



Integrity, Pride in Heritage, Progress

AFN, Inc.

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Anchorage, Alaska 99503

NEWSLETTER

Officers:

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Anchorage, Alaska

AFN COMPLEX WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT

Curriculum for Health Aides

A Statewide curriculum for Community Health Aides will be presented to Alaskan universities in the coming months for their approval. The proposed curriculum will lead to an Associate Degree in Applied Science and provides for off-campus delivery of courses through the existing training agencies and health corporations.

It also allows for the granting of college credits for prior training and work experience as long as the student fulfills the educational objectives of a given course. If University approval is granted this summer, the degree program will be initiated in the Fall of 1975. The intent of the project has been:

1. To upgrade and standardize CHA education, thus improving the quality of care in rural Alaska;
2. To provide Community Health Aides with the

opportunity to pursue academic training beyond what is now offered, while they are employed;

3. To give recognition to the fact that CHA's are indeed health professionals, having equal status with other members of the medical community.

The development of the curriculum has been a joint effort of AFN, Inc. Health Affairs Division and members of the Community Health Aide Education staffs of Norton Sound Health Corporation, Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation and the Indian Health Service.

The Indian Health Service, in conjunction with representatives of the Regional Health Corporations, has been developing a manual to be used by all CHA's in the State. To be titled, "Primary Care in the Village", the manual will provide

uniform guidelines and methods of medical problem solving, with specific emphasis on the health problems most commonly encountered in Rural Alaska.

It will also serve as the primary textbook for all Community Health Aide Training programs — to be used by students for study and reference, and by educators as the standard for developing lesson plans and appropriate learning experiences.

It is scheduled for completion during the Winter of 1975 and will be distributed shortly thereafter.

The first Statewide meeting of Community Health Aides was held at Alyeska from May 5-9. Fourteen CHA's were in attendance representing the following areas: Bristol Bay, Yukon-Kuskokwim, Norton Sound-Kotzebue, Interior (Tanana-Chiefs) and North Slope Borough.

Topics of discussion included State certification of CHA's, University accreditation, the Statewide manual, methods of evaluating the health care delivery system, standardization of pay scales for CHA's, and the formation of a Statewide association.

There was much discussion and sharing of common ideas, problems and possible solutions and a decision was made to begin the process of forming a Statewide Association of Community Health Aides.

In the coming months, letters of invitation will be sent to all Regions of the State to participate in an organizational meeting in the fall and preliminary work will be done on the goals, objectives, and functions of the Association.

AFN Community Health Contract For FY76

AFN, Inc. Health Affairs Division Director, Carl Jack, and Deputy Director, Joe Nataro, have completed negotiations on a \$1,712,341.00 contract with the Indian Health Service for FY 76.

The contract will support community health development projects for the Tanana Chiefs Conference; Kodiak Area Native Association; Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation; Mauneluk Association; and Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.

These projects have been supported by a Community Health Service Grant that will terminate June 30, 1975.

AFN and IHS are committed to having the contract effective July 1, 1975.

In addition, the contract to support Southeastern Regional Health Corporation and Copper River Native Association Health Authority is being negotiated for \$198,500. When completed, this contract should take effect July 1, 1975.

Newly Installed Sam Kito Moves Into Anchorage Office

Mr. Sam Kito, newly selected President of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. will be in the offices at AFN on June 16th. It certainly is a pleasure to welcome Sam to AFN, Inc.!!!

Assoc. Meets—

Land Managers

The Land Manager's Association met on May 27th and is in the process of restructuring its membership and purpose.

There are currently 23 members — Regional representatives and some village corporation representatives, Federal/State Land Use Planning Commission,

Alaska Native Foundation, and Alaska Tribal Association.

Prior to this refocusing, the Association met on land-related matters to share ideas and problems. The next meeting is scheduled for the day before the Alaska Task Force meets in mid-June in Anchorage.

Lang: Manpower Prog. to Go on

Before departing as President of AFN, Inc., Roger Lang stated that the AFN's Manpower Program, which operates under contract from Alyeska Pipeline Company, would continue to operate for an additional year.

The program was established in April 1974 and was designed to supplement existing State of Alaska Manpower services in the areas of recruitment and referral services. In connection with this effort, approximately 4,700 persons and applications were screened, processed and referred to the State Manpower System.

Shortly after our program began, it became apparent to the AFN Manpower Offices that the system had shortcomings which if continued, could preclude many qualified Alaskan Natives in ultimately getting pipeline work.

Associated with this discovery, AFN identified three major requirements which could facilitate entry into pipeline related employment.

First — detailed and close classification work would be required on all our clients so that the right craft (union) and skills could be identified.

Secondly — a system was needed to associate and connect our qualified clients with several unions.

Finally — an arrangement should be found to call-in and expose qualified rural clients to the job calls being made at Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Beginning with the 1975 construction year, AFN was able to correct these major shortcomings by first, cataloging all our clients into job ready listings or training lists.

These job ready lists are used daily in alerting contractors and unions of our people wanting and who are ready for pipeline connected employment. For those who must be trained before employment, they are referred on a weekly basis to the State

Employment System:

Secondly, placing our people with unions for dispatch involves our most critical and time consuming phase of our operations. This is done by establishing a daily and continuous liaison with most of the impacted unions. Daily contact is also maintained with major contractors to determine manpower needs etc.

Thirdly, AFN, working with the State and private contractors was successful in establishing staging areas at Anchorage and Fairbanks where rural job ready and job seeking people are called and held until we can place them thru the unions and into pipeline related jobs.

Because of the importance and the great effort that is required at the hiring points which are Anchorage and Fairbanks, the AFN Manpower effort will concentrate its activities at these two locations during our second years' operations.

We have notified the State, BIA and CETA Title III Employment Systems throughout Alaska to refer Alaskan Natives who wish pipeline employment to our offices at Anchorage and Fairbanks.

As of the end of March 1975, 2,834 Alaskan Natives had been employed by Alyeska Contractors. A major portion of this number were assisted by the AFN Manpower effort.

It is only fair to report that any successes that were achieved during this first construction year must give credit to not only AFN and its subcontractors but also to Alyeska and its contractors, to the unions, to the State Department of Labor, to the BIA and to all our Native Regions.

It is only through the help and honest cooperation of all these agencies will the program continue to be successful in the future.

'Proj. Now' in Fairbanks

The excitement of observing creativity mixed with the learning process called education is sometimes difficult to capture. But it seems to fill every crack in the rooms occupied by Project NOW, a JOM Program in Fairbanks.

One step inside and you feel happiness and a positive attitude. Project NOW has several different areas a student can explore as an outlet of expression through multi-media.

Photography takes on a different dimension, not just looking at things differently and taking a picture, but actually watching a print come to life in a darkroom.

Writing becomes a challenge because a newspaper must go out and journalism is a tool for sending information to many people. Then there is the video-taping, technology of films and watching something you created later.

These media are all around us in our present life. Television and newspapers are a way to express to others how you see yourself.

Exploring artistic ability in the skills of beadwork and skin sewing, woodcuts and silkscreens becomes more than manipulative skills. They take on a dimension of design and techniques.

Project NOW has been funded through the Johnson O-Malley monies since AFN became the Prime Contractor. It is a supplemental JOM Education Program administered by Fairbanks Native Association, sub-contractors to the Statewide AFN/JOM Contract.

The project provides the boarding home students in the Fairbanks area and Fairbanks students with a center for developing their creative expressions.

The success of the program was observed last month at the Project NOW Show — there were photo-essays, video-tapes, batiks, ceramics, weavings, parkas,

jewelry, and many other creations. The show was a display of great accomplishments.

All around, excited students show what they can do and reveal themselves and their world. Education is a creative process and Project NOW is living proof.

Next Meeting Of AFN Board On June 26

A regular monthly meeting of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, June 26th in Anchorage.

The main agenda items are the 13th Region issue, pending legislation, Administrative Budget, Section 7(i) Meeting, and other items.

Senator Ted Stevens was invited to attend the Board meeting to discuss the Omnibus Bill introduced in May. He will be unable to be at the meeting, but has arranged to be available on June 28th to meet with Board members and others interested.

Stevens has included language relating to the *Edwardsen vs. Morton* case and has asked that the Senate Interior Committee not take any action on any amendments until he can get suitable language to solve the problem he and the State of Alaska have with the *Edwardsen vs. Morton* decision.

This decision relates to the trespass on Native lands prior to the Claims Settlement and there is a possibility that Natives can receive monetary compensation for those trespasses.

Although AFN, Inc. Board has taken no stand on this subject, the Regional Corporations seem to feel that this is not an appropriate subject for the land claims amendments because the issue should be settled in the Courts, not in Congress.