



ALASKA VACCINE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 2022

## Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is a pleasure and privilege to share that AVAP continues to thrive despite the continued challenges presented by COVID-19. It has been remarkable to witness both the financial stability as well as the positive public health outcomes driven by this tremendous program.

AVAP has benefited from assessment reductions over the past two years despite manufacturer cost increases each year. Although uncertainty exists concerning the future of COVID-19 vaccine costs, we anticipate that assessment rates will not be impacted until 2023. The Immunization Program team, led tirelessly by Matt Bobo, will continue to collaborate with Providers to implement public health programs that will improve the health outcomes and immunization rates of Alaskans.

We are grateful for the partnerships that continue to serve this program, for the Payers and their ongoing commitment to providing the financial support for another strong AVAP operating year, and the Immunization Program team for their dedication to improving health outcomes and immunization rates. This collective effort has culminated in another productive year of serving the public health needs of Alaskans.

**Joe McLaughlin, MD**  
Chairman

*State Epidemiologist and Chief, Section of Epidemiology, Division of Public Health, Department of Health*

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## A POWERFUL MODEL

Vaccine costs continue to rise nationally. AVAP's work to stabilize vaccine funding has played a crucial role in ensuring all Alaska children and adults have access to recommended vaccines.

Our model has powerful benefits:

- **No Provider Financing costs.** Instead of fronting significant dollars to keep vaccines on hand, providers receive and administer vaccines from the Alaska Department of Health (DOH).
- **Consolidated Storage and Ordering.** Providers can avoid navigating complex ordering systems based on who paid for them or who they will immunize. DOH provides support for one vaccine ordering process, regardless of the patient's insurance status.
- **Stable Vaccine Supply.** Providers can focus on patient needs and have the full complement of recommended vaccines on hand.
- **Healthcare Savings.** DOH's bulk purchase of vaccines provides significant cost savings versus the private market.

## Strong Financial Performance

AVAP continues to perform extremely well despite two years of COVID-influenced operations. Thanks to the extraordinary work of Alaska's Immunization Program during the pandemic, both children and adults have continued access to routinely recommended and COVID vaccines. The payer community has consistently complied through the pandemic and provided stability to AVAP during otherwise uncertain times. Payer reliability is the cornerstone of AVAP's remarkably stable operation.





## AVAP Council Members

**Joe McLaughlin, MD, Chairman**  
State Epidemiologist and Chief, Section of Epidemiology, Division of Public Health, Department of Health

### GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

**Sarah Bailey, AIE**  
Supervisor  
Life / Health Filings & Market Conduct  
Division of Insurance

### HEALTH CARE PROVIDER REPRESENTATIVES

**Rosalyn Singleton, MD MPH**  
Research Physician  
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Council member to be named for 2022

### HEALTH CARE INSURER REPRESENTATIVES

**Pamela Andrews Sheffield, MD**  
Medical Director, Clinical Solutions  
Pacific NW Medical Health Services  
Aetna

**Mike Patton**  
Director of Large Group Underwriting  
Premera

**Patrick Shier**  
Alaska Membership Representative  
Pacific Health Coalition

### TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVE

**Christina Eldridge, PharmD, MPH, BCACP**  
Outpatient Pharmacy Manager  
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

## A message from Matt Bobo, Alaska's Immunization Manager

It is a tremendous privilege to be a part of DOH's Division of Public Health and reflect on the tremendous accomplishments this year. Despite the ever-evolving challenges brought on by COVID-19, the Immunization Program team has continued to lead the nation in vaccination rollout. Our team, which has grown by more than 50% including CDC Foundation colleagues, has built on successful programs like VacTrAK, all while creating new opportunities to meet the public health needs of Alaskans.

As we look to the future, I am encouraged by new programs that will enable us to reach out to Alaskans to educate and empower them to make healthy decisions. DOH is launching a new program, "Let's Talk Vaccines", which encourages Providers to have conversations with their patients about available and pending vaccines, and the benefits of receiving them. DOH has completed multiple surveys throughout the state and has found that Provider recommendations motivate patients to get vaccinated. This program is meant to be a resource for Providers to give them the tools and support they need to recommend COVID-19 and other critical vaccines confidently and consistently to their patients. It is an honor to work alongside this dedicated, creative, and diligent team as we strive to meet our public health objectives.

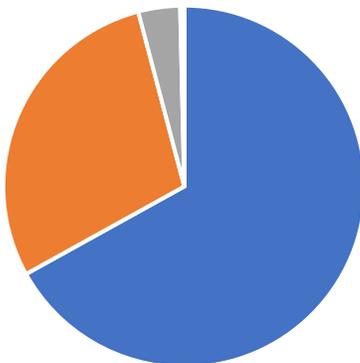
Our continued success would not be possible without the ongoing support of AVAP. Our Payer community, which provides the financial stability and backbone of this program, remains diligent in meeting their assessment obligations. We continue to see positive results with Provider opt-ins and are grateful for the many partnerships which enable us to collectively serve the public health needs of Alaskans.



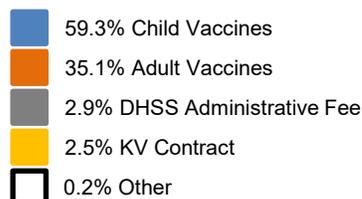
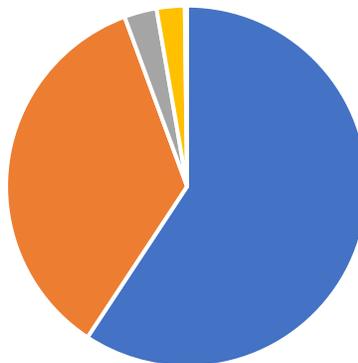
## FINANCIALS

January - December, 2021

**Revenues**  
**\$12,548,745**



**Expenses**  
**\$10,846,692**



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### ADMINISTRATOR:



PHONE: 1-855-KidsVax (543-7829)

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

### KIDSVAX® STAFF

**Seema Mack**  
Executive Director of AVAP

**Megan Conrad**  
Controller

**Fred L. Potter**  
Founding Member

**Heather Veen**  
Executive Assistant

**Everett Lamm, MD**  
VP & Chief Medical Officer