



ALASKA NATIVE
MEDICAL CENTER



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brandy M. Dixon, 907.729.1967

Joint Commission awards full accreditation to the Alaska Native Medical Center

Anchorage, AK — August 3, 2009 —The Alaska Native Medical Center is receiving full Joint Commission accreditation, the nationally recognized symbol of quality that reflects a healthcare organization's commitment to meeting the highest performance standards.

Surveyors from the Joint Commission, the accreditation body for ANMC, visited July 21-24. The surveyors focused on quality improvement, patient assessment, communication and infection control.

ANMC Administrator Dan Neumeister told staff the surveyors were "complimentary of the care that we provide to our patients." He personally thanked everyone for their "focus on improving patient safety and the quality of care at ANMC.

"Your dedication is very apparent to our patients as well as the Joint Commission surveyors," Neumeister continued. "In my 30 years of being in the healthcare industry I have rarely witnessed [this] kind of commitment and focus."

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium CEO Don Kashevaroff expressed sincere thanks "to our dedicated staff who have prepared tirelessly in the effort to achieve this prestigious recognition."

"The Alaska Native Community has a long history of partnership leading to success," said Southcentral Foundation COO Charles Clement. "The partnership with our customer-owners and the partnership with ANTHC laid the groundwork for ANMC's accreditation."

As an acute, specialty, primary and behavioral healthcare provider, ANMC provides comprehensive medical services to the 134,000 Alaska Native and American Indian people living within the state. The Center's 150-bed hospital is the only Level II Trauma center in the state, as well as the only facility to achieve Magnet Status, a designation of the highest excellence in nursing. Providing a full range of medical specialties and primary care services, ANMC sees approximately 6,700 inpatient admissions and almost 500,000 outpatient visits annually.

The Joint Commission, formerly known as the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), is acknowledged as the leader in developing the highest standards for quality and safety in the delivery of health care, and evaluating organization performance based on these standards. Today, more than 16,000 health care providers use Joint Commission standards.

#

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and Southcentral Foundation jointly own and manage ANMC 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.