

## **BHA Spotlight – Maren Chaffee**

Maren Chaffee from the Southeast Area Regional Health Corporation won a "Rising Star" award at the 2023 Health Aide Forum. SEARHC leadership wrote "Maren Chaffee started at SEARHC as a case manager and her passion for direct services was evident from the start. She is the most non-judgmental and compassionate person I know, always seeking to help the patient find their best path forward. She came to us from the education sector and had great experience in working with special needs

students. The BHA program was a perfect fit to round out her skills with behavioral health specific training.

Maren has grown so much in her BHA training and incorporated many of the skills to stay calm and practical, truly supporting the patients' needs. The ability to truly respond to the patient's most pressing needs and think outside the standard 8am-5pm office visit makes Maren a tremendous asset to our rural behavioral health program.

Maren is also a rising star in the SEARHC galaxy as she has taken on leadership roles. She oversees the behavioral health clinic operations and is an incredible bridge builder between stakeholders on the island including SEARHC medical, community partners, and law enforcement. Without her skills, patience, and innate capacity for organization the clinic would not function well and our ability to provide services to those in need would falter. Thank you Maren!"

The quotation has been edited for length and clarity.