



Petersburg Medical Center

CEO Board Report September 2023

Mission Statement: Excellence in healthcare services and the promotion of wellness in our community.

Guiding Values: Dignity, Integrity, Professionalism, Teamwork, Quality

Highlights:

- Progress continues on the replacement hospital building project. In September, the Borough Planning Commission approved the final site replat dedicated to the replacement building. Additionally, the comprehensive NEPA Environmental Study was completed and documents were made available for the two-week public review and comment period which began September 15, 2023.
- As part of advocacy, training and professional development, PMC senior leadership staff and two board members attended the annual Alaska Hospital & Healthcare Association (AHHA) conference September 19 - 21. This conference brings together members and partners from facilities and communities throughout the state to discuss current topics, challenges, and opportunities across Alaska's healthcare system. It's a chance to share best practices, resources, and innovative solutions and to network with colleagues across the continuum of care. There was a strong focus on mental health in healthcare and upcoming post-acute care CMS regulations for LTC that may have significant regulatory impacts. We heard from Vera Starbard, an Emmy nominated Tlingit and Dena'ina writer and playwright who shared an incredible presentation of healing through storytelling.
- On September 20 Katie Holmlund and I testified to the state Childcare Task Force that took public comments on barriers to childcare in the state. Numerous healthcare facilities, state and AHHA complemented the Kinder Skog program and are excited about this innovative program to help solve childcare challenges.
- I have growing concerns regarding the rising instances of fentanyl use and potential abuse in our community. In addition to PMC I've engaged with both EMS, PHN and law enforcement. We are in the process of organizing a preliminary meeting to gain a clearer understanding of the situation at the community level.

Financial Wellness: Goal: To achieve financial stability and sustainability for the hospital.

FY23 Benchmarks for Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): *Gross A/R days to be less than 55, DNFB < then 5 days, and 90 Days Cash on Hand*

- FY23 Audit is currently in process and the audit firm expects to complete this process in October.
- FY24 capital budget continues to be reviewed and will have a more concise list for approval.
- PMC continues to await word from the State regarding Exceptional Relief Request. This still delays the annual PMC employee 2% increase. I appreciate everyone's patience on this as PMC still feels the impact of a post-covid healthcare world. I want to thank staff for continuing to serve our patients and community. Departments have done an incredible job stepping up with wearing different "hats," obtaining grants and increasing census by thinking and doing innovative and cross-collaborative projects. Collaboration and innovation is our path forward.
- PMC is still awaiting word on the Treasury Grant following the last round of questions for submission.
- The latest financial reports indicate a strong August month and we are finally seeing a reduction in gross AR days, at 72 down from 90. This is moving in the right direction.
- Met with senior leadership team and CEO of Trubridge/CPSI/ HRG to discuss improvements and KPI goals. This was a positive sign and will have a recurring check monthly to assess these goals.

New Facility: Goal: To expand the capacity and capabilities of the community borough-owned rural hospital through the construction of a new facility, while taking into account the needs and priorities of the local community.

- We are still awaiting final assessment and plan to repair and mitigate the considerable water damage and concern for mold and deterioration of floor and walls in the PMC long term care solarium. This area remains closed due to safety and infection control issues.
- Final design on the new facility is coming, with more information to come on this. We expect the Architects & Engineers to have a final design by the end of the month to put forward to the steering committee for approval.
 - As mentioned previously, there are changes related to meeting the Department of Treasury (\$20M) funding requirements. Two phases are indicated below, which will likely increase the WERC building and decrease phase 2.
 - Phase 1: A stand-alone 9,000 sf Wellness, Education and Resource Center (WERC) building will be built. This building will now provide services related to Work, Education and Health Monitoring. Expected functions/departments in this building include Wellness, training, education (with wifi access), conference room & public health. Anticipated completion is by 2026.
 - Phase 2: A larger 64,000 sf Primary, Acute and Long Term Care Facility (PALTC) will be built adjacent to the WERC building. The PALTC will also provide some services directly related to Work, Education and Health Monitoring. Note that while PMC plans to complete the PALTC in 2026, we cannot commit to a specific date for this portion of the project until final funding stack is secured.
- Updates: Project updates are available on the PMC website under the “New Facility & Planning” tab: <https://www.pmcak.org/new-facility.html>.

Workforce Wellness: Goal: To create a supportive work environment and promote the physical and mental well-being of hospital staff, in order to improve retention rates and overall productivity.

- On behalf of the entire PMC family, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mike Boggs, who has embarked on a well-deserved retirement after dedicating 24 years to PMC. His profound and comprehensive understanding of our facility and operations will be greatly missed.
- The annual department managers retreat is scheduled for October 25. This day-long retreat focuses on revisiting the strategic plan and brainstorming sessions.



Community Engagement: Goal: To strengthen the hospital’s relationship with the local community and promote health and wellness within the community.

- Last week of August: Community Wellness department partnered with WAVE to offer the second year of camp Camp Girls on the Run. Twelve girls in 3rd-6th grades participated in the camp, focused on building friendships and confidence, exploring creativity and playing fun games that kept them moving.
- September 4 (Labor Day): Rainforest Run 10K and half-marathon.

- September 5: PMC reports out at Borough Assembly Meeting
- September 7: KFSK Radio PMC Live
- September 22: The local SHARE Coalition is hosting the “Reconnect Petersburg” volunteer fair event. LTC Activities will participate and will provide information on a variety of volunteer opportunities within LTC for those with weekly, monthly, and one-time commitments. Information will also be available on PMC volunteer policies, including pet visitor policy and van driving.



Patient-Centered Care and Wellness: Goal: To provide high-quality, patient-centered care and promote wellness for all patients.

- PMC is working on implementing the HRSA grant award for Rural Communities Opioid Response program which will be a part of the Behavioral Health department. This is a one year \$300k grant.
- Beginning in September, PMC and the SEARHC scope team will start endoscopy and colonoscopy services.
- Encounters in the facility were very high in August as summer comes to a close.

RECONNECT

P E T E R S B U R G

You're invited to get involved!

Looking for ways to meet new people while also making a difference in Petersburg?

Discover specific ways you can help your community, gain new skills, have fun and learn what opportunities exist.

Local non-profits are gathering to meet with you!

Scan QR Code to add event to your calendar

Friday, September 22

4 - 7 pm

Sons of Norway Hall

Call for information: 907.772.9283

• A Dozen Non-Profits

• Free Appetizers

• Door Prizes



- In October, Specialty Clinic introduces dermatology services, encompassing skin checks, removals of moles, lipomas and skin cancer; treatment of chronic skin conditions like psoriasis, acne and dermatitis; and cosmetic Botox procedures.
- Petersburg Medical Center has two exciting new programs to help people improve strength, improve balance and decrease fall risk: Bingocize and Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance. Classes started the week of September 11 with positive reaction and are already at capacity with a need to add a second group. For more information, call 772 -5580. Class times are as follows:
 - Monday/Wednesday: 10:00-11:00 am, Bingocize
 - Tuesday/Wednesday: 10:00-11:00 am, Tai Ji Quan



Submitted by: Phil Hofstetter, CEO
