ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM BRIEF
for the
Alaska Health Care Commission

August 14, 2014
Topics

• VA Current Issues
• Alaska Geography
• Alaska VA Journey
• Sites of Care
• Demographics
• Alaska VA – Scope of Clinical Services
• Rural Health
• Tribal Veterans Representative (TVR) Program
• Care Closer to Home
• Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership
VA Current Issues

• Secretary Robert A. McDonald - New VA Secretary

• VA Bill
  – Signed into law by President Obama on Thursday, 7 Aug 14
  – Total of $16.3B
    • Veterans can seek care from non-VA health care providers if do not get an appt. within 30 days or if they live more than 40 miles from a VA medical center
    • Additional staffing and clinics
    • VA secretary is able to fire or demote senior executives for poor performance and misconduct
VA Healthcare Facilities in Alaska

- Fairbanks CBOC
- MatSu CBOC
- Juneau Clinic
- Anchorage Clinic
- Kenai CBOC
- Homer Clinic
VA, DoD and the 26 Native Healthcare Organizations
Sites of VA Care

Anchorage VA Outpatient Clinic
Muldoon Clinic

VA/DOD Joint Venture Hospital
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson

Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans
VA Sites of Care, cont.

- Mat-Su VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic
- Fairbanks VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic
- Homer VA Outreach Clinic
- Juneau VA Outreach Clinic
Brief Overview of Joint Venture Relationship

- The 673 MDG @ Elmendorf is an integrated DoD/VA jointly staffed federal facility

- The 673 MDG Executive Committee governs joint venture issues
  - JV Business Operations Committee plans & implements ongoing JV issues

- The Air Force manages the hospital
  - The VA manages the ICU

- There is one standard of care

- VA contributed $11 million

- Neither agency subsidizes the other
Alaska VHA Demographics

• $210 M Operating Budget for FY14
• 541 FTEE
• Veteran Population
  – Enrollees 31,043
  – Unique Users 17,812
  – VA Annual Clinic Visits 172,352
  – 40.1% AK Veteran Population enrolled – Market Penetration
# Alaska Veteran Population Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Vet Pop</th>
<th>Enrollees</th>
<th>Users</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage</td>
<td>30,706</td>
<td>14,622</td>
<td>8,622</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fairbanks</td>
<td>13,346</td>
<td>4,943</td>
<td>2,761</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mat-Su</td>
<td>10,815</td>
<td>4,968</td>
<td>3,098</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>6,850</td>
<td>2,104</td>
<td>980</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenai Peninsula</td>
<td>5,635</td>
<td>2,517</td>
<td>1,637</td>
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<tr>
<td>West/SW</td>
<td>3,274</td>
<td>883</td>
<td>289</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Alaska</td>
<td>1,574</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kodiak</td>
<td>1,394</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>147</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valdez/Cordova</td>
<td>1,138</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>74,732</strong></td>
<td><strong>31,043</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,812</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enrollees increased from 22,021 in FY02 to 31,043 in FY13. Users increased from 12,262 in FY02 to 17,812 in FY13 which is a 41% increase in enrollees and 45% increase in users since FY02.

* Data through the end of FY13
Scope of Clinical Services

- Primary Care to include Home Based Primary Care
- Lab/Radiology/Pharmacy/Dental
- Social and Behavioral Health Service
- Homeless Veterans Programs
- Limited Specialty Care
- Ambulatory Surgery
- Home Telehealth
- Rehabilitation Services
- Prosthetics (Durable Medical Equipment/Home Oxygen)
Homeless Veterans Programs

- Outreach
- Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV)
- Compensated Work Therapy
- Compensated Work Therapy Transitional Housing Program
- Compensated Work Therapy Supported Employment
- HUD/VA Supported Housing
- Grant Per Diem Program (Anchorage/Fairbanks)
- Health Care for Re-entry Veterans/Veterans Justice Outreach
- Homeless Veterans Supported Employment Program
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program

**Main Phone number is 907-273-4000. **
Rural Veteran Health Care Outreach

• Goal-Increase Benefits and Health Services to Underserved Rural Alaskans

• Strategies:
  – Sharing & Reimbursement Agreements
    • Agreements awarded 26 Native Health Organizations – over $2.7M in care provided to 693 Veterans since signing the agreements in 2012
    • Native Health Organization Vendor Guide
    • Webinar developed presented/online
    • Ongoing statewide onsite Business Office training
  – Tribal Veteran Representative Program (TVR)
    • 213 TVRs trained
  – Increase Veteran enrollment - Contract with Jefferson Solutions /System Redesign
    • Tele-mental Health clinic at Southeast Regional Health Corporation and Mt. Edgecomb

• Future – Expand outreach to community and private sector
CARE CLOSER TO HOME INITIATIVE
Care Closer to Home Initiative

• In May 2010, AVAHS began keeping Oncology care local
  • 490 oncology patients stayed in AK thru December 2013

• Three phased oncology approach
  • Fee care
  • Contracting
  • Federal Oncology Center

• Sec VA Visit in May 2011 resulted in Care Closer to Home being expanded to other specialty care in July 2011
Care Closer to Home Initiative (cont.)

- **# of Veterans who elected care out of state:**
  - 2009: 591
  - 2010: 545
  - 2011: 336
  - 2012: 541
  - 2013: 388
  - 2014: 71 in the first quarter

- **Conversation occurs with Veteran**
  - Do they wish to remain local or be referred to tertiary facility in “lower-48”
Telehealth Program
Telehealth Programs

• **Active**
  – Home Telehealth
  – Store & Forward
    • Teleretinal Imaging
    • Teledermatology Imaging
  – **Clinical Video Telehealth**
    • Primary Care
    • Amputation
    • Diabetes Education
    • Endocrine
    • Hep C Education (group and individual)
  – **Mental Health**
    – Individual therapy
    – Individual therapy into the Home
    – Dual-diagnosis Group Therapy
    – Recovery Education Group Therapy
    – Social Work
    – PTSD Individual Therapy
    – PTSD Group Therapy

• **In Development**
  – Audiology
  – Sleep
  – Nutrition
  – C&P Mental Health
  – Smoking Cessation
INITIATIVES

• Federal Education Sharing Group – 4 offerings a year
• Emergency Planning
• GME – AK Psychiatry Residency Program
• Medical Oncology
• Pain Management
ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
Honoring and Serving Alaska Veterans

Ms. Susan M. Yeager, Director
Mr. Greg Puckett, Associate Director
Dr. Cynthia Joe, Chief of Staff
Dr. Linda Boyle, R.N., PhD, Associate Director for Nursing and Patient Services