



# THE COLLEAGUE

NEWSLETTER FOR ANCHORAGE PROJECT ACCESS

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

1805 ACADEMY DRIVE, SUITE 101 ♦ ANCHORAGE, AK 99507

AUGUST, 2007

## 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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## PROJECT ACCESS COMPLETING 2ND YEAR— THANK YOU ANCHORAGE!!

Of the 1,000 plus applications received and processed by Anchorage Project Access more than 500 patients have met the eligibility guidelines and have received care since January, 2006. Over 350 Anchorage physicians, nurse practitioners, physical therapists, podiatrists, physician assistants, surgical and endoscopy and radiology centers have donated their services. Thanks to all of you! The **Anchorage Assembly also says “Thank You!”** A resolution of support was officially passed January 30, 2007 on behalf of Anchorage Project Access thanking all those associated with its success in serving low income uninsured residents. Your efforts are being recognized at the highest levels across the state. In the Anchorage Daily News a full page gratitude ad was printed May 20, 2007 –the ad listing your colleagues, supporting facilities, donors and partners can be viewed on-line at [AnchorageProjectAccess.org](http://AnchorageProjectAccess.org)

“The patients have been uniformly grateful. The care coordinators have made the system work smoothly, especially the surgeries,” Anchorage orthopedic specialist commenting on her experience with APA.

## SAVING A LIFE—ACCESS STYLE

A cure cannot be attained if a patient does not seek help. In 2006 an employed but low income cook in Anchorage had a hand lesion evaluated but declined surgery because of lack of funds. He was enrolled in Anchorage Project Access and an otherwise unexpected **sarcoma** was removed. This lesion is highly lethal and further delay would have jeopardized his life. Although the first five year landmark has not yet passed, this young man continues to work (using both hands) and demonstrates how life saving healthcare may only be sought in time with the help of a community based access system.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**LabCorp has agreed to match your volunteer care** for Anchorage Project Access patients. Contact Cheryl Gonzales at LabCorp at (907) 748-2787 to complete a one-time Indigent Discount Agreement. After that, you simply need to include this note on any APA lab requisitions: “Anchorage Project Access—100% discount.” LabCorp, in turn, will match the 100% discount.

## NOTE TO ALL PROVIDERS

- Only Anchorage Project Access staff should make initial appointments for participating patients. To refer or schedule a patient please call 339-8746.
- To assist Anchorage Project Access patients in getting their prescriptions filled at Carrs/Safeway and the Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center Pharmacy, please write “**Anchorage Project Access**” on all prescriptions.
- **We provide informational trainings for you and your office staff. Call 339-8746 for information.**
- Our strength is in our documentation...please remember to turn in the HCFA1500 Forms for all APA patients to RBMS, group number 200. Thank You!

## YOU OR YOUR OFFICE STAFF MIGHT KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS PROJECT ACCESS. PASS THIS ON!

If there's someone you know that you think would be eligible for APA, have them call our office. It might be the person who does your hair, your dog walker or your favorite fast-food waiter. Many minimum wage employees cannot afford health care and simply put it off in order to make ends meet.

### PATIENT ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

- ◆ Must be a Municipality of Anchorage resident
- ◆ Have no medical insurance of any type
- ◆ Gross household income at 200% or less of FPL
- ◆ Have a current medical need

### 2007 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES

Number in Immediate Family	200% Federal Poverty Level
1	\$25,540
2	\$34,240
3	\$42,940
4	\$51,640
5	\$60,340

**FOR MORE INFO CALL 339-8746**

**ANCHORAGEPROJECTACCESS.ORG**

## YOUR EXISTING PATIENTS CAN ENROLL IN APA

Providers can still support APA by referring their current patients who are good candidates for the program. Your referrals allow APA to track all the charity care in Anchorage providing valuable data documentation. This information, of the entire medical community, provides strength and a respected voice to continue serving the uninsured and underserved in our community. Most importantly, when referring your patients, they receive the benefits of professional care coordination, donated specialty and/or primary care, some donated diagnostic services and low cost medications during the course of their treatment.

## ANCHORAGE PROJECT ACCESS RECEIVES 3-YEAR GRANT

The Rasmuson Foundation funded a major 3-year grant November, 2006 adding to other major sources of funding from Providence Health Systems of Alaska, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, Premera Blue Cross of Alaska and private donors including APA board members. **Thank you to our supporters!**

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Alaska Primary Care Association  
 Christian Health Associates  
 Foraker Group  
 Municipality of Anchorage—Department of Health & Human Services  
 United Way of Anchorage

### MAJOR DONORS

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority  
 Denali Commission  
 Frances Burton Foundation  
 Premera Blue Cross of Alaska  
 Providence Health Systems of Alaska  
 Rasmuson Foundation  
 State of Alaska—Department of Health & Social Services

### BUSINESS SUPPORT & PHARMACIES

Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center Pharmacy  
 Carrs/Safeway Pharmacy  
 Geneva Woods Pharmacy  
 Risk & Benefit Management Services

**CALL US! If you are interested in making a donation to Anchorage Project Access, please call our Executive Director at 339-8779.**