

Program name: Siamit

Affiliated hospital: MGH SPEAR MED, Maniilaq Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School Center for Global Health Delivery

Program leaders: Lucas Trout (Faculty Director), Corina Kramer (Community Director)

About: Siamit (say • mit, Iñupiaq, to seed or spread) is a partnership between Maniilaq Social Medicine, MGH SPEAR MED, and the Harvard Medical School Center for Global Health Delivery. Headquartered in Kotzebue, Alaska, Siamit serves 12 Inupiat tribes across 38,000 square miles of the Alaskan arctic and subarctic. Its mission is to advance an Indigenous health equity agenda by connecting academic medicine and community care.

Founded in 2016, Siamit began as a clinical partnership to support physician services in Northwest Alaska and has grown to include research, training, and policy initiatives in addition to its primary focus on health care delivery. Siamit offers clinical rotations for Harvard-affiliated residents and fellows, as well as a dedicated postgraduate research fellowship for early-career Indigenous health workers. Its research program is focused on mapping and addressing the social determinants of health in rural Alaska.

Harvard-affiliated trainees are invited to assist with grant-writing, research, and quality improvement projects. Faculty are invited to deliver frontline care, precept residents, conduct research, and contribute to Siamit's social and community medicine curriculum. Participating faculty and trainees are most helpful as long-term community partners. All Siamit projects fall under the direction and authority of a community board of directors representing the 12 service area tribes. More information can be found at siamit.org.