



Vision

A Native Community that enjoys physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellness.

Mission

Working together with the Native Community to achieve wellness through health and related services.

Customer-Owners

Serving over 65,000 Alaska Native and American Indian People

Communities Served

Anchorage Service Unit and 55 Tribes to Include:
Anchorage Matanuska-
Chickaloon Susitna Borough
Eklutna McGrath
Igiugig Newhalen
Iliamna Ninilchik
Kenaitze Seldovia
Knik St. Paul Island
Kokhanok Tyonek

Services Offered

Over 90 Community-Based Programs Including:
Medical
Behavioral
Dental
Co-Own and Co-Manage the Alaska Native Medical Center

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Cook Inlet Region, Inc.

March 17, 2023

Emily Beaulieu
Medicaid State Plan Coordinator
Alaska Department of Health
3601 C Street, Suite 902
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Proposed Temporary Medicaid State Plan Amendment on Pharmacy Dispensing Fee

Dear Ms. Beaulieu,

Southcentral Foundation (SCF) offers the following comments related to the temporary state plan amendment (SPA) to continue the enhanced pharmacy dispensing fee. SCF supports the continuation of the enhanced rate, however, there are additional steps the need to be taken to address pharmacy operations costs in Alaska.

Ongoing collaboration between the state and the Alaska Tribal Health System to address the high costs of delivering pharmacy services is welcome. It is also a positive development that the state is seeking to ensure there is a separate Tribal rate set during deliberations on a more permanent dispensing fee. However, the department should consider the costs of inflation and other pressures following the creation of the 2019 Cost of Dispensing Fee Survey.

Again, the adoption of this temporary SPA will produce positive results for the state, the Alaska Tribal Health System, and the hundreds of thousands of Alaskans who rely on Medicaid. If you have any questions, please contact me at akyle@southcentralfoundation.com.

Sincerely,
SOUTHCENTRAL FOUNDATION

April Kyle, MBA
President and CEO