

ALASKA PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

**ADAPTING
ACHIEVING
ADVANCING**
Stronger than Before

ALASKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

**2021
ANNUAL
REPORT**



Alaska Primary Care
ASSOCIATION

WWW.ALASKAPCA.ORG



ALASKA'S COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

Together, Alaska Community Health Centers are
ADAPTING, ACHIEVING, ADVANCING -
Stronger than Before

In 2020, Alaska's Community Health Centers (CHCs) served 1 in 7 Alaskans at over 200 clinic sites with integrated medical, dental, behavioral health, pharmacy, and coordinated care services. Over 2600 dedicated health professionals partnered with volunteer patient and community board members to ensure access to care for their families and neighbors.

CHCs weathered COVID, proved their leadership in vaccinations, worked diligently to support their staff members, and addressed the emerging challenges of the new normal.

At the same time, Alaska Health Centers have made progress together as they learn what post-pandemic Health Centers look like, increase expectations for providing integrated, whole person care, continue to understand how value-based care and pay takes shape in Alaska, and expand the capacity to train Alaska's health workforce.

We invite you to learn more about a health center near you in 2021-22.

Nancy Merriman – Executive Director
Alaska Primary Care Association

Mary Swain
Board Vice Chair – APCA
Executive Director – Camai Community Health Center

2020 AT A GLANCE

TOTAL PATIENTS
106,493

CARE DELIVERY SITES
200+

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS
29*

TRIBALLY-OPERATED CHCS 15*

**NON-TRIBALLY OPERATED
CHCS
14***

TOTAL EMPLOYEES**
2,642

ECONOMIC IMPACT
\$523M

***INCLUDING TWO FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER LOOK-ALIKES.**
LOOK-ALIKES DO NOT RECEIVE HRSA BASED FUNDING.

****CALCULATED BY FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES.**

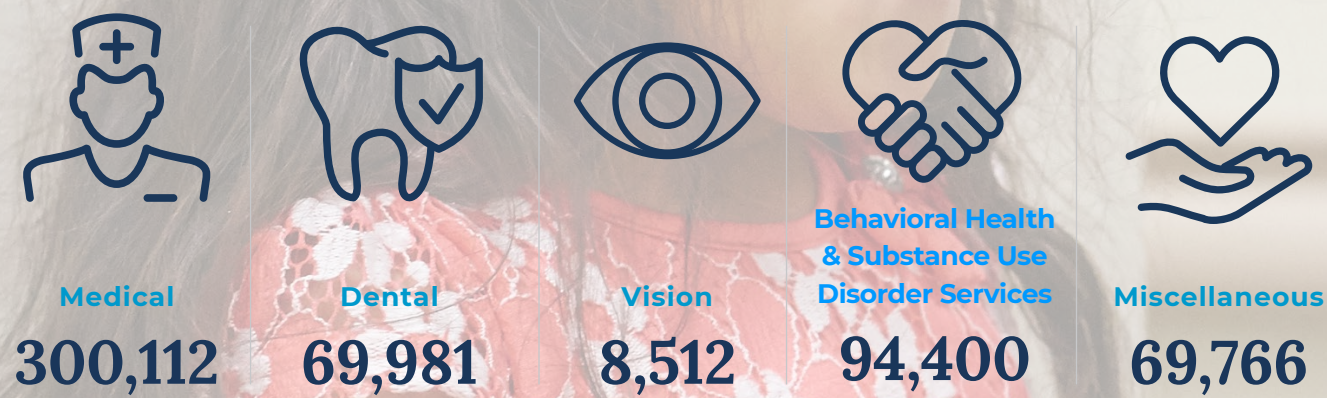
Check out our new interactive Community Health Center Map www.alaskapca.org/map to see how far and wide CHCs Alaska Health Centers serve Alaska!



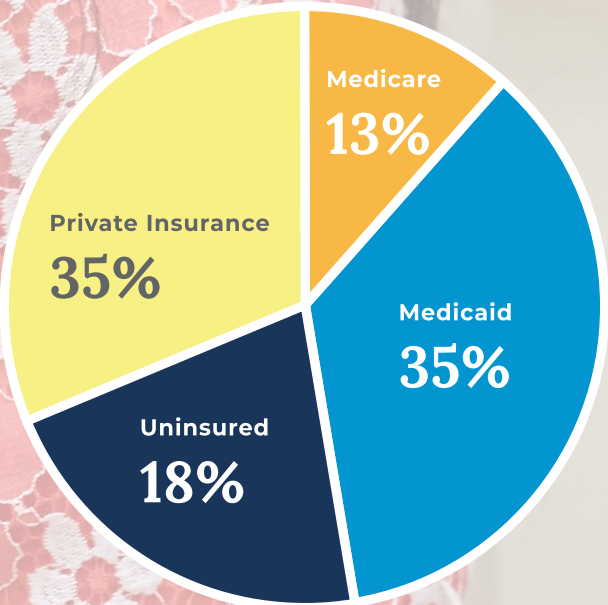
ADAPTING

CHC STATS & QUALITY INDICATORS

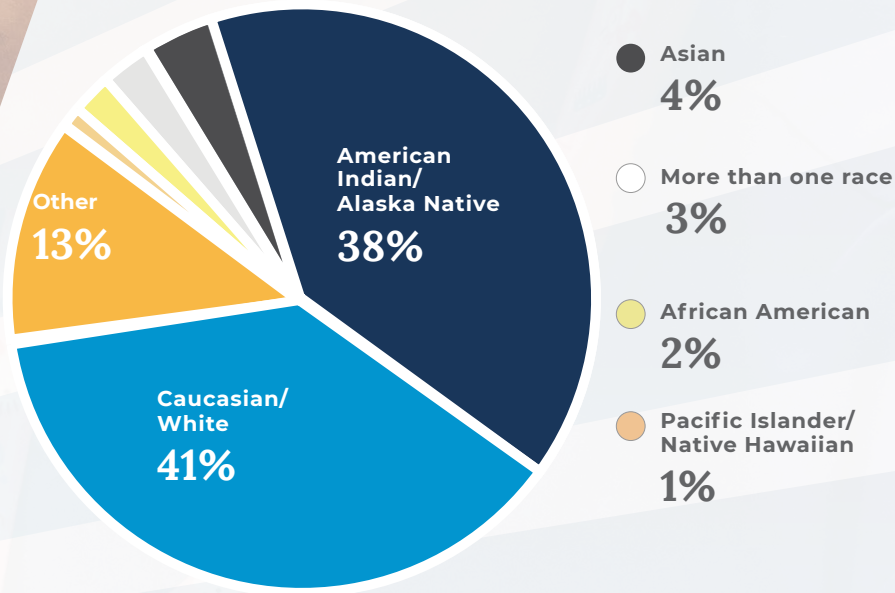
PATIENT VISIT BY TYPE



PATIENT COVERAGE SOURCE



PATIENTS BY ETHNICITY/RACE



KEY HEALTH MEASURES

CHCs are required to closely monitor quality of care by tracking key health measures. Community Health Centers track improvement of nineteen key health measures.



For more information about how these health measures benefits Alaskans, visit the [Healthy Alaskans 2030 initiatives](#).

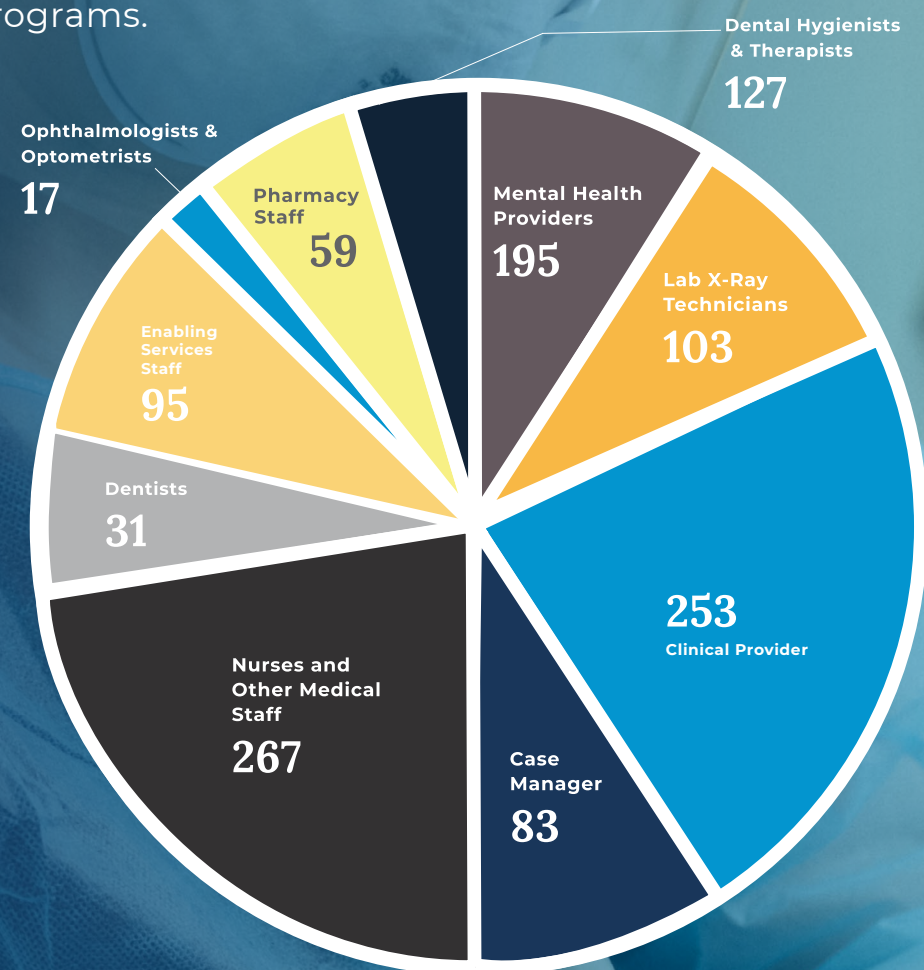
PATIENTS BY AGE



ACHIEVING

WORKFORCE

Alaska Health Centers and APCA work together to address workforce issues by implementing staff planning programs, training community members to staff their CHCs, and actively participating in state and federal provider loan repayment programs.



The CHC workforce demands a wide array of highly-qualified professionals in primary care, behavioral health, and oral health. This data shows the current snapshot of the Alaskan CHC Statewide workforce.

- CLINICAL PROVIDER INCLUDES FAMILY PRACTITIONERS, NURSE PRACTITIONERS, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, AND OTHER SPECIALTY PHYSICIANS.
- MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS INCLUDES PSYCHIATRISTS, LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS, LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKERS, AND OTHER LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS
- ENABLING SERVICES STAFF INCLUDES PATIENT/COMMUNITY EDUCATION SPECIALISTS, PATIENT TRANSPORTATION STAFF, PATIENT ELIGIBILITY ASSISTANCE WORKERS, AND OTHER PATIENT ENABLING SERVICES.

GROWING ALASKA'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE

Alaska Health Centers' diverse workforce ensures accessible care for the patients and communities they serve. APCA works with Health Centers and a range of non-profit, state, and federal partners in providing workforce development programs.

APCA WORKFORCE AND DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS IN 2020 INCLUDED:

Provided training programs to expose young people to health careers, mental health camps, assistance for students enrolled in post-secondary health career courses, and certification courses for a range of front-line careers including Medical Assistants and Coding and Billing Specialists.



In late 2021, APCA will launch programs to train and place Community Health Workers in Health Centers.



84 – The number of apprentices who have completed APCA's Registered Apprenticeship program to date.



678 – number of Alaskan community members trained in skills such as Basic Life Support, First Aid, Mental Health First Aid, Trauma Informed Care, and Mandt- a program to reduce workplace violence.



ADVANCING

THE JOURNEY TO VALUE AND INTEGRATION

Alaska Health Centers are working toward a future where whole person patient care aligns with healthier lives, increased value for expenditure, and a fully-staffed and motivated team of health providers. To do this, they are focusing on the holistic needs of patients, using patient data more effectively, seeking partnerships, and strengthening their teams.

ALASKA'S HEALTH SYSTEM IS EVOLVING

IMPROVED HEALTH OUTCOMES

- Data-driven management of chronic conditions
- Attention to social drivers of health and health equity
- Address barriers to care to improve access

INCREASED VALUE FOR EXPENDITURE

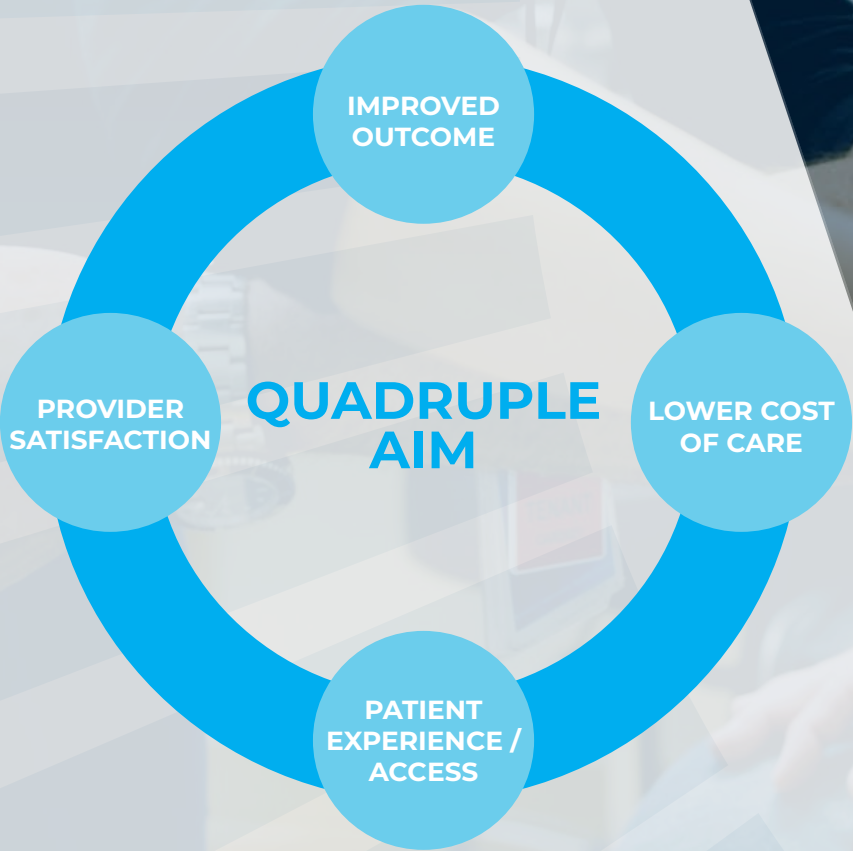
- Seek opportunities for reimbursement based on value and improved quality
- Seek partnerships that improve care and share responsibility
- Use data to improve the health of communities of patients

PATIENT EXPERIENCE/ACCESS GOALS

- Focus on wellness through access to comprehensive services
- Permanently integrate telehealth into the practice of care
- Care teams work together for patient satisfaction and wellness

PROVIDER TEAM SATISFACTION

- Identify and train staff who live in the communities they serve
- Encourage all staff to work at the top of their skills and licensure
- Employers demonstrate and support work/life balance for their staff



WHOLE PERSON CARE



MEDICAL &
ORAL HEALTH



COMPREHENSIVE
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



SOCIAL DRIVERS OF
HEALTH



CARE COORDINATION
SERVICES

In recent years, Alaska Health Centers migrated from providing co-located clinical services to focus on providing whole person care to maximize patient wellness. In addition to clinical services, CHCs screen patients to identify social drivers that need to be addressed to improve wellness. These include housing, food and financial security, child or senior care, and community connections.

VALUE OVER VOLUME

Alaska is one of the last states in the country where health care is almost solely reimbursed based on a fee for service or pay per encounter model. In order to address the Quaduple Aim, many providers, including Alaska Health Centers, are moving to an approach where reimbursement is based on the value of the overall care they provide that results in the wellness of their patients. Value-based care improves patient satisfaction, quality of care, and reduces costs to both patients and providers.

Alaska Health Centers are changing the way they treat patients, incorporating data-driven quality management, and improving their understanding of the total cost to meet these goals. They are actively seeking opportunities to partner with Medicaid and other payers to implement value-based demonstration projects.

INTEGRATION – COLLABORATION TO DRIVE VALUE

Since 2014, APCA and Community Health Centers learned together how they could collaborate to provide integrated care to serve larger groups of patients and insurance payers. They have built a data reporting system that supports quality of care improvement and community health system reporting. They have also jointly addressed patient care through implementation of patient centered medical homes, improved workforce planning, and advanced in billing and coding. APCA and CHCs are ready to engage with both commercial and public payers to advance integrated care activities that improve patient care and experience, lower cost, improve efficiency, and adequately reimburse Health Centers for the full scope of care they provide.

CONTRIBUTING

COMMUNITY IMPACT

CONTRIBUTING TO THE COMMUNITIES
THAT WE SERVE

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

COVID pushed Health Centers to rapidly shift the way the services are delivered, to expand partnerships, and improve care for their patients and communities.

A FEW HIGHLIGHTS IN 2020 INCLUDE:



23% - percentage of total Alaska vaccinations administered by Health Centers (through 6/30/21).



2,000 – number of Alaska patients supported through contract tracing services provided by APCA and Health Centers in collaboration with the State of Alaska. This work continues as staff provides vaccine education and appointment call-backs, and ensures patients are up-to-date with immunizations and other care they may have missed during the pandemic.



Alaska Health Centers innovated new standards of practice including virtual depression screening to improve quality care.



CHCs leveraged increased vaccination rates to conduct screenings for other social needs (ie social drivers of health) affecting the health of patients.

1 IN 7 PEOPLE IN ALASKA BENEFIT FROM ALASKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACT ON ALASKA'S COMMUNITIES

EMPLOYEES

TOTAL EMPLOYEES – 2642



Total Clinical Staff – 1631



Total Non-Clinical Staff – 1011

SPENDING

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT -
\$523 MILLION

\$304 million direct healthcare
spending

\$219 million community spending

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

[Aleutian Pribilof Island Association](#)

[Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center](#)

[Bethel Family Clinic](#)

[Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation](#)

[Bristol Bay Borough \(Camai CHC\)](#)

[Copper River Native Association*](#)

[Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments](#)

[Cross Road Health Ministries, Inc.](#)

[Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc.](#)

[Girdwood Health Clinic, Inc.](#)

[Iliuliuk Family and Health Services](#)

[Interior Community Health Center](#)

[JAMHI Health & Wellness Inc.*](#)

[Kodiak Area Native Association](#)

[Kodiak Community Health Center](#)

[Maniilaq Association](#)

[Mat-Su Health Services](#)

[Municipality of Skagway \(Dahl Memorial Clinic\)](#)

[Native Village of Eyak \(Ilanka CHC\)](#)

[Norton Sound Health Corporation](#)

[Peninsula Community Health Services of Alaska](#)

[Seldovia Village Tribe \(SVT Health & Wellness\)](#)

[Seward Community Health Center](#)

[Southcentral Foundation](#)

[Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium](#)

[Sunshine Community Health Center](#)

[Tanana Chiefs Conference](#)

[Yakutat Tlingit Tribe \(Yakutat CHC\)](#)

[Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation](#)



Alaska Primary Care
ASSOCIATION

The Alaska Primary Care Association (APCA) supports the development and operation of Alaska's twenty-nine Community Health Centers (CHC) and Look A-likes (LAL). It is, in-part, supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Community Health Centers are America's largest primary care health system providing comprehensive primary care services that include medical, dental, behavioral health, pharmacy, care coordination, and enabling services.

CHCs are unique in that they provide care to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay and are governed by patient-majority boards.

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