



RurAL-CAP



ACTION REPORTS

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PARENT CHILD CENTER FUNDED FOR 1974

Federal Funds Released for Indian Educ.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA — The Legislative Budget and Audit Committee, meeting in Juneau Thursday, approved the acceptance and release of \$818,436 in federal funds for Indian Education in rural Alaska.

The funds, granted to the Alaska State Operated School System, will be utilized to improve the educational opportunities and experiences of rural native students.

This objective will be addressed by a variety of strategies specified at the local level by the cooperative efforts of the school staff, community members and advisory school boards.

Activities will provide for the learning of basic skills through diagnostic-prescriptive techniques, Bilingual-Bicultural learning and pre-school programs.

The Indian Education Act proposal outlines a process by which 1) a regional education committee, composed of local advisory school board chairmen, will allocate funds to schools in communities with the greatest needs, 2) local residents will plan the educational program, and 3) support services for planning and operating programs are made available as needed.

Receipt of the Indian Education monies will permit hiring of project staff for which recruitment has been under way.

Staff members will then plan for regional meetings between school board chairmen or their representatives, regional superintendents and local residents to determine regional priorities, local programs and sites.

The Indian Education project design has in large measure resulted from the extensive educational needs assessment conducted by seven Regional Native Associations, recently published under the title "A Modest Proposal."

In "A Modest Proposal" native Alaskans have asserted their belief that community residents must determine their own educational needs, creating their own ideas as to how such needs may be met, according to the environment in which they live.

One of the goals of the Alaska State-Operated School System is to facilitate the development of viable school boards and a community-school approach in which parents are involved in all appropriate decisions.

Such involvement is seen to be an integral part of the Indian Education Project.



CHILD CENTER—Pictured are a few of the children served by the Parent Child Center located in Hoonah. RurAL CAP's other PCC is located in Kotzebue.

Yupiktak and Linguist

Under an agreement with the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife, Yupiktak Bista will furnish a linguist, conduct informational and education programs in behalf of the Bureau, and present reliable data pertinent to Native subsistence hunting and fishing practices on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and the Clarence Rhode National Wildlife Range.

The Bureau signed a "Cooperative Agreement with the Bethel office of RurAL CAP for \$3,500 for the services which will include a linguist who will be needed at information sessions, hearings, and workshops.

At least 12 meetings will be conducted during the remainder of fiscal year '74.

Additionally, the linguist would translate rules and regulations governing public use activities on the Clarence Rhode National Wildlife Range and other material related to the Marine Mammal Act, the Wilderness Act, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and Executive Order 11644 which pertains to use of off-road vehicles on public lands.

Problems are arising with conflicting policies and provisions of various Acts, Executive Orders, or Public Land Orders, and how they interrelate with Natives and other interested citizens.

Many of the problems result from misunderstandings and poor communications as well as the lack of programs in most rural areas. The most obvious result is the lack of any relationships between the Bureau and people affected by Bureau policies and programs proposed for the future.

The requirement for public participation in Bureau programs or decision-making has been

clearly defined by various congressional actions and policy statements of the Bureau. Problems related to enforcement of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and of the Marine Mammal Protection Act are equally urgent and require fully operative lines of communication.

In making the announcement, Harold Napoleon, Regional Director for Yupiktak Bista, stated that the immediate and obvious need is for a direct and continuing channel of communication between the Bureau and Native groups. Because of social and cultural differences and language barriers, the existing Bureau movies, leaflets and other information are not suited for rural Alaska, and at times may have a negative impact. For these same reasons, it is difficult to obtain meaningful data and a response from the Native population.

A representative of Yupiktak Bista will be detailed to the Bureau for two weeks of orientation concerning their policies and programs, and the use of visual aid material.

Yupiktak Bista will cooperate with the Bureau in the compilation of species and numbers of fish and wildlife taken for subsistence purposes from Clarence Rhode NWR and other data related to subsistence resource utilization by the Native populations on all other public domain lands of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta.

These data will assist in determining public use patterns and aid in land use planning provided by Section 17 (d-2) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971.

Magistrate, the City Policeman, and the Health and Social Welfare Office Director.

Billy Backford is attending an alcoholism workshop offered in Anchorage by RurAL CAP and the Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies, lasting from Monday, Oct. 29 through Friday, Nov. 2 (More about this workshop in our next Action Report).

Both Mr. Backford's and Mr.

Heyano's efforts will be coordinated with those of Mrs. Helena Andree's, who is the RurAL CAP Regional Alcoholism Counselor. Mrs. Andree has been an alcoholism counselor for over two years.

She has also offered to take the Dillingham District Counselors to some surrounding villages on a space available basis. Such trips would be work-training sessions for the City's counselors.

HEW \$185,520 Grant To Finance Centers at Kotzebue and Hoonah

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. has been awarded a grant of \$185,520 from the Department of Health, Education, & Welfare to operate Parent Child Centers in Kotzebue and Hoonah, Alaska. The awarding of this grant will mark the sixth year that RurAL CAP, through its department of Child Development, has operated these two centers.

Parent Child Centers provide activities for the entire family. Day care is available for infants from birth until the child is ready to enter Head Start, kindergarten, or first grade. Parent participation in the program is mandatory for child care services.

Parents volunteer their time by assisting in the center in activities for the children including parties for special occasions such as Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter, etc. Family potluck suppers are held once each week, and are very well attended.

Both Parent Child Centers sponsor a Teen Center, which is operated by the teen-agers of the community and assisted by an

adult advisory board. The Kotzebue Teen Center has its own building, for which materials were provided by local businessmen. The building was erected by community volunteers.

Educational courses are available for anyone interested with assistance given by local school officials.

Mothers have evening sessions during which they wash, cut, and set each other's hair, and give each other home permanents.

Those fathers who are courageous enough can get free haircuts, play pool, or watch television. Instructions in knitting, crocheting, weaving, embroidery, skin sewing, bead work, basket making are offered, thus providing a lengthy program of activities for all members of the family.

Mini Grant Prog.-

Sought to Fund 42 Villages

According to Ralph Amouak, Projects Director of the Alaska Mini Grant Program, 122 applications have been submitted to the National Institute on Alcohol, Abuse, and Alcoholism National Review Board for consideration Nov. 19 and 20.

This is in addition to the 45, five to ten thousand dollar mini grants already approved earlier this summer.

Amouak stated that because of the funding status of NIAAA only 80 of the 122 grants submitted will be funded. Currently, other funding sources are being sought to fund 42 villages which will again be left out.

When the National Review Board makes their decision, the villages receiving grants will be

notified directly from the Washington, D.C. office. The notification of grant approval will be received in early December.

Amouak feels that without the help of Rural Alaska Community Action Program alcoholism counselors and RurAL CAP Regional Offices the deadline for submitting the grants would not have been realized.

Once a village award has been made, site visits will be made by Mr. Amouak to monitor individual programs and provide assistance to the villages.

If there are any questions concerning the Mini-Grant Program, please contact Ralph Amouak at Drawer 412 ECB, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, or call (907) 379-2441.

State-Funded Alcoholism Program

(Reprinted from Mr. Coxson's story in the BRISTOL BY-LINES)

On Nov. 1, 1973, the City of Dillingham will officially start its State-funded alcoholism counselor program.

Mr. Basil (Billy) Backford, the adult alcoholism counselor, and Mr. Carl Heyano, the youth drug and alcoholism counselor, will begin setting up office at City Hall and establishing contacts with such referral persons as the

Take some community action.



Army Reservists don't just talk about community problems. They take action. Join these action people.

The Army Reserve. It pays to go to meetings.