

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Department of Health and Human Services



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Mayor Dan Sullivan

For immediate release: September 26, 2012

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Municipal Department of Health & Human Services Turns Seventy-Five

September 2012, marks the "75th" anniversary of the
Municipal Department of Health and Human Services.

The "Anchorage Health Center" opened its doors on the second floor of the old city hall on September 13, 1937, using private donations and funds from the Territory of Alaska and the City of Anchorage.

From its founding to today, Anchorage has had to address serious public health problems such as tuberculosis, diphtheria and pneumonia, inadequate childcare, water well contamination, juvenile delinquency, violence, injury, tobacco use, alcohol misuse, forborne illness, and improper diet.

Between 1937 and 2012 the length and quality of life in Anchorage has increased through the elimination or substantial reduction of tuberculosis, polio, smallpox, diphtheria, smoking, unsafe drinking water, unsafe sewage disposal, unsafe food supply and unclean air.

"Over its long history, DHHS has been proactive in a wide range of public health and human services issues that affect our community," said Janet Vietmeier, Acting Director for the Anchorage Department of Health and Human Services. "We look forward to continued collaboration with our community partners in protecting the health of the public and serving the citizens of Anchorage."

The Department of Health and Human Services continues its commitment to serving the Anchorage community by providing a wide range of public health and human service programs including: Disease Prevention and Control, Clinical Services, Senior Services, Women Infants and Children's Program, Affordable Housing and Community Development, Interpersonal Violence, Child Care Licensing, Food Safety and Sanitation, Air Quality, Animal Care and Control and Public Health Emergency Preparedness.

The Department of Health and Human Services continues the mission of enhancing the quality of life for the people of Anchorage by preventing illness, promoting good physical and mental health, protecting the environment and providing human services.

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