

## Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Please join me in celebrating the Alaska Vaccine Assessment Program's (AVAP) first year. Children and adults benefit every day from our public-private partnership, which provides all vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for insured children and select vaccines for insured and uninsured adults. AVAP was created to provide universal access to immunizations and reduce the administrative and financial burdens on health care providers who provide immunization services.

Thanks to the efforts of AVAP's stakeholders (insurers, third-party administrators, self-insured plans, health care providers, AK Division of Insurance, and AK Department of Health and Social Services) AVAP was successfully launched in January 2015 and is receiving quarterly assessments from approximately 90% of the private insurance market. Moreover, 30 health care providers have opted in to pay for select adult vaccines for uninsured adults.

Alaska's immunization coverage rates are below the national average. We hope that by removing the barrier of vaccine cost, AVAP will help us realize coverage rates that are above the national average and ultimately achieve our Healthy Alaskans 2020 goal of having at least 75% of Alaska children aged 19-35 months up-to-date with their immunizations.

Thank you for supporting AVAP. If you want to know more or get involved, please contact us.

**Jay Butler, MD**  
AVAP Council Chair

Chief Medical Officer, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services

Director, Alaska Division of Public Health

## How does AVAP lower health care costs?

AVAP creates a public-private vaccine partnership that reduces vaccine costs, safeguards vaccine availability, and minimizes the administrative burden on health care providers.

Through AVAP, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) receives funds from insurers and other payers based on their proportionate share of covered lives, and purchase vaccines at a considerably reduced cost compared with privately purchased vaccines.

DHSS is able to purchase vaccines at an average cost that is 27% below the private market value. These savings reduce health care costs and, ultimately, help hold down rising premiums for individuals and benefit costs for employers. Health care providers can also administer vaccines to their patients while avoiding the financial and staffing burdens required to separate private and public vaccine stock.

## Money Saved



**\$3.1 MILLION**  
saved by AVAP in vaccine cost

**\$1** spent on vaccines

**\$10** saved in health costs



Sources:

• \$3.1 million in savings from 2015 Assessment workbook estimates

• Zhou, F., Shefer, A., Wenger, J., Messonnier, M., Wang, L.Y., Lopez, A., Moore, M., Murphy, T.V., Cortese, M. and Rodewald, L., 2014. Economic evaluation of the routine childhood immunization program in the United States, 2009. *Pediatrics*, 133(4), pp.577-585.

# Alaska innovating to improve public health

Select vaccines are recommended for adults to help prevent illness and disease transmission. Vaccines are especially important for those with chronic conditions, who are more likely to develop complications from certain vaccine-preventable diseases.

Access to immunizations is a challenge for uninsured adults, which is approximately 18% of the adult population in Alaska. Through AVAP, health care providers have the option to act as a safety net for their uninsured adult population by opting in to the assessment. To opt in, providers pay an assessment for their uninsured adult population served. Providers who opt in can then receive select state-supplied vaccines that can be administered to their uninsured adult population.

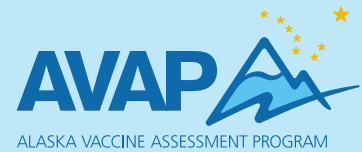
## Safety Net for Uninsured Adults



**41%**

of uninsured adults are covered under AVAP by health care providers who participate in the program

Sources: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development American Community Survey, 2010-2014 5-Year Data. <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/cen/acsdetails.cfm>



## AVAP Council Members

**Jay Butler, MD – Chairman**  
Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health and Social Services  
Director, Division of Public Health

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Insurance Specialist III  
Division of Insurance

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Pediatrician  
Anchorage Pediatric Group

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Alaska Neonatal Associates

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**Lydia Bartholomew, MD**  
Senior Medical Director, Pacific Northwest Aetna

**Mr. Derek Blomquist**  
Senior Manager, Underwriting  
Premera Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alaska

**Mr. Fred Brown**  
Executive Director  
Health Care Cost Management Corporation of Alaska

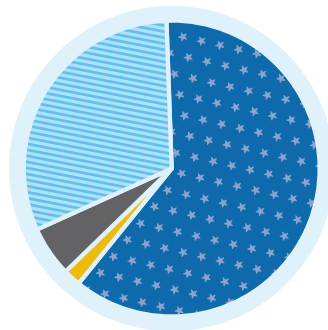
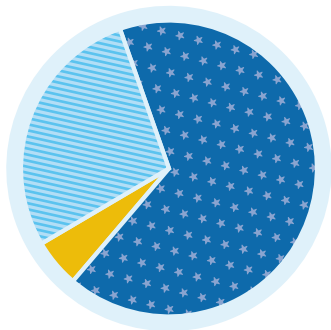
TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVE  
**Captain Gary Givens, RPh**  
Director of Pharmacy  
Alaska Native Medical Center

## FINANCIALS

January - December, 2015

**Revenues**  
\$10,274,162

**Expenses**  
\$9,124,506



- ★ 66.6% Child Assessments
- ▨ 28.1% Adult Assessments
- 5.3% Provider Opt-in Payments

- ★ 61.4% Child Vaccines
- ▨ 31.2% Adult Vaccines
- 5.5% KidsVax Admin Services
- 1.7% DHSS Fee
- (Other 0.3%)

For illustrative purposes for January - December 2015. AVAP revenues are actuals. All other numbers are from the assessment setting budget. These charts will be updated when the audited financials for 2015 are released. That is expected to be prior to September 1, 2016.

[WWW.AKVACCINE.ORG](http://WWW.AKVACCINE.ORG)

### ADMINISTRATOR:



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WEBSITE: [www.KidsVax.org](http://www.KidsVax.org)

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