, which has oversight of the SEARHC clinics and hospitals, kicked off the meeting on Wednesday, April 27th.

The Committee reviewed and approved the SEARHC Credential report including new appointments for: six Courtesy Staff members, three Advanced Practice Professional Staff members and two Active members; reappointments for: four Active Staff members, 22 Courtesy Staff members, three Advanced Practice Professional Staff members and four Associate Staff members; four change in staff requests, two change in privileges requests and closed files for 12 members of the Medical Staff who are no longer providing services at SEARHC. The Committee also reviewed and approved the Providence TeleICU TeleStroke Provider Roster and vRad Credential list.

The Committee was presented with and approved the distribution of a study titled "Smartphone-based Financial Incentives to Promote Smoking Cessation Among Alaska Native (AN) Pregnant Women" by Dr. Diann Gaalema and Dr. Stephen Higgs, and approved the participation in a study titled, "Alaska Stigma Index Project: Understanding stigma-based barriers in providing services and care to Alaska Native and American Indian (AN/AI) People Living with HIV (PLWH)" by ANTHC research scientist, Cornelia Jessen, and approved the publication of the manuscript titled, "Cardiovascular disease hospitalizations associated with rheumatic disease in Alaska," and approved the publication of a manuscript titled, "Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies (IIM) in Alaska Native/American Indian (AN/AI) People in Alaska," and approved the publication of a manuscript titled, "Systemic Sclerosis (SSc) in Alaska.

The SVP/Chief Medical Officer discussed the current COVID-19 levels and provided updates on the behavioral health programs, specialty care expansions, growth in programs throughout inpatient and outpatient services, quality improvement indicators, as well as other topics from the Leadership Report.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee convened on the afternoon of April 27, 2022 and conducted its

regular business of reviewing and approving the agenda and January 27, 2022 minutes.

Discussion of Board of Directors Policy 2.7.3 Life Insurance/Additional Death, Dismemberment and Loss of Use Benefit.

Discussed the postponed Totem Unveiling and Groundbreaking event. With the support of the committee members, staff will invite Board members to the Totem Unveiling and Groundbreaking as a volunteer activity when Sitka's COVID-19 level is below orange.

Finance Committee

The Committee conducted its regular business of reviewing and approving the agenda and the January 27, 2022 minutes.

Discussion of Retirement Trust Account requesting approval from the Finance Committee to set up a trust account with Vanguard. The request was approved by the Finance Committee.

Senior Executive Vice President/Chief Financial Officer reviewed second quarter financials that included revenue, operating expenses, volumes, specialty care, payor mix, and the bottom line, noting a stronger second quarter

Presentation of the Long-Range Financial Plan was shared with the committee which will now be reviewed annually at the second quarter committee and Board meetings.

Patient Experience Committee

The Senior Vice President/Chief Operating Officer (SVP/COO) updated the new patient satisfaction text survey. The survey, consisting of four questions and two comment fields is sent to the patient's mobile device by text three hours after appointments. In the second quarter, 2,438 responses were completed by patients, with 96% indicating positive reviews

Eric Gettis, Vice President, Behavioral Health, facilitated the educational component on Opioid Use Disorder and SEARHC Opioid Treatment Program.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors conducted its regular business of reviewing and approving the agenda and the January 28, 2022, minutes.

Board members heard the Board Chair Report, ANTHC Report and reports from the President/CEO, SEVP/CFO.

The Board Chair's Report covered participation in SEARHC-related meetings and activities including coordination with the President and SVP/COO for the Board Retreat for the second quarter Board meeting and events. The events were postponed due to the high COVID-19 numbers.

The ANTHC representative reported on ANTHC-related activities this past quarter. ANTHC's strategic plan is complete and to be voted on at the next meeting. As the Chair of ANTHC's Board of Directors, the representative met with the Secretary of the Interior and toured the Anchorage facilities. The representative relayed SEARHC's Cerner requests and travel and housing concerns to the ANTHC Board.

The President/Chief Executive Officer (CEO) gave updates on the great success of the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program. The Raven's Way program, which has increased the capacity from 12 to 24 beds. The President/CEO updated the Board on the expansion of Long-Term Care in Sitka and Wrangell and the Opioid Treatment Program which opened in Juneau in February. He also noted this week's abbreviated agendas were to allow time for the members to participate in the Totem Unveiling and Groundbreaking events planned for the in-person board meetings this week. Due to the high COVID 19 numbers, the meetings were changed to virtual, and events were postponed.

Key accomplishments from the April 2022 Board meeting include:

- Approval of the Consortium-wide Credentials List.
- Approval of the Providence TeleICU Telestroke Provider Roster.
- Approval of the "Smartphone-based Financial Incentives to Promote Smoking Cessation Among Alaska Native (AN) Pregnant Women"
- Approval of the "Alaska Stigma Index Project: Understanding stigma-based barriers in providing services and care to Alaska Native and American Indian (AN/AI) People Living with HIV (PLWH)"
- Approval of the publication of the manuscript titled, "Cardiovascular disease hospitalizations associated with rheumatic disease in Alaska,"
- Approval of the publication of a manuscript titled, "Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies (IIM) in Alaska Native/American Indian (AN/AI) People in Alaska,"
- Approval of the publication of a manuscript titled, "Systemic Sclerosis (SSc) in Alaska Native/American Indian (AN/AI) People in Alaska."
- Approval of the Board of Directors Policy 2.7.3 Life Insurance/Additional Death, Dismemberment and Loss of Use Benefit.

I appreciate the opportunity to represent you on the SEARHC Board and invite you to contact me if you have any questions. Again, thank you for your continual support of SEARHC's important Mission: ***Alaska Native People working in partnership to provide the best healthcare for our communities.***