



ANMC opens its doors to all employees

By ANTHC Staff

In a move that provides numerous advantages to existing patients, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and Southcentral Foundation are opening the doors of the Alaska Native Medical Center to all insured employees and their insured dependents.

There are several reasons for the decision to offer ANMC services to non-Native employees; among them is the positive financial impact. Employee health plan costs are a major expense — this change means those funds can re-enter the system, to expand and improve services for Alaska Native and American Indian customer-owners.

Productivity increases when employees no longer need to travel off-site to receive care. Employee satisfaction and retention are expected to improve as well, when employees begin to connect with ANMC as customers. (Lower turnover rates also reduce costs associated with recruitment and training, and positively impact patient care due to lower vacancy rates, increased institutional knowledge, and continuity of relationships between customer-owners and employees.)

Finally, customer-owner employees are invested in their work because it impacts the care their families receive. When non-Native employees become customers of our system, they will have additional motivation for quality and improvement.

ANTHC and SCF have carefully studied the potential impacts of allowing non-beneficiary employees and their dependents access to ANMC health services, and have found no major barriers. Both organizations are developing a robust monitoring system to ensure it will in no way diminish the level of services provided to Alaska Native beneficiaries.

Those seeking more information are encouraged to call ANMC's Customer Service department at (907) 729-2400, or e-mail lifecare@anthc.org.

Photos available by contacting ANTHC's marketing department at marketing@anthc.org