



MEDIA STATEMENT

Media Contact:
Fiona Brosnan, ANTHC
907-350-8495; fmbrosnan@anthc.org

ANTHC responds to State of Alaska's rejection of Medicaid expansion

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) is disappointed by Governor Sean Parnell's decision today to reject Medicaid expansion and deny health care coverage to tens of thousands of uninsured Alaskans.

"We look forward to seeing what other solutions the Governor may offer," said Andy Teuber, ANTHC Chairman and President. "But in the meantime, 40,000 Alaskans are left without any kind of health care coverage. They cannot afford to buy it. For most of these people, there is no other source of assistance to get coverage. When someone is sick, they have to choose between getting health care and feeding their family."

Health care affects the lives of everyone. Alaskans are already paying for Medicaid expansion for other states through federal taxes. But we are not getting the benefit of it. Each day the state delays a solution, families in Alaska are living without the same help other people are getting.

We are committed to continuing our improvement of the Alaska Tribal Health System for Alaska Native people and the others we serve. We need to improve capacity to improve access for underserved Alaskans, including non-Natives living in rural areas who rely on the Tribal Health System.

We're skeptical that the Governor's promised solutions can be developed and implemented soon enough to avoid further suffering for uninsured Alaskans.

About the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium is a not-for-profit tribal health organization managed by Alaska Native tribal governments and their regional health organizations. We provide statewide services in specialty medical care; construction of water, sanitation and health facilities; community health and research; information technology and professional recruiting. For more information, please visit www.anthc.org.



**ALASKA NATIVE
TRIBAL HEALTH
CONSORTIUM**