

# AFN Healthright Project to Provide Funds for Health Work

Rural areas in Southwestern Alaska will be the major beneficiaries of a \$1.1 million program for improved health care and facilities funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity.

The Alaska Federation of Natives Healthright Project will provide money for several programs to provide comprehensive health service for over 24,000 residents in the most rural areas of Western Alaska. Receipt of the grant was announced last week by Senator Ted Stevens

of Alaska.

The Healthright project will include provisions to train health aides, develop ambulatory care facilities and provide a wide range of service in communities in Central Alaska and the Nome area.

Under the training programs provided for, 40 village health aides will receive 10 weeks of training in paramedical medicine from the Alaska Native Health Service at Bethel and in Anchorage.

An advanced course of training, similar to the program for medical corpsmen in the armed forces, will be administered by the staff and physicians of the Public Health Service.

The project provides for the renovation of buildings to be used as ambulatory care units in five villages. Plans for similar care units in six other villages are also being made.

In the Central and Nome areas of Alaska, the OEO money will be used for a wide range of services. These include expansion of existing community sanitation programs, added dental and other services developing an educated group of resident health aides.

## 4-H Club of Beaver Hold Its Election

On September 16 the 4-H club of Beaver met and organized the club for 1970-71. The 19 members elected the following officers:

Bonnie Adams-President; Norman Joseph-Vice President; Darlene Billy-Secretary; Jerry Henry-Reporter; Alice Cruikshank and Ulak Hope, Recreation Leaders; Debby Pitka and Gilbert Joseph,

Refreshment Committee.

On October 14th the club had its second meeting. The boys of the club have been making wall plaques.

Arlene Pitka, Alice Cruikshank, and Gloria Pitka are making blouses.

The third meeting was held November 18.

## Water and Sewer Plan Study for Rural Areas

Governor Keith H. Miller announced that the application for Alaska's state-wide comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan has been approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration in Washington, D.C.

The \$290,000 grant is Phase I of a multiphase state-wide planning effort involving all of Alaska's rural areas, including communities of less than 5,500 population, the Governor added.

Governor Miller said that the \$290,000 grant covers one of the six planning areas of Alaska; in particular the Interior Planning Area which is bounded by the Yukon Territory on the east, the Brooks Range on the north, the Alaska Range on the south, and the configuration of the Yukon and Koyukuk Rivers on the east.

The Governor said that work on the remaining five Planning Areas will take place soon after the Farmers Home Administration, as well as other Federal agencies, have an opportunity to evaluate the progress of this initial program.

Governor Miller said that this FHA planning grant is the first large regional water and sewer planning program to be undertaken in the State and totally funded by Federal monies. No State or local matching funds will be required.

The Governor added that the program administration will be provided by the State Planning and Research Division with technical support for this phase coming from Lee S. Linck and Floyd A. Ohlsen's Alaska Architectural and Engineering Company of Fairbanks.



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