



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Benjamin Watson Recognized as Alaska's
"Community Star" on National Rural Health Day**

November 19, 2025, ANCHORAGE, AK — The Alaska Department of Health (DOH) is excited to announce that Benjamin Watson has been named Alaska's 2025 "Community Star" by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH). This national recognition honors individuals who make outstanding contributions to rural health care.

Watson, an EMT-P in Ketchikan, plays a key role in the Ketchikan Fire Department's Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Program. His work expanding outreach and improving access to primary and behavioral health services has made a significant impact on underserved residents.

He will be featured on the National Rural Health Day website, PowerOfRural.org, on November 20, 2025, alongside other honorees from across the country.

National Rural Health Day, celebrated each year on the third Thursday of November, highlights the dedication of those serving the health needs of the nearly 61 million people living in rural America. Since 2015, more than 400 Community Stars have been recognized nationwide.

To learn more about National Rural Health Day and this year's Community Stars, visit PowerOfRural.org.

For more about State of Alaska Department of Health visit <https://health.alaska.gov>

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