

News Release



For Immediate Release: Nov. 17, 2016

Media Contact: Sharon Leighow
Media Relations Specialist
(907) 202-0157 cell; (907) 729-6663 direct
sleighow@southcentralfoundation.com

Inaugural Certified Medical Assistants Complete Southcentral Foundation's Pilot Program

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA – Southcentral Foundation (SCF) celebrated the graduation of the inaugural class of SCF's Certified Medical Assistants Student Scholarship Program. A ceremony was held today at the Nuka Learning and Wellness Center for Oswaldo "Ozzie" Quinoveva and Shannon Cusma.

The program, aimed at increasing the percentage of Alaska Native and American Indian people in clinical positions, was created through a pilot partnership program between and SCF and Alaska Career College. Quinoveva and Cusma received scholarships through this partnership.

"Southcentral Foundation believes in growing our own and now we are proud to announce our first two CMA graduates, Oswaldo 'Ozzie' Quinoveva and Shannon Cusma," SCF President/CEO Dr. Katherine Gottlieb said. "Our congratulations to them both. We are excited for their careers."

SCF created the pilot program to provide training to address the gap in skilled nursing assistants. To complete their training, Quinoveva and Cusma split their time shadowing on-site at SCF with CMA supervisors and training with the Development Center. To gain on-the-job training, the graduates completed rotations at various SCF clinics.

The 9-month program will be offered again beginning in Feb. 2017. To learn more about the CMA Student Scholarship, contact Larissa Aaberg at (907) 729-7233.

About Southcentral Foundation

Southcentral Foundation is an Alaska Native-owned, nonprofit health care organization. Managing more than 80 health care programs and services, SCF serves 65,000 Alaska Native and American Indian people in Anchorage, the Mat-Su Borough and 55 rural villages in the Anchorage Service Unit.

###