

# Memo

**To:** Mayor and Assembly Members

**From:** Willow Moore, Health Needs and Human Services Commission Chair

**Date:** May 21, 2014

**Re:** Health Needs and Human Services Commission Goals 2014-2015

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Following are the 2014-2015 goals proposed by the Health Needs and Human Services (HNHS) Commission. On behalf of the HNHS Commission, I look forward to answering any questions you might have.

Health Needs and Human Services (HNHS) Commission Proposed Goals 2014-2015:

1. Compile baseline Community Services Assessment: Review of Available Community Services/Health and Human Service Organizations.

Objectives:

- Complete baseline community services assessment\* and review availability of services.

*\*Please note that we will start the assessment by contacting partners that currently keep lists (such as the Legislative Information Office's 'Sitka Community Resource Guide' and the list maintained by the Division of Public Assistance: 'Community Resources').*

2. Enlist partners to complete a thorough and professional community assessment (e.g. Community Indicators) to document community needs.

Objectives:

- Enlist outside partner(s) to fund a professional level community assessment to identify gaps in Sitka's service provision/health needs. If this goal is approved by the Assembly, partners (including United Way of Southeast Alaska) have agreed to sign on)
- Distribute/share information on documented community needs to relevant partner agencies to assist with grant application/funding.
- Research opportunities for interested organizations to develop new projects that meet documented community needs, and when

appropriate, provide advocacy at the assembly level for the ongoing efforts to meet those needs.

3. Reinstate coalition (using a model like Advancing Our Community.)

“Advancing our Community” will then organize Biannual or Quarterly Meetings with the purpose of bringing diverse organizations/populations together to increase communication, collaboration, efficiency among those businesses and organizations operating in the health and human service sector. The coalition will also serve to decrease duplication of services within the sector.

Objectives:

- Biannual or Quarterly meetings held at Centennial hall (initially coordinated/advertised by commission, then all coordination will be taken over by the coalition.) All health and human service agencies/businesses will be invited. Meetings will be open to the public