

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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ANCHORAGE PROJECT ACCESS

P: 743-6600 F: 646-0542
AnchorageProjectAccess.org

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Greetings,

I hope the New Year has been good to all of you so far.

From previous newsletters, you are aware of the changes that have occurred at Anchorage Project Access (APA). In order to best serve our patients and to remain a viable organization in Alaska, APA has become a three-tiered entity:

- Traditional Project Access (donated health care)
- Dental (donated oral health care)
- Outreach to include enrollment and assistance with Medicaid and ACA Marketplace insurance.

Recently, APA care coordinator Barb and eligibility specialist Crystal represented APA at the National Communities Joined in Action (CJA) conference in San Antonio, Texas. CJA is an organization consisting of hospitals, project access groups and other medical and social service agencies throughout the nation. The collaboration with these various organizations, most especially the Project Access groups, has been priceless throughout the years. Not only has APA benefitted from organizations that have been operating longer than us, many Project Access organizations have used our policies, guidelines and marketing materials to formulate their internal procedures.

Barb and Crystal commented that the major break-out sessions centered on Community Health Care Workers and how they are being utilized to reduce some health care costs. Integrated services to include medical and psychiatric specialties as well as assistance with food and shelter were a major theme. Many of those in this particular field are independent contractors and/or are employees of local clinics.

At our recent board of director's annual retreat, discussion centered on the uncertainty in the health care spectrum that's facing our nation – most especially with the poor. Affordability of premiums, deductibles and out-of-pocket expenses were a few of the topics discussed. How this might affect our program is yet unknown; however, the general consensus was that APA will be more important than ever in the near future.

It is my signature sign-off to thank all of you and your staff for your continued support of our mission. Now, more than ever, I am especially grateful. I've always been told that Anchorage is a very generous community and my years of working with Anchorage Project Access have certainly validated that statement.

HAIL AND FAREWELL

At our recent Board of Directors meeting the following members termed out after many years of service to APA.

Bradley Cruz, MD • Mike Meek • Tari O'Connor
*Thank you for your service and commitment
to our community.*



Welcome Lupe Chavez! Lupe has vast experience in the health care community and brings her skills in strategic planning; program development; fundraising; public relations and numerous other assets to our board. She served as the director of the YWCA for six years and is well schooled in the non-profit sector. We are very fortunate to have her join our organization.

THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!



Anchorage Project Access is celebrating another successful “Revolutions: Spinning for Health Care” fundraiser. The 8th annual event was held February 4 at the Anchorage 5th Avenue Mall. For four hours, we took over space on the first floor of the mall. Volunteer professional instructors, accompanied by upbeat and motivational music, led thirteen different teams of riders through a one-hour stationary biking session. Thanks to the generosity of our twenty-five sponsors and in-kind donors, and from pledges raised from riders, the event grossed more than \$55,000. Because the costs of staging the event are minimal, 90% of these funds directly benefit our patients with translation services, pharmacy benefits and transportation assistance. APA thanks all of the sponsors, riders, instructors and volunteers for another great year.

DENTAL SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE



According to the National Institutes of Health, “Oral health is an essential component of health throughout life. Poor oral health and untreated oral diseases can have a significant impact on the quality of life. They can affect the most basic human needs, including the ability to eat and drink, swallow, maintain proper nutrition, smile and communicate.” With the assistance of Dr. David Nielson and United Way of Anchorage, APA launched a ‘pay it forward’ dental program. Current services include restorative fillings and build-ups, routine extractions, surgical extractions, acrylic anterior partials, anterior root canals, exams, x-rays, cleanings and oral health education. Patients need to meet APA’s eligibility requirements and be able to perform community service. For more information have your patients call our office.

“I’m grateful for the services as I have been in pain for a while and now I’m good as new—thank you so much.” Patient recently received emergency treatment with a tooth extraction by Dr. Guy Burke of Anchorage Midtown Dental.

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE: JENNIFER BUNDY-COBB



Jennifer Bundy-Cobb is passionate about advocating for companies’ success by providing understanding and navigation through their employee benefit and human resource programs and strategies.

Like every lifelong Alaskan, Jennifer along with her husband, daughter and their two wheaten terriers, are among the many who enjoy what Alaska has to offer; including an extraordinary sense of community.

Jennifer entered in the employee benefits field more than 25 years ago. Her experience and knowledge has grown as the industry has become more complex, enabling her to assist The Wilson Agency in becoming one of the largest employee benefits firms in the Pacific Northwest.

Jennifer is involved in many industry groups and advisory committees. She is a charter member of the Alaska Chapter of the National Health Underwriters Associations. In 2003 she earned a designation as one of the “Top 40 under 40” by the Alaska Journal of Commerce/Alaska Chamber of Commerce, and in 2015 was awarded membership of the exclusive ATHENA society.

Jennifer has extensive community involvement outside of the insurance industry. She served for 7 years on the board of The Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center and was Chair during the construction of the new facility on C Street.



MT. HUNTINGTON AWARD RECIPIENT



Dr. John Frost, Caring for Knees

The Mt. Huntington Award is an element of our recognition program to thank providers and their staff for their exceptional services. To view all previous recipients visit:

AnchorageProjectAccess.org

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And—to the many others too numerous to list

Pick.Click.Give.
APA is a Designated Recipient