



THE COLLEAGUE

NEWSLETTER FOR ANCHORAGE PROJECT ACCESS

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1805 ACADEMY DRIVE, SUITE 101 ♦ ANCHORAGE, AK 99507

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MISSION STATEMENT

To increase access to health care for low income uninsured members of our community by using a volunteer network of providers working in a coordinated fashion to create a compassionate, respectful, equitable, accountable and efficient program of necessary services for those in need.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 339-8746

Fax: 339-8710

Web: AnchorageProjectAccess.org

NEED POSITIVE FEEDBACK TODAY? MENTION PROJECT ACCESS TO A NEIGHBOR

Some responses heard by one volunteer recently: A Russian immigrant and professional musician stated, "You are part of Project Access? They did great things for my wife when she needed surgery. Can I donate my music making at your next meeting?"

A facilitator at an administrative meeting, "My day care provider wouldn't have been able to keep working without you guys!"

A WWAMI medical student, "A friend of one of my classmates was extremely ill and got great care only because of Project Access-you guys rock!"

ANCHORAGE PROJECT ACCESS –NOT YOUR AVERAGE CHARITY

APA has published the 2008 annual report and it is available for your review by contacting the APA office or online at www.AnchorageProjectAccess.org. The report describes a successful non-profit with remarkable statistics for efficiency. APA's epidemiologist and board member, Cathie Schumacher MD, states "We found a ratio of \$10 of donated medical care for every dollar spent on program administration in 2008. This means that the donated care is being administered efficiently by the APA staff who get the right patient to the right doctor at the right time. It also shows the incredible generosity of health care providers in Anchorage."

FROM STATE AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS "GREAT JOB APA"

In response to the efficiency and unique bipartisan nature of APA, both the Municipality of Anchorage and the Alaska State Legislature have responded with ongoing financial support to cover the fixed costs (pharmaceuticals, personnel, office space) of APA.

Says current APA Board president, KC Kaltenborn, MD, "It is truly heartening to have APA recognized and supported in this very public manner. The Alaskan ethic of neighbor helping neighbor (includes up to 10% of patients from outside of Anchorage) is embedded in APA. Our elected officials are strengthening our ability to provide effective donated care from our entire medical community. The total donated value has recently passed the \$7.3 million mark."

DIABETES, 90 POUNDS, ONGOING WEIGHT LOSS, DETERIORATING VISION. WHO CAN SHE CALL?

Imagine this clinical scenario applies to a family member (perhaps a niece). Such a patient recently received radiologic evaluations, ophthalmologic consultation and cataract surgery to stabilize her life through APA, whose care coordinator quotes the patient as saying, "Without your help, I would not be here."

APA'S MT. HUNTINGTON AWARD



APA Mt. Huntington Award recipients:

Dr. David McGuire
Alaska Orthopedic Specialists

Dr. Douglas Haghighi
Internal Medicine Associates

Dr. Byron Perkins
Cornerstone Clinic

Dr. Buff Burtis

The Mt. Huntington award was implemented as an element of our recognition program to thank providers for all they do for Project Access. Each award is signed by city and state officials and is presented quarterly to volunteer providers and their staff.

ANCHORAGE PROJECT ACCESS HONORED



Anchorage Project Access was a recipient of the prestigious Heroes of Healthcare award presented April 4, 2009 at the Seventh Annual Awards Dinner and Auction held at the Sheraton Hotel. The award is presented annually by Hospice of Anchorage.

PAUL'S STORY

Paul knew there was something seriously wrong with his hip. On a trip to the beach with his family, he realized that he just could not run anymore, and he had problems sleeping due to pain in his right hip. X-rays showed he had advanced osteoarthritis. At the time, he was 52 years old, and he thought he was too young to be having joint issues.

Paul was referred to Dr. Kavanaugh at the Alaska Bone and Joint Clinic. A hip replacement was the only way to allow Paul to get back to work; however, Paul was self-employed and uninsured. Dr. Kavanaugh discussed some financial options with Paul, one of which was Anchorage Project Access. Paul lives in Kodiak, and APA can only accept 10% of applicants outside of Anchorage; however, Paul was finally accepted into the program and received a new right hip.

"I had very little experience being in a hospital," Paul said about the operation, "but everyone at Alaska Regional was very professional. Dr. Kavanaugh also helped me with treatment options that coincide with my beliefs. Enrollment in APA allowed the entire cost of the operation to be donated.

Paul is now back at work, doing painting, roofing, and appliance repairs for his fellow Kodiak residents. Paul said, "Anchorage Project Access took away all the fear...I knew something needed to be done, but I didn't know how."

MAJOR DONORS

Alaska Cardiovascular Research Foundation
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
Municipality of Anchorage—DHHS
Premera Blue Cross of Alaska
Providence Health & Services Alaska
Rasmuson Foundation
State of Alaska—DHSS
United Way of Anchorage

COMMUNITY DONORS

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COMMUNITY BUSINESS SUPPORT & IN-KIND DONATIONS

Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center
Pharmacy
Carrs/Safeway Pharmacies
Eye Cue Productions
Geneva Woods Pharmacy
KTVA-CBS 11
Mirror Studios
RBMS, LLC

WHY I JOINED THE APA BOARD



Dr. Peterson, cardiologist and long term APA volunteer, recently stepped forward to join our active Board. In a nutshell Dr. Peterson states his reason, "APA lets me do what I really want and that's to take care of patients. If they need other services or primary care, APA arranges it."

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT: ANCHORAGEPROJECTACCESS.ORG

A Window of Hope—our video showing how APA affected the lives of three people. Also available on You Tube!

2008 Annual Report