“I have lived here in Sitka for 5 years. I moved to Alaska from Ohio and have worked in Kotzebue and Nome as well. On my own time, I have been the driving force for the GET YOUR PINK ON Benefit to help cancer survivors in Sitka. This October will be the 4th event to raise money for cancer patients who may need assistance with travel expenses. My background in Nursing is Emergency Care, Labor and Delivery, and Care of Newborns. I have developed and taught prenatal classes for SEARHC for the past 2 years. I am also trained to be a lactation consultant. While working at SEARHC, I was instrumental in helping our hospital obtain Baby Friendly Designation. This is a prestigious honor as the first native hospital in Alaska to obtain this status. I have now become involved with the establishment of the SART team here in Sitka to help those who have experienced the trauma of assault. I look forward to the future as a SANE RN.”

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Recently, Sitka Tribe of Alaska began coordinating a Sexual Assault Response Team in Sitka through a partnership with SAFV, the Sitka Police Department, and SEARHC. Susan was one of the first nurses to jump on board and get trained to be able to complete evidence gathering exams for individuals who have been sexually assaulted. Susan’s commitment to the SART team has been integral in being able to provide this invaluable service within our own community once again.