

# Nelson, Larson awarded for outstanding work with children

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Dolores Nelson and Valerie Larson of Anchorage have been awarded a Child Development Associate Credential in recognition of outstanding work with young children, according to Cook Inlet Tribal Council.

The credentials were awarded by the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition in Washington, D.C., which represents the early childhood profession through its affiliation with the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

The CDA is the only major national effort to improve child care by evaluating and recognizing the skills of individuals providing care. Since its inception 15 year ago, 42 states plus

the District of Columbia now include the CDA in child care licensing regulations. Others are considering similar action.

Candidates being considered for the CDA credential are observed working with young children and evaluated by a team consisting of early childhood experts and a parent.

The candidate must demonstrate the ability to work with families to develop a child's physical and intellectual capabilities in a safe and healthy learning environment.

Larson and Nelson are currently employed with CITC's Head Start Program. They are the first recipients in the Anchorage area Native Head Start to receive CDA credentials.



*Dolores Nelson, left, and Valerie Larson awarded Child Development Associate Credentials by early childhood professional council.*