SEARHC Organization

MISSION
Alaska Native People working in partnership to provide the best healthcare for our communities

VISION
Partnering with our communities to promote a healthy balance of mind, body and spirit

VALUES
• Respect
• Cultural Identity
• Service
• Professionalism
• Compassion
• In 1975, Congress passed the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act

• This gave Alaska Native tribes the option of assuming the operation of health services in their communities

• In 1976, SEARHC was one of the first organizations to contract with the Indian Health Service, the federal agency responsible for ensuring that comprehensive public health services are available to American Indian and Alaska Native people

• In 1982, the contract was expanded to include the operations of the Indian Health Service Juneau clinic, now the Ethel Lund Medical Center

• In 1986, SEARHC assumed operation of the hospital in Sitka, now Mt. Edgecumbe Medical Center
About our Board

• SEARHC Board of Directors (Board) serves as the Consortium’s chief policy-making body

• The Board comprises 15 individuals who oversee all functions and programs

• Board representatives are elected by the tribal governing body in each participating community

• The Board is guided by the Consortium’s values, vision and mission that are inclusive of all people living in the Southeast region
Executive Leadership Team

Charles Clement  
President, Chief Executive Officer

Leatha Merculieff  
Senior Vice President, Chief of Operations

Dan Harris  
Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer

Elliot J. Bruhl, MD  
Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer

Heidi Aylsworth  
Senior Vice President, Chief Strategy & Business Development Officer

Martin Benning  
Vice President, Primary Care

Matthew G. Ione  
Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer

Dan Harris  
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

Eric Gettis  
Vice President, Behavioral Health

Michael Douglas  
Senior Vice President, Chief Strategy & Business Development Officer
Clinical Leadership Team

Cate Buley, MD  
Medical Director of Primary Care

David Vastola, MD  
Hospital Administrator & Medical Director of Mt. Edgecumbe Medical Center

Lynn Prysunka, MD  
Medical Director of Wrangell Medical Center

Matt West, DMD  
Director, Dental Services

Mark Walker  
Director, Behavioral Health
SEARHC at a Glance

- SEARHC provides healthcare in 27 communities in Southeast Alaska
- SEARHC operates two hospitals:
  - **Mt. Edgecumbe Medical Center**, a 25-bed critical access hospital providing acute care, critical care, obstetrics, surgery, perioperative care, swing beds, rehabilitation and ancillary services.
  - **Wrangell Medical Center**, a critical access hospital with eight acute care/swing beds and 14 long term care beds, rehabilitation and ancillary services.
- Employs approximately 140 providers
- 1,400 employees and contractors
- Annual revenue of **$344 million** and net operating income of **$113 million** for fiscal year (FY) 2021

Total Clinic Visits – **130,000**
Specialty Clinic Visits – **10,000**
Telehealth Encounters – Medical **6,875**
Telehealth Encounters - Behavioral Health **21,000**
Rehabilitation (PT, OT, Speech) Visits – **24,500**
Optometry Visits – **6,300**
Dental Clinic Visits – **38,000**
Outpatient Behavioral Health Visits – **35,500**
Prescriptions Filled – **270,000**
Lab Tests Performed – **663,000**
Hospital Bed Days – **4,500**
Swing Bed Days – **2,300**
Babies born at Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital – **80**
Surgeries at Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital – **1,650**
Regional Hospitals

Mt. Edgecumbe Medical Center, Sitka
Population: 8,689
458 employees

Wrangell Medical Center
(new facility opened in February 2021)
Population: 2,521
80 employees
Regional Clinics

Ethel Lund Medical Center, Juneau
Population: 32,094
207 employees

Alicia Roberts Medical Center, Klawock
Prince of Wales Population: 5,000
47 employees

Haines Health Center
Population: 2,526
49 employees
Specialty Care & Partnerships

SEARHC Employed Specialists
- Orthopedics
- Ear Nose and Throat
- General Surgery
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Interventional Pain
- Audiology

SEARHC Strategic Partnerships
- Swedish Medical Center
- Alaska Native Medical Center
- Seattle Children’s Hospital
- Neurology, Rheumatology, Cardiology, ENT, Dermatology, Podiatry, Urology, Sleep, Hepatology, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics
- Pediatric Endocrinology, Pediatric Neurology, Pediatric Cardiology
SEARHC Strategic Plan 2022-2024

Employer and Provider of Choice
SEARHC will attract and retain the best employees and providers. SEARHC believes that a strong and engaged workforce will better enable the organization to deliver consistent, high-quality care and service to its communities.

Goal 1 - Employer of Choice
Goal 2 - Provider of Choice
Goal 3 - SEARHC Awareness

Seamless Healthcare Delivery
SEARHC will partner with its providers, communities and other organizations in enhancing the system of care for our patients to best support positive health outcomes.

Goal 1 - Continue to Expand Specialty Services at SEARHC
Goal 2 - Complete Primary Care Redesign
Goal 3 - Complete Behavioral Health Redesign
Goal 4 - Identify ways to continue to utilize technology to enhance our care delivery model and patient experience

Intentional and Strategic Growth
SEARHC will thoughtfully evaluate and plan for new growth opportunities, ensuring strategic alignment.

Goal 1 - Juneau Expansion
Goal 2 - Complete Construction of New Hospital in Sitka
Goal 3 - Continue to Build on Current Strategic Partnerships
Goal 4 - Evaluate Other Strategic Growth Opportunities
Why SEARHC?

Benefits of an Affiliation with SEARHC:

- Expedited path to a new hospital in Petersburg
- Access to coordinated and advanced specialty care close to home
- Economy of scale for shared services

  - Practice Management
  - Financial Operations
  - Regulatory Oversight/Compliance
  - Performance Improvement
  - Human Resources
  - Recruitment Assistance
  - Information Technology
  - Marketing
  - Strategic Planning
  - Business Development
  - Grant Support
  - Revenue Cycle
  - Accounting
  - Procurement and Supply Chain
  - Facilities Oversight
  - Biomedical Support
Past SEARHC Mergers and Affiliations

• Haines Medical Center
• Sitka Medical Center
• Lynn Canal Counseling
• Alaska Islands Community Services – Wrangell, Gustavus, Front Street Clinic
• Wrangell Medical Center
• Sitka Community Hospital
• Petersburg Mental Health
• Dental Clinic in Petersburg