

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Award nominations needed for Sitka Health Summit

SITKA, April 10, 2008 — The steering committee for the second annual Sitka Health Summit, “*Working Together for a Healthier Sitka*,” is accepting nominations for awards that will be given to Sitka health role models and wellness champions. The deadline for nominations has been extended to Tuesday, April 22.

These awards are for Sitka residents who have made outstanding contributions in one of six categories — physical activity, nutrition, safety/injury prevention, tobacco prevention/control, holistic health and general wellness. One individual and one group to be honored in each category. We hope to honor adults, youth, elders, policy makers, health care providers and Sitkans of all walks of life who have helped make our community a healthier place to live. The awards will be presented during the Sitka Health Summit community dinner, which takes place on Wednesday night, May 14, at the Hames Athletic and Wellness Center.

Nominations should include a brief description of why this individual or group deserves an award, and should provide us with contact information for both the nominator and the nominee, if it’s available. The awards are presented to Sitka residents who make outstanding contributions here in Sitka, and they are a way we can recognize and thank Sitka’s unsung heroes of community wellness. Nominations should be received by Penny Lehmann no later than 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22. Nominations can be called into Penny at 747-3255, e-mailed to penny.lehmann@alaska.gov, or mailed to Penny Lehmann, Sitka Public Health Center, 210 Moller Dr., Sitka, AK 99835.

The Sitka Health Summit is May 14-16 at various locations in Sitka. In addition to the community dinner, the summit also features planning sessions where Sitka residents can set community health and wellness goals for the future, and an implementation meeting with city and state planners about how to achieve the goals. The Sitka Health Summit, “*Working Together for a Healthier Sitka*,” is co-sponsored by Sitka Community Hospital, the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) and the Steps to a Healthier SE Alaska program. More details on the summit will be released as we get closer to the dates, or you can e-mail Grace Brooks at grace.brooks@searhc.org or go to <http://www.sitkahealthsummit.org> for more information.

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