

Memo: Commission on Health Needs and Human Services

If the ordinance is passed, the HNHS Commission will serve as a communication medium for the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly on human service trends in the community. Through the collection and consolidation of vital and current information on human service trends as well as public input, the HNHS Commission will periodically report to the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly in effect to address health and social service needs and concerns of the community.

EXAMPLES: Potential goals (1-5 per year) for the first year of commission may include the following:

- a. Work with community entities including Sitka Community Hospital to gather public input/financial support for a feasibility study on the viability of the Health (self-insurance, punch card, health care co-op concept).
- b. Research drug-abuse in Sitka, as applicable, identify potential steps and partnerships for Prevention
- c. Research new or unused/under-utilized state and/or national funding streams that could be utilized in the community of Sitka to increase access to quality health care services.
- d. Disperse template of sample non-profit policy for “buying local first” to increase local spending in community.
- e. Research and develop long-range planning to assist in preparation for an aging community
- f. Host free, community wide training on the roles and responsibilities of commissions

The following individuals have provided input on the formation of the HNHSC and have identified this commission as a high need for our community, (this list also includes some potential members who may submit applications for service on the HNHSC.):

Ron Fribush, MD, SCH

Willow Moore, ED Brave Heart Volunteers

Matt Fururia, (or other representative from Mount Edgecumbe High School)

Jeff Budd, Greater Sitka Arts Council

Penny Lehmann RN, PHN III, Sitka Public Health

Doug Osborne, SEARHC

Sarah Watkins, DVR

Elena Gustafson, SAFV

Hugh Hallgren, CEO, SCH