


2007 ANNUAL REPORT



Anchorage
project
ACCESS



MISSION

The mission of Anchorage Project

Access is 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.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In 2007, Anchorage Project Access completed a second year of providing health care services to low income, uninsured individuals in Anchorage. I want to thank all the physicians, nurses, physical therapists, and other health care providers who have participated in Anchorage Project Access. It has also been gratifying to me as a physician to provide health care to Anchorage Project Access patients. I am reminded of the reasons why I and many of my colleagues entered the medical field—to provide services to those most in need. The Anchorage Project Access staff, under the direction of Charlene Spadafore Vassar, has worked hard to make sure that the right patients get to the right doctors. I cannot thank them enough for their hard work. The Anchorage Project Access Board of Directors has also worked hard as this young organization developed policies and procedures and secured funding. Finally, I want to thank those who have contributed financially to the program, at any level. I am encouraged by our evaluation that finds for every dollar invested in the program, four dollars of medical care is donated. Nonetheless, we are working diligently to be sure that the program continues to run efficiently and effectively.

It has been exciting to see what can happen when a community comes together to accomplish a goal. Many people and programs are responsible for the continued success of Anchorage Project Access. In the coming year, we will continue to work to strengthen Anchorage Project Access for the numerous residents of our community who have no other resource for their health care needs. Thank You All For Caring and Doing Your Part.



KC Kaltenborn, MD

President, APA Board of Directors



2007 - A YEAR IN REVIEW

From January, 2007 – December, 2007, Anchorage Project Access (APA) processed over 700 applications for eligibility. From this number, approximately 600 met program eligibility guidelines and received medical treatment. At any given time, APA's two patient care coordinators handle a patient case load of approximately 150 cases each.

The Clinical Leadership Team continues to recruit volunteer physicians and health care providers as is evident in our numbers. Currently, 340 physicians and 36 practitioners participate in Anchorage Project Access.

APA engaged the services of an evaluation expert, SAGE Partners, to review its existing evaluation plan and data collection infrastructure. Evaluation numbers are based on 18-months of operation from January 2006 – June 30, 2007.

Program evaluation, for the first 18-months of operation, found that the value of donated care exceeded \$2.1 million. Start up cost for APA's office operation, covering four employees, office space, furniture, computers and medications for eligible patients, was \$538,000 establishing a very strong Return on Investment of 4:1.

A Strategic Plan was implemented and approved by the APA Board of Directors. Five-year goals for 2007-2012 include:

- Recruit and retain maximum number of physicians and mid-level providers
- Establish financial sustainability
- Increase the number served by improving efficiency
- Improve access to care in partnership with others

■ Our first 18-months accounted for over \$2.1 million in donated care

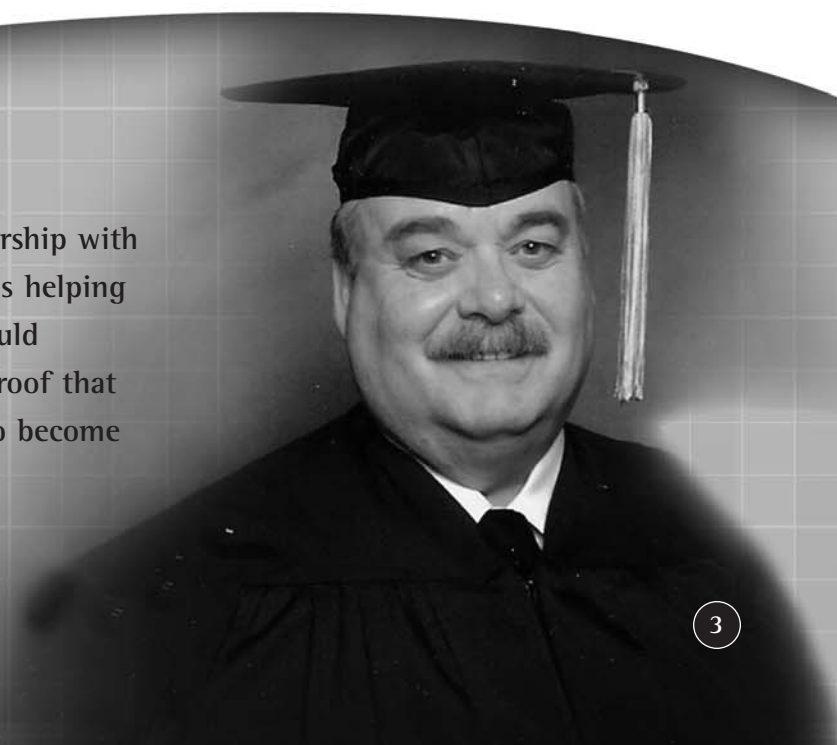
■ Return on Investment for first 18-months = 4:1

Goals and Objectives for 2007-2008 include:

- Recruit and retain maximum number of physicians and mid-level providers
 - > Objective: Encourage all physicians to participate at some level (time and/or money); recruit at least 50 additional physicians
 - > Objective: Identify and recruit at least 75 mid-levels (nurse practitioners, physician assistants)
 - > Objective: Recruit and/or collaborate with Primary Care physicians in the Anchorage bowl as well as in surrounding communities
 - > Objective: Retain and honor existing physicians and providers
- Establish financial sustainability
 - > Objective: Identify core businesses, hospitals and local and state government entities for funding
 - > Objective: Development of Resource Development Committee to produce and implement a rolling three year fundraising/donor solicitation plan by February, 2008
 - > Objective: Increase level of community outreach through ongoing presentations by providers and staff

“Anchorage Project Access with their partnership with the medical community here in Anchorage is helping people get the help they need that they would otherwise not be able to find. I am living proof that this program saves lives and helps people to become active members in the community.”

—Lindsey, Former Patient



OUR CHALLENGE



Dr. John Schwartz

The year 2007 was exciting as Anchorage Project Access experienced many new developments. Developing professional relationships with our generous providers and their staff, introducing APA to the many social agencies in Anchorage as well as the general public and managing care for our diversified clients are but a few of the challenges that filled our year. And thanks to the generous donations from our initial donors, we were able to concentrate on the mission of providing health care to our underserved neighbors.

In an effort to serve areas outside the Municipality of Anchorage, Anchorage Project Access implemented its 10% “outside of Anchorage guideline” that accepts patients who are residents outside of Anchorage when they are referred by Anchorage-based physicians who are already seeing them. APA strives to limit this number to fewer than 10% of all quarterly referrals.

However, as we enter into a new phase of our growth, two strategic goals for the immediate future become reality: 1) Recruitment and Retention and 2) Sustainability.

The Clinical Leadership Team continues to recruit and retain volunteer physicians and health care providers allowing our specialist base to grow in its diversification. Identifying and contacting these Health Care Professionals remains a constant challenge to staff and recruiting physicians alike as we endeavor not only to expand our volunteer base but to retain our current providers.

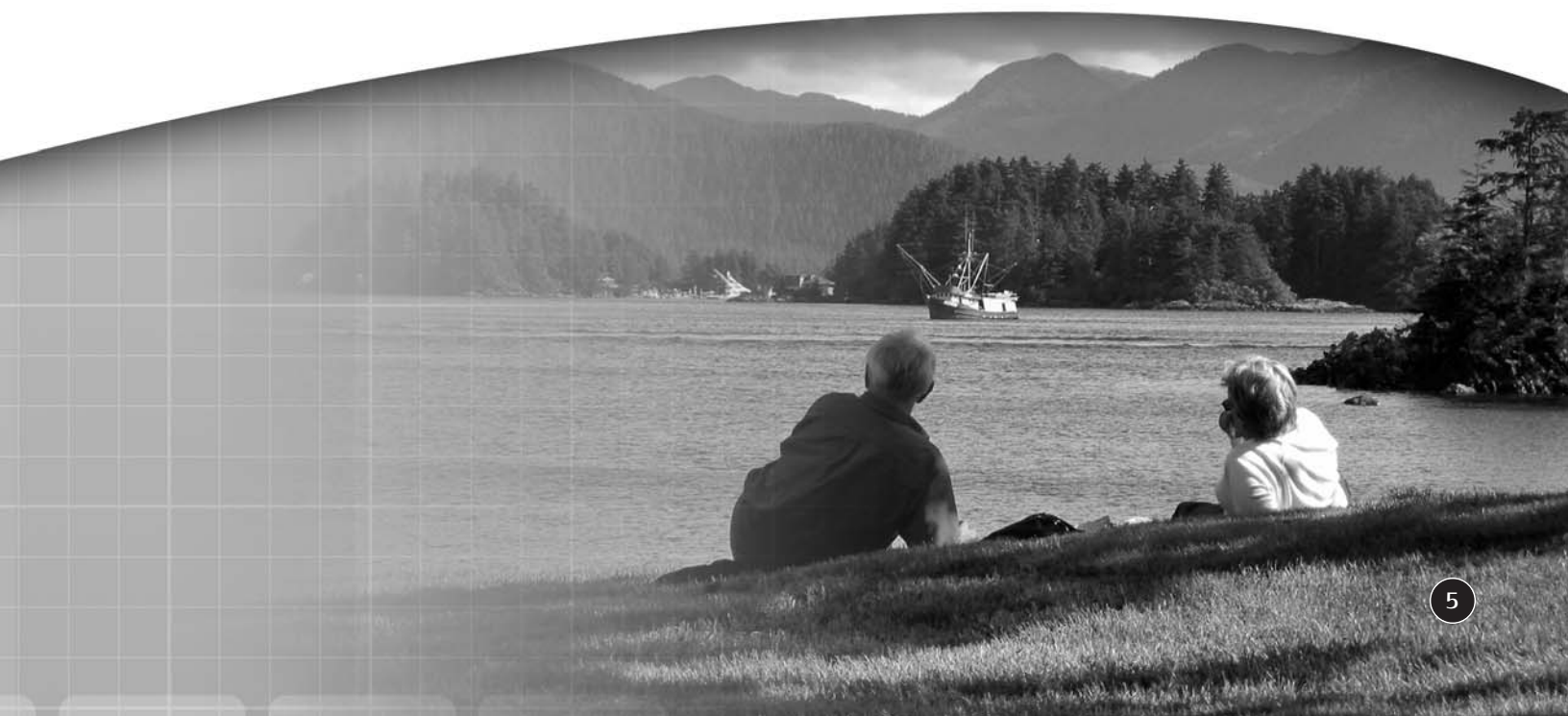
“I am very proud of the strong support of Anchorage Project Access by the medical community.”

—Dr. John Schwartz

The Resource Development Committee is tasked with the crucial responsibility of securing ongoing funding. A three-year sustainability plan outlines pertinent objectives and strategies through 2011.

Anchorage Project Access must be energetic in its pursuit of its funding sources and receptive to change. As we go to press with this Annual Report, we are currently secure in our funding through mid-2009. The Resource Development Committee, Executive Committee, Board members and staff are diligently pursuing numerous funding sources that include, but are not limited to, City, State and Federal agencies as well as the local business community. A volunteer committee is being formed to assist with possible fundraising events and the creation of a strong database is an ongoing effort with which staff can solicit yearly donations.

The task at hand is immense but with the enthusiasm and commitment of the APA Board of Directors, its staff and volunteer network of providers, we will succeed in keeping the doors to health care open for our neighbors in need.



INCOME & EXPENSES

January – December 2007

INCOME

Contributions Received	22,500.00
* Rasmuson Grant	295,726.00
Alaska Mental Health Trust Grant	25,000.00
Providence Grant	185,151.00
Premera Blue Cross	10,000.00
Interest Earned	8,637.18
Total Income	547,014.18

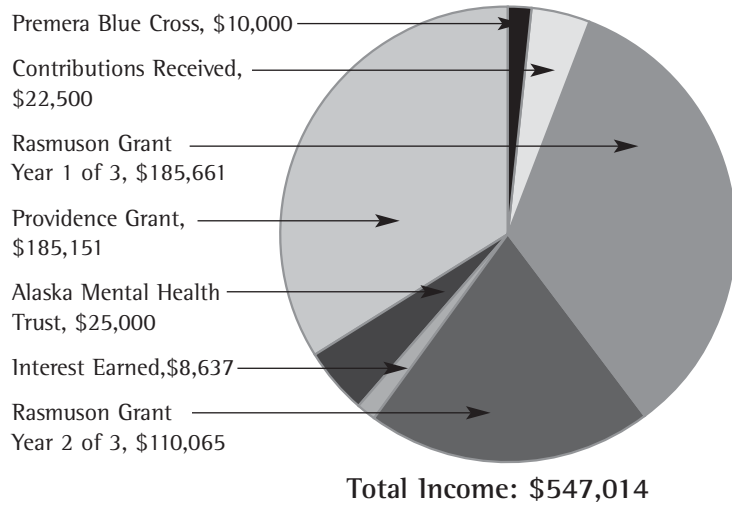
EXPENSE

Supplies	24,807.74
** Administration/Overhead	48,453.93
Consulting	39,214.25
Equipment	4,147.37
Pharmacy	47,292.36
Transportation	2,752.24
Personnel	
Salaries	167,228.61
Bookkeeping Services	16,644.00
Benefits	31,203.35
Total Personnel	215,075.96
Lease	19,800.00
Total Expense	401,543.85

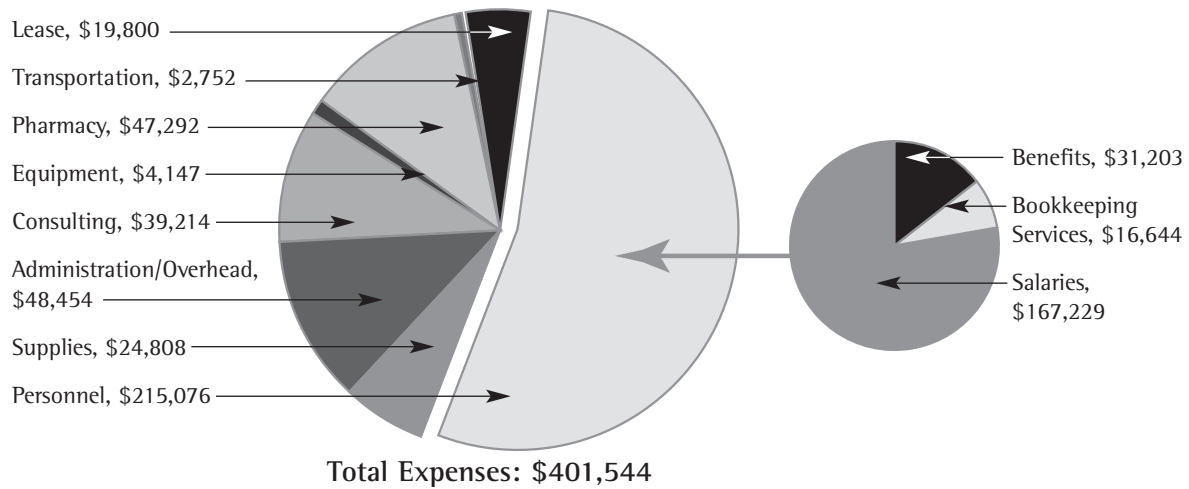
* Rasmuson Grant includes \$185,661 for Year 1 of 3-year grant. This was expended in 2007. It also includes \$110,065 for Year 2 which was received in December 2007 but will be expended in 2008.

** Administration/Overhead is 9% of grants and contributions. It includes \$9,905.85 for the Rasmuson Grant funds which will be expended in 2008.

INCOME BY SOURCE - 2007



EXPENSES BY CATEGORY - 2007



“I owe my whole life to Anchorage Project Access and the Health Care Professionals who volunteer their time and services..”

—Tom Brown, Former Patient

SUCCESS STORY



Norma Carter

When she retired as a social service coordinator for Beans Café in early 2006, Norma Carter faced a short period of time when she would not have any health care coverage – she would qualify for Medicare when she turned 65 later that December. But in the fall of 2006, severe back pain led her to the Providence emergency room where a CAT scan revealed a suspicious mass on her adrenal gland. On a follow up visit to the Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center, Dr. Madeleine Grant administered a blood test to confirm the cause of Norma’s tumor: pheochromocytoma, a very rare and life-threatening disease. Treatment for this serious diagnosis couldn’t wait until Norma qualified for Medicare. Her experience at Beans Café gave her an understanding of the lack of health care the poor and homeless often faced. “It was so ironic,” said Norma. “I never thought I’d be one of those people who needed health care assistance. I just fell through the cracks.” Dr. Grant’s assistant Kevin guided Norma to Project Access, which quickly partnered her with participating local surgeon Dr. Steven Menaker. “He’s my hero!” exclaimed Norma. Because pheochromocytoma causes high blood pressure, Dr. Menaker had to drastically reduce Norma’s blood pressure before he could operate and he prescribed an appropriate but expensive drug. An alarmed Norma was greatly comforted by the fact that Project Access covered the \$480 cost of that necessary medication. Within a few weeks, Norma was able to undergo a delicate 8 hour surgery to remove the baseball-sized tumor as well as her adrenal gland. In the months since, Norma has placed most of her efforts into returning to better health. Although she’s been a longtime social worker, Norma said this experience “really opened my eyes to the problem of health care. Project Access saved my life. Without their intervention I would have never been able to afford all this treatment”.

■ Project Access Core Values:
Physician Driven • Efficient • Respectful



EXECUTIVE BOARD

KC Kaltenborn, MD, President
Jerome List, MD, Vice President
Catherine Schumacher, MD, Treasurer
Tom Hunt, MD, Secretary
John Schwartz, MD, Past President
Brian Green, PhD, ex Officio

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Michele Brown, United Way of Anchorage
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Anne Heiner, KTVA-TV
Ward Hinger, Diagnostic Health, Anchorage
Joe Josephson, Josephson Associates
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Bob Stewart, Davis Wright & Tremaine LLC
Barbara Symmes, Providence Health System Alaska
Thomas Wood, MD
Beverly K Wooley, State of Alaska, DHSS, DPH

STAFF

Charlene Spadafore Vassar, Executive Director
Stephanie Engel, Patient Care Coordinator
Gabriela Harbison, Patient Care Coordinator
Jane Dial, Administrative Assistant



THANK YOU

The following foundations, businesses and private donors have supported us during the past year.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Alaska Cardiovascular Research Foundation
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
Premera Blue Cross of Alaska
Providence Health Systems of Alaska
Rasmuson Foundation

IN-KIND DONATIONS

RBMS, LLC
Carrs/Safeway Pharmacies
Christian Health Associates
Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center Pharmacy
The Foraker Group
Geneva Woods Pharmacy
Municipality of Anchorage, Office of the Mayor

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

—Margaret Mead

PRIVATE DONORS

Linda Boochever

Benee Braden

John Braden

Michele Brown

Buffinton Burtis, MD

Lorraine Charvet, MD

Jane & Clay Dial

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Gina & Michael Senko

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Barbara Symmes

Charlene Spadafore Vassar

Lois Watson

Thomas Wood, MD

Beverly K. Wooley

Carol Friest & Arthur Weiner





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1217 E. 10th Avenue
(907) 257-4686 appointments
(907) 257-4654 fax

Fairview Dental Clinic
1217 E. 10th Avenue
(907) 257-4661 appointments
(907) 257-4654 fax

Mountain View Health Center
3521 Mountain View Drive
(907) 792-2300 phone
(907) 792-2369 fax

Administrative Office
903 W. Northern Lights, #218
(907) 792-6538 phone
(907) 792-6526 fax

TESTIMONIAL

January 7, 2008

Charlene Spadafore Vassar
Executive Director
Anchorage Project Access

Dear Ms. Spadafore Vassar:

As primary care clinicians representing the health care "safety net" for Anchorage, we wish to testify to the value of Anchorage Project Access.

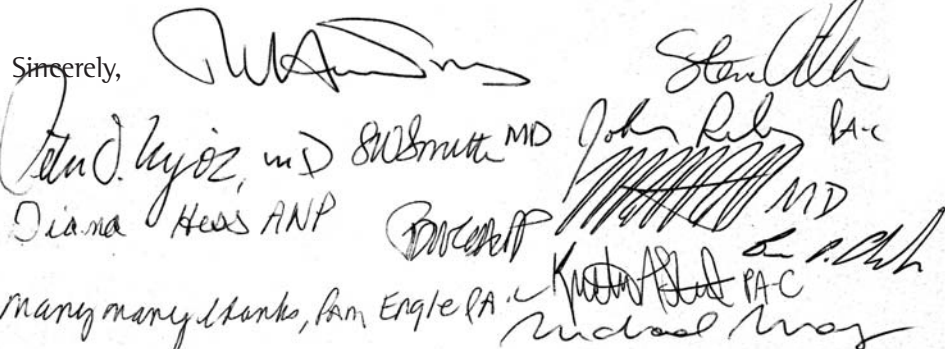
Project Access has substantially improved our ability to manage patients.

Here's why: Prior to APA, if we were managing a low-income, uninsured patient who needed specialty care; we would waste time calling specialists and begging for the needed surgery or consultation. It was time-consuming and undignified. When the patient arrived at the office, he or she would have to explain the situation all over again to the office manager, often meeting a brick wall. We have seen morbidity and mortality occurring because of such walls (patients denied care by office staff despite physicians agreeing to see them, only to die or be hospitalized for lack of care).

Now, we know that our patients will get access to care. We don't have to beg. We don't have to call in favors. The patient has the dignity of a pre-arranged appointment and a "card" that opens doors. Specialists aren't jumpy, because they know that all their colleagues are sharing the burden.

In particular, the Project Access staff has brought confidence to our referral process. We know the patient is highly likely to make the appointment because the Care Coordinators will make it so. We know our notes will get there in advance, and the consultation report will make it back to us.

Thank you for creating and sustaining this program.

Sincerely, 
Peter J. Kujala, MD
Diana Hess ANP
John Riley BA-C
MD
PA-C
Engle PA
Richard May
The medical staff of the Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center



ANCHORAGE PROJECT ACCESS GOALS

- Improve the health outcomes of the low income uninsured population of Anchorage
- Increase the primary care treatment capacity in Anchorage
- Increase the ability of physicians and other community partners to volunteer their services effectively and efficiently
- Increase collaboration within the Anchorage health care community to meet the needs of the low income uninsured population amongst us





ANCHORAGE PROJECT ACCESS
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