



Mel Bingham, Physician Assistant
Family Medicine

Certification: National Commission on the Certification of Physician Assistants

Education: Mel holds a Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree from Rocky Mountain College (Billings, Mont.).

Special Interests: Mel practices family medicine and has a particular interest in rural health services.



Stephen L. Ericksen, DMD
Dentistry

Education: Dr. Ericksen earned his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the University of Louisville in Kentucky. He also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in public health from Utah State University in Logan, Utah. Before coming to SEARHC, Dr. Ericksen worked for the Northern Navajo Medical Center in Shiprock, N.M., and the Norton Sound Health Corporation in Nome.

Special Interests: Dr. Ericksen is interested in hunting, fishing, computers, Mexican cuisine, remote control aircraft and spending time with his family. He provides dental services at the Alicia Roberts Medical Center in Klawock and makes regular trips to the Hydaburg Health Center for clinics.



Myron (Ron) Fribush, MD
Family Medicine

Certification: American Board of Family Medicine; certificate of added qualifications in geriatrics

Education: Dr. Fribush earned a medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in New York and completed a residency at Wilson Hospital in Johnson City, N.Y. Dr. Fribush spent more than two decades working in New York before moving to Alaska in 2004 to take a job as a hospitalist at SEARHC Mt. Edgumbe Hospital in Sitka. He became medical director at the SEARHC Alicia Roberts Medical Center in Klawock in February 2008.

Awards & Honors: Dr. Fribush won the 1998 Emergency Medicine Physician of the Year for Schenectady County, N.Y. and served on the Emergency Medical Services Committee. He won a Health Care Providers Award at the 2007 Sitka Health Summit for his efforts to reduce secondhand smoke and being an advocate for healthy lifestyles. He became a Fellow with the American Academy of Family Practice in 2007.

Special Interests: Dr. Fribush has special medical interests in geriatrics, home care for the elderly, and in local and long-distance delivery of emergency medical services. He has been a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians for 30 years, and he enjoys fishing and hiking.

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**Ellen Kemper, MD****Family Medicine**

Certification: American Board of Family Medicine

Education: Dr. Kemper earned her medical degree from Hahnemann College of Medicine (which now is part of Philadelphia's Drexel University). She completed a residency in family practice in LaGrange, Ill.

Special Interests: Dr. Kemper has a particular interest in rural medicine and electronic health records. She provides itinerant medical services to the community of Hydaburg.

**Kurt Welser, Physician Assistant****Primary Care**

Certification: National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants

Education: Kurt earned a degree from the University of Washington.

Special Interests: Kurt has a particular interest in rural health care. Kurt provides itinerant medical services to the community of Klawock.