



Governor Michael J. Dunleavy  
STATE OF ALASKA

February 7, 2019

Janelle D. McCutchen DHEd, MPH, CHES  
Chief, Shortage Designation Branch  
Division of Policy and Shortage Designation  
Bureau of Health Workforce  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane, 11W17B  
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Dr. McCutchen:

I am requesting the designation of Census Tract 4 within the City and Borough of Juneau, in Alaska, as an Exceptional Medically Underserved Population (MUP), Homeless.

The municipality of Juneau consists of two primary population centers connected by road; downtown Juneau and Douglas, and the Mendenhall Valley. Census Tract 4, also on the road system; is located between these population centers in an area of residential and commercial development. The Lemon Creek Correctional Center, a private non-profit behavioral health agency; correctional and rehabilitation services; and Forget-Me-Not Manor, a facility for people experiencing homelessness, are located in the target area. People reentering the community after incarceration contribute to the high-needs population of this area.

People in Census Tract 4 are almost twice as likely to live below the poverty line compared to the total City and Borough of Juneau. For youth 18 years old and younger the rate is almost three times the City and Borough of Juneau, in general. The level of homelessness in Juneau is three times the national average.

Yet there are few medical services located in Census Tract 4. The nearest Federally Qualified Health Center is located in downtown Juneau, about six miles away. The City and Borough of Juneau is not accessible by road from other communities, rendering travel to other communities very expensive.

Designating an Exceptional Medically Underserved Population (MUP), Homeless, in Census Area 4 in the City and Borough of Juneau will provide the opportunity to increase local health resources and provide affordable health care.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MJ Dunleavy".

Michael J. Dunleavy  
Governor

cc: Adam Crum, Commissioner, Department of Health & Social Services