OUR VISION
Alaska Natives are the healthiest people in the world

OUR MISSION
Providing the highest quality health services in partnership with our people and the Alaska Tribal Health System

OUR VALUES
Achieving Excellence
Native Self-Determination
Treat with Respect and Integrity
Health and Wellness
Compassion
Alaska Natives are the healthiest people in the world. It’s not only an ambitious statement — it’s the vision of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC). The inspiration for that vision, and the foundation for achieving it, were set long before ANTHC was formed.

In the 1800s and early 1900s, infectious diseases such as influenza, smallpox and tuberculosis caused deadly epidemics among Alaska Natives. As late as 1950, Alaska Natives had a life expectancy of just 47 years.

In 1953, the Indian Health Service (IHS) opened the Anchorage Medical Center of the Alaska Native Service (ANS existed for one year; the facility was renamed the Alaska Native Medical Center) in downtown Anchorage. It served as a TB sanitarium until the epidemic ceased, then became an acute, specialty and outpatient medical center.

The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1976 facilitated the transfer of health programs from federal to Native ownership over 25 years. The IHS operated six hospitals and maintained a presence in 160 village clinics through the Alaska Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) until 1975, when regional Alaska Tribal Health Organizations took over the administration of the hospitals and CHAP. Regional Health Organizations developed throughout Alaska. In 1994, self-governance legislation provided for perpetual compact agreements between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and tribal programs.

In June 1998, a new era of statewide management of tribal health services began when the Alaska Area Native Health Service signed a contract transferring statewide services to ANTHC.

To achieve the vision that Alaska Natives are the healthiest people in the world, ANTHC works with customers, members of the Alaska Tribal Health System, and non-Native agencies that share common objectives. ANTHC asks employees to provide the highest quality health services and encourages Alaska Natives to make healthy choices and to help keep families and communities strong. ANTHC also works with many partners, lawmakers, volunteers and advocates toward building a unified health system to achieve the highest quality services.

Today, with more than 2,000 staff members providing an array of health services, ANTHC is closer to its vision than ever before, and making a life-changing difference in the health of Alaska Natives every day.
Managed and operated by its customers, who are represented by 15 Alaska Native leaders from around the state, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) is a not-for-profit tribal health organization that provides statewide services in specialty medical care; construction of water, sanitation and health facilities; community health and research; information technology; and professional recruiting. As a member of the Alaska Native Health Board, ANTHC works closely with the National Indian Health Board to address Alaska Native and American Indian health issues.

ANTHC employees cultivate relations that promote trust and value for all parties, or “win-win” relationships. We are building operational excellence — to work faster, better, and at lower costs without compromising the quality of health services we provide. We continue to work to offer exceptional quality services leading to the best outcomes. ANTHC employees strive to be our customers’ first choice by exceeding expectations in a culturally respectful and positive manner.
LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

GREETINGS,

The past year was one of the most important and inspiring in ANTHC’s history. Every day, ANTHC employees took lifesaving and life-changing actions that made a significant positive impact on the health of Alaska Natives in every corner of our state — from providing world-class medical care at ANMC to making better health a part of their daily lives through our public health, construction and prevention work. And we grew as a company, expanding and improving our services to maximize the difference we can make in the future.

Our growth has occurred over 13 years of operating as a consortium, but the source of our success is much deeper. It comes from decades of fighting for self-governance and taking responsibility for our own health and the Alaska Tribal Health System. It’s a result of the support and collaboration of the ATHS and consortium members. It’s a reflection of the drive and dedication of more than 2,000 hardworking and innovative ANTHC employees. And it’s a statement about the countless partners and advocates who work tirelessly with us each day.

We’re becoming evermore efficient and effective in our work, yet we still face unique and monumental challenges in delivering the best health care to 140,000 Alaska Natives. With a vision and responsibility as immense as ours, ANTHC simply can’t do it alone. We offer roles for everyone — legislators, lawmakers, leaders, patients and Native communities, and all Alaskans. You can become a donor and volunteer with the Healthy Alaska Natives Foundation. You can ensure you and your family members take advantage of preventive services. You can use your vote, voice and influence to advocate for greater state and federal funding and to help build a stronger tribal health system. You can be a part of a success that’s much bigger than you and much bigger than ANTHC. It’s Alaska’s success and the heartbeat of the Alaska Native People.

Thank you all for your work and commitment in the past year. I look forward to celebrating more successes with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Andy Teuber
Chairman and President
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andy Teuber
ANTHC Chairman and President
KODIAK AREA NATIVE ASSOCIATION

Evelyn Beeter
ANTHC Vice-Chair
UNAFFILIATED TRIBES
Mt. Sanford Tribal Consortium

Emily Hughes
ANTHC Secretary
NORTON SOUND HEALTH CORPORATION

Charles Clement
ANTHC Treasurer
SOUTHCENTRAL FOUNDATION

Mike Zacharof
ALEUTIAN/PRIBILOF ISLANDS ASSOCIATION

Bernice Kaigelak
ARCTIC SLOPE NATIVE ASSOCIATION

H. Sally Smith
BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION

Robert Henrichs
CHUGACHMIUT Native Village of Eyak

Charlene Nollner
COPPER RIVER NATIVE ASSOCIATION

Robert Sampson
MANIILAQ ASSOCIATION

Linda Clement
METLAKATLA INDIAN COMMUNITY

Lincoln A. Bean, Sr.
SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

Andrew Jimmie
TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

Chief Gary Harrison
UNAFFILIATED TRIBES
Chickaloon Native Village

Ray Alstrom
YUKON KUSKOKWIM HEALTH CORPORATION

ANTHC 2011 Annual Report
ANTHC’s largest division, ANMC operates a state-of-the-art, 150-bed facility that provides comprehensive medical services to Alaska Natives and American Indians. ANMC is Alaska’s only Level II Trauma Center, has received Magnet Recognition for nursing excellence, and recently received the Commitment to Quality Award from Mountain-Pacific Quality Health. ANTHC and Southcentral Foundation jointly own and manage the Alaska Native Medical Center under the terms of Public Law 105-83. These parent organizations have established a Joint Operating Board to ensure unified operation of health services provided by the Medical Center.
On October 1, ANMC launched its Electronic Health Records (EHR) system to improve the quality of patient care. Now medical history, treatment records and medication information are located in one place, providing better patient care coordination with health care providers and instant access to patient health information.

ANMC installed Alaska’s only 64-slice low dose radiation CT scanner. This new technology reduces patient radiation exposure by 40 percent, improving patient safety. Other imaging technology upgrades included a new 16-slice CT scanner and MRI machine.

Oncology continued increasing its services by expanding from two to six exam rooms and from eight to 10 infusion chairs. The increased treatment area means more providers — a new medical oncologist and advance nurse practitioner joined the team this year — to improve patient access.

Maternal Child Health at ANMC plays an integral role in improving the health care delivery system for pregnant women and newborns in Alaska. Today, Alaska has the lowest neonatal mortality rate in the country — our state has gone from 8.3 deaths per 1,000 live births in the early 1980s to 2.27 deaths per 1,000 live births for infants born in 2008. Maternal Child Health also continued improving services by adding four private mother baby rooms and expanding the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit capacity by 50 percent.
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES (DCHS)

DCHS works to elevate the health status of Alaska Native communities while monitoring and improving Alaska Native health through research, training health care providers, and providing education for prevention. DCHS staff studies trends and develops solutions for priority health problems and works with many tribal health organizations and communities to improve the health of Alaska Native families.

Inform and Inspire, a statewide personal health and wellness campaign, begins on radio, TV and print advertising in Alaska with the message, “Alaska Natives Making Healthy Choices.”

Division of Community Health Services (DCHS) implements a maternal and newborn monitoring program to follow low levels of industrial pollutants now appearing in marine subsistence species.

ANTHC completes an Alaska Native Health Campus site and facility plan outlining changes needed to accommodate growth, including changes to day surgery, dental operating room, Qayana House and the laboratory.

An internship program begins to encourage Alaska Native and American Indian high school, undergraduate and graduate students to enter health fields.

DEHE works on design and construction of sanitation facilities in more than 70 communities.

ANTHC completes an Alaska Native Health Campus site and facility plan outlining changes needed to accommodate growth, including changes to day surgery, dental operating room, Qayana House and the laboratory.

2000
ANTHC helps raise the number of IHS scholarships from an average of less than a dozen per year to a record 32.

2001

Dental Health Aide Therapist (DHAT) program begins to increase dental care services in rural villages.

ANTHC assists tribes in administering injury prevention projects involving smoke detector installation, car seats and float coats.

ANTHC constructs $48 million in sanitation facility projects in Alaska Native communities, improving sanitation service to 2,552 homes, 359 of them for the first time.

Healthy Village Environments program provided more than $100,000 to five communities to work on air quality, solid waste, sanitation and alternative energy projects that impact human health and the environment, and provided five training sessions to help other communities address serious environmental health risks.

Colorectal Cancer team helped increase screening rates around the state to combat the leading cause of new cases of cancer in Alaska Native people.

Injury Prevention program brought its popular white float coat project to eight villages and 16 whaling crews, providing 96 jackets and 24 bib overalls.


Food Distribution Program expanded to 19 villages and produced a nutrition education DVD that focused on the importance of traditional foods.

Community Health Aide Program offered 10 training sessions for 50 students and five clinical preceptorships.

The Behavioral Health Aide Program has 73 certified Behavioral Health Aides (BHAs) working around Alaska. This includes 27 BHAs operating at a practitioner level, which accounts for 57 percent of Alaska’s BHA practitioners.

A Stop the Pop campaign launches, using letters to schools and stores, support of legislation, and advertising to reduce soda pop consumption and sales in schools.

Several ANMC remodeling projects are completed, including the day surgery area, the addition of an operating room, renovation of the laboratory, and expanded guest areas in Quyana House.

The Office of Alaska Native Health Research opens to study priority issues of Alaska Native health and train researchers.
ANTHC’s CBSS division works to help all ANTHC staff work better. CBSS is home to a wide range of departments essential to ANTHC’s success: Finance, the Business Resource Center, Contracting and Procurement, Facilities Planning, the Regional Supply Service Center, Health Information and Technology, Human Resources, Marketing and Communications, Risk Management, Legal and Intergovernmental Affairs, Health Systems Networking and Quality Integration and Planning.
ANTHC’s AFHCAN program reached 100,000 telehealth cases within the Alaska Tribal Health System. AFHCAN has improved health care for Alaska Natives and Alaskans, helped make patient care more efficient, and saves Alaskans and the Tribal Health System more than $6 million annually.

Human Resources reports that 36 percent of ANTHC’s direct hire workforce is Indian Preference and the group continues to raise awareness of ANTHC’s commitment to Alaska Native hire.

Marketing and Communications partnered with the Alaska Association of Student Governments to sponsor a Suicide Prevention Media Contest, which engaged teens around the state to channel their creativity and encourage their peers to make healthy choices. The contest featured powerful messages and increased awareness and education about Alaska’s suicide crisis hotline, Careline.

ANTHC broke ground on its new Healthy Communities Building, which will help the company align our employees, expertise and strength, while standing as a symbol of our statewide work.

FY11 ended with the introduction of ANTHC’s new CEO, Roald Helgesen.
DIVISION OF **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ENGINEERING (DEHE)**

DEHE provides planning, design, construction and operations support of public health infrastructure in Alaska Native communities. Through that work, DEHE offers sustainable public health solutions to communities across our state and protects the health of Alaska Natives.

ANTHC is one of 30 tribal partners to sign Memoranda of Agreement to pursue common interests as members of the Alaska Tribal Health System.

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**2004**

ANTHC provides personal care attendant and certified nursing assistant training to 60 students in Bethel and Nome.

ANMC purchases a 16-slice, high-speed Computer Tomography (CT) Scanner, providing state-of-the-art diagnostic data.

DCHS provides planning, design, construction and operations support of public health infrastructure in Alaska Native communities. Through that work, DEHE offers sustainable public health solutions to communities across our state and protects the health of Alaska Natives.

DCHS’s Hepatitis Program establishes a molecular biology diagnostics laboratory. Typically found only in research centers, this is the nation’s first housed in a tribal facility.

DEHE provides planning, design, construction and operations support of public health infrastructure in Alaska Native communities. Through that work, DEHE offers sustainable public health solutions to communities across our state and protects the health of Alaska Natives.

DEHE starts a construction training program that teaches lifelong skills and provides Alaska Natives opportunities for advancement.

Internship program provides 10 Native undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to work with DEHE staff.

New ANTHC office building opens.
DEHE teams worked on 48 sanitation projects in 36 communities during 2011, including the completion of a three-year project in Pitkas Point, near Saint Mary’s in Western Alaska, where local crews constructed a water treatment plant, a sewer system, a washeteria and plumbing to serve all homes.

DEHE conducted energy audits of tribal buildings in 41 communities, with a special emphasis on water and sewer systems. The Selawik audit found that $175,000 in energy could be saved annually with the implementation of 14 conservation measures; DEHE also identified funding to proceed with those measures.

Alaska Native hire fuels DEHE’s Construction workforce. In 2011, Alaska Natives comprised 92 percent of DEHE’s local workforce. Meanwhile, 118 of 123 DEHE’s ARUC employees were Alaska Native.

Alaska Native people suffer from among the highest rates of respiratory disease ever documented. DEHE’s Environmental Health program is addressing this disparity by reducing exposure to harmful air pollutants in rural homes with Alaska Native children who have chronic respiratory conditions. This work is made possible by a $1.2 million grant from the Commission for Environmental Cooperation.

DEHE’s Alaska Rural Utility Collaborative (ARUC) now provides utility management services to more than 1,500 homes in 23 communities. ARUC helps communities maintain and improve their current infrastructure and maximize the public health benefits that water and sanitation services provide.
**HEALTHY ALASKA NATIVES FOUNDATION** (HANF)

ANTHC’s charitable arm, HANF works with donors and volunteers to help address a variety of health issues in the Alaska Native community. With the Foundation’s guidance, donors can provide the resources and tools necessary to achieve individual and community health objectives in three primary initiatives: health care improvements, wellness and prevention, and healthy village environments.

DEHE improves water and sanitation services in 1,012 homes and works on active projects in 160 communities throughout Alaska.

ANTHC publishes the fourth edition of the Alaska Community Health Aide/Practitioner Manual, as well as a Comprehensive Cancer Plan for the Alaska Tribal Health System.

Alaska Native immunization rates increase to more than 90 percent statewide.

DCHS processes 292 Community Health Aide/Practitioner (CHAP) and Dental Health Aide certification applications for the DHAP Certification Board.

The Consortium’s Regional Supply Service Center distributes $5.9 million worth of medical supplies and pharmaceuticals to 95 tribal health facilities.

2006
In 2011, the Foundation made $147,000 in donations to ANTHC programs that improve the health and well-being of Alaska Natives, including directing major gifts to impact the health of Alaska’s children.

HANF offers sincere and abundant thanks to the distinguished donors who make it all possible:

**Founder’s Circle ($15,000 and above):** Anchorage Valley & Radiation Therapy Centers of Alaska; Neeser Construction, Inc.; Independent Pilots Association (IPA) Foundation.

**Visionaries Circle ($7,500 to $14,999):** Arctic Slope Regional Corporation; Exxon Mobil; GCI Connect MD; Wells Fargo Bank, Alaska.

**Legacy Circle ($5,000 to $7,499):** ARAMARK; Calista Corporation; Cerner Corporation; Davis Constructors & Engineers, Inc.; Donlin Creek; Doyon, Ltd.; Edward Hakala; Michael Hildebrand & Myra Munson; Providence Alaska Medical Center; Rasmuson Foundation; The Tatitlek Corporation; Watterson Construction; Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

For a listing of all donors and to learn more about HANF, please visit [www.inspiringgoodhealth.org](http://www.inspiringgoodhealth.org).

ANTHC completes the nation’s first research project on safer firearm storage practices, installing gun storage cases in 300 homes in six Western Alaska villages to reduce firearm injuries.

ANTHC completes a groundbreaking study that shows that children in communities where most homes have pressurized, in-home water service have far fewer respiratory disease requiring hospitalization and skin infections.

ANTHC launches the Healthy Alaska Natives Foundation (HANF), which identifies initiatives to sustain and inspire a healthy Alaska Native community: health care improvement, wellness and prevention, and healthy village environments.

ANTHC launches Camp Coho, a pilot program to help children cope with the loss of loved ones due to cancer.

ANMC receives the Hospital Quality Achievement award from Mountain-Pacific, a Quality Improvement Organization designated by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

The State of Alaska selects the Consortium’s Regional Service Supply Center as the agency to deploy National Strategic Stockpile emergency medical supplies in major emergencies.
DENTAL HEALTH AIDE THERAPIST (DHAT) PROGRAM

Created in 2000 to respond to rural Alaska’s extraordinary unmet need for oral health services, the DHAT program now extends dedicated care to 35,000 Alaskans in rural communities. DHAT was the first training program of its kind in the United States and is a model for other areas of the country, and the world, that are seeking ways to address access to dental care challenges.
The first independent evaluation of dental therapists with two years of intensive training showed that DHATs provide safe, competent, appropriate care. The evaluation confirmed what prior studies of dental therapists practicing in other countries had already shown: dental therapists provide safe care for underserved populations.

In 2011, the DHAT program was visited by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Administrator Donald Berwick. The DHAT program was also viewed as a model for five states working to implement similar care models.

The group of eight pioneering DHATs from Alaska that traveled to New Zealand to begin training in 2003 was recognized for national excellence at the National Indian Health Board Consumer Conference.

Kathy Balasko, RDH, MS, a manager with the DHAT program in Bethel, was given the Senior Hygiene Clinical Service Award for Excellence by the Indian Health Service.

A class of seven new Dental Health Aide Therapists graduated in December 2010 and another four was expected to graduate in December 2011.
ANTHC and our tribal health partners have shown remarkable innovation in providing health care in the most challenging of environments with very limited resources. ANTHC has proven to be an excellent steward of health resources by efficiently and effectively administering programs of the federal government. The investment of resources in ANTHC has provided, and will continue to provide, excellent returns, as shown by the improvement in the health status of American Indians and Alaska Natives living in Alaska.
Federal Priorities include:

- Requesting $2.5 million for Dental Health Aide Therapist training program as an Oral Health Center of Excellence.
- Requesting $3.1 million to replace outdated medical equipment at ANMC.
- Supporting legislation that would authorize a Title VI self-governance demonstration project allowing tribes and tribal organizations to include non-IHS programs of HHS in their self-governance agreements.
- Requesting $5 million to fund implementation of an Electronic Health Record at ANMC.
- Ensuring that Alaska sanitation facilities programs receive funding at no less than current levels.
- Increasing funding for IHS Contract Support Costs (CSC) by $75 million in FY12 and the following two fiscal years to bring CSC funding up to 100 percent of the federal government’s obligation to tribes by FY14.
ANTHC
BY THE NUMBERS
FY11

- **9,147** INPATIENT ADMISSIONS AT ANMC
- **383,317** OUTPATIENT ADMISSIONS AT ANMC

- **41** COMMUNITIES WITH TRIBAL BUILDINGS THAT RECEIVED ENERGY AUDITS
- **50** COMMUNITY HEALTH AIDES TRAINED
- **48** SANITATION PROJECTS IN 36 COMMUNITIES WORKED ON BY DEHE STAFF
- **41** COMMUNITIES
- **1,586** PEOPLE SERVED AND **111,816** POUNDS OF FOOD SHIPPED BY ANTHC’S FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM
- **1,300** PEOPLE TRAINED IN APPLIED SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING (ASIST)
- **204** PHYSICIANS AND **443** MAGNET NURSES AT ANMC
- **5** STATES CONSIDERING THE **ALASKA MODEL** OF DENTAL HEALTH AIDE THERAPIST PROGRAM
- **792** USERS AROUND ALASKA TRAINED TO USE AFHCAN TELEHEALTH EQUIPMENT
- **1,550** BABIES BORN AT ANMC
- **92%** OF DEHE’S LOCAL WORKFORCE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES ARE ALASKA NATIVES

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ALASKA NATIVE MEDICAL CENTER, $220.4
SANITATION AND FACILITY PROJECTS, $119
ADMINISTRATION, $37.1
STATEWIDE WAREHOUSE, $24.9
COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES, $12.3
GRANT ACTIVITY/STATEWIDE SUPPORT, $11.5
PASS-THROUGH AWARDS, $10.6
HEALTHY ALASKA NATIVES FOUNDATION, $0.5

TOTAL: $436.3 MILLION