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Southcentral Foundation's James Segura Earns National Indian Health Board Award

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA (Sept. 17, 2010) – The Southcentral Foundation Board of Directors Chairman James Segura will receive a National Indian Health Board award on Sept. 22. Segura will be presented with the NIHB Area/Regional Award at the annual NIHB Consumer Conference, held this year in Sioux Falls, S.D. This award was designed to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to improving health care on an area or regional basis for Alaska Native and American Indian people. Segura is one of just 12 honorees nationally.

As chairman of the board for Southcentral Foundation, Southcentral Alaska's nonprofit Alaska Native health corporation, Segura is one of the region's greatest champions of health and health-related programs for Alaska Native and American Indian people. Segura's service to Southcentral Foundation dates back to 1982, when he became one of its first board members. Since then, Segura has committed countless hours—over three decades—to help establish Southcentral Foundation as a leader in not just tribal health care, but health care in general.

“James Segura has provided invaluable guidance, and has played an active role in the movement to stand up and be involved in the delivery of health services as a ‘customer-owner,’” said Southcentral Foundation President/CEO Katherine Gottlieb.

Under his leadership, the Southcentral Foundation Board of Directors has helped strengthen the organization's Alaska Native workforce, earn state, national, and international awards for its Nuka Model of Care and innovative initiatives such as its telepharmacy program, and set direction for many world-class health programs that have expanded opportunities for improved wellness within the Native Community.

Over the last 10 years, Mr. Segura has also become well known for his support of the Southcentral Foundation Elder Program, which provides health and related services to more than 1,150 Elders within

the area, and Southcentral Foundation's youth internship program that focuses on health care career development. Lastly, he has been involved in many collaborative efforts, including his advocacy for Alaska Native statewide health issues as a primary representative of the Alaska Native Health Board.

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Established in 1982, Southcentral Foundation's mission is to work together with the Native Community to achieve wellness through health and related services. The nonprofit health care affiliate of Cook Inlet Region, Inc., Southcentral Foundation has grown in its 26 years, from a single dental clinic to an internationally recognized, award-winning health care organization that employs more than 1,400 people and administers a budget of more than \$200 million annually to manage more than 60 health care programs and services.