



Community Health Aide Program Certification Board

Authorized by Alaska Area Native Health Service

Administered by

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

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October 18, 2022

Dear Tribal Health Director:

The Alaska Tribal Health System is excited that several areas are moving forward with expanding the CHAP program and implementing nationwide a program we've successfully developed for over 30 years. In doing so, we are honored that many areas have turned to our CHAP Directors and Tribal health program staff for documents, advice, and consultation. We would like to help our fellow Tribal health programs in the lower 48, but our staff are currently being inundated with requests that are challenging to balance with their regular duties. In providing this assistance, we must be mindful to stay within our statutory authority, which requires that nationalization of the CHAP program will not reduce resources available for Alaska programs, 25 U.S.C. § 1616(d)(2)(A), and within the confines of our individual agreements with the Indian Health Service.

Therefore, we are developing a system to handle these requests that will include a transparent process, consider any limitations on our guidance, and that will adequately balance resources so we can provide this assistance the right way. In the meantime, the Alaska CHAP Certification Board has respectfully requested a pause in sharing any CHAP-related documents, references, and tools, including any one-on-one consultation, until this new system is up and running. We hope to write again with further details about this system in the coming months.

We look forward to working with you as you develop your programs and appreciate your trust in our experienced staff's guidance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Evangelyn Dotomain, Area Director, Alaska Area Native Health Service, Indian Health Service at Evangelyn.Dotomain@ihs.gov.

Sincerely

Steve Daniel, MD
Alaska CHAP Certification Board Chair