

Anchorage Fire Department



June 9, 2025

April Kyle, MBA President and CEO Via email: <u>akyle@southcentralfoundation.com</u> Southcentral Foundation 4501 Diplomacy Drive Anchorage, AK 99508

Re: Support for Land Transfer Legislation

Dear Ms. Kyle,

The Anchorage Fire Department (AFD) supports the transfer the land located at 225 Eagle Street from the Indian Health Service to Southcentral Foundation (SCF). The proposed transfer will facilitate increased capacity for services provided to unhoused members of the Anchorage community.

This land currently houses the Quyana Clubhouse which provides vital clinical and wrap around services for individuals experiencing severe and persistent mental illness. This facility, alongside the SCF's Intensive Case Management (ICM) program, provides significant outreach and engagement and case management services. Together, these programs support individuals with a plan of care that includes housing, medical, behavioral, and other health related needs.

The AFD's mobile crisis teams safely de-escalate situations in which behavioral health challenges may be a factor. The two programs mentioned above will act like a force-multiplier, reducing the number of individuals needing the AFD's mobile crisis services and freeing up time to focus on other individuals needing crisis care. Further, when the new facility is built the SCF's capacity for program participants will expand and have a more integrated continuum of care—both of which will further extend the AFD's crisis services capacity.

If members of Alaska's congressional delegation have any questions about our support for this legislation, please have them contact me directly. I appreciate their introduction of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Doug Schrage, Chief

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