



Petersburg Medical Center Foundation

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October 25, 2018

Steve Giesbrecht
Borough Manager
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Mr. Steve Giesbrecht,

PMC is working with the State Primary Care Office (PCO) to apply for a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designation through the Human Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). If PMC were to obtain that designation it may offer eligibility to funding opportunities and professional loan repayment programs through HRSA or SOA. The current HRSA scoring calculation for PMC does not qualify for HPSA due to the ratio of providers in primary care compared to the population.

A special exception through the PCO is possible if a recommendation is put forth by local officials and the chief executive or Governor of the state that outline special barriers to care. The geographical isolation of living on a small island in Southeast Alaska coupled with a substantial increase in seasonal employment due to the fishing industry count against the traditional HPSA scoring system. The health providers not only need to cover the critical access hospital ER and Inpatient units 24/7 but the primary care clinic Mon – Sat. It is with these exceptions we request Assembly support for designation of a healthcare professional shortage area.

Sincerely,

Phil Hofstetter, CEO
Petersburg Medical Center