

Kawerak Native Garment making

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Twenty women from 10 villages in the Bering Straits region attended a garment making class held at the Northwest Community College building Jan. 31 through Feb. 8. They were taught how to sew summer parkas (kuspuks) in a certain way so that the garments could be marketed.

Each lady was given a new Singer Golden Touch and Sew sewing machine to take back to the village so that they can make kuspuks for Kawerak, Inc. Kawerak, Inc. has an order for 1,000 kuspuks from areas outside of Alaska.

The purpose of the class is to start a cooperative cottage industry in the villages. The

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Kawerak . . .

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Bering Straits Arts and Crafts Co-op will be responsible for the ordering and marketing of the garments until the cooperative is at a stage where they can do the marketing themselves.

The instructors of the course were Frieda Larson, owner of Fred and Frieda's Garments here in Nome and Carolyn Morgan, home economics teacher at Nome/Beltz High School.

Funds were made available for the workshop by BIA Employment Assistance and State funds (CETA, Title I). Kawerak Educational Services and Northwest Community College sponsored the workshop.

The following women attended the workshop: Mary Amaktoolik and Florence Willoya of Golovin, Becky Slwooko and Margie Apatiki of Gambell, Kathy Noongwook and Dorothy Waghiyi of Savoonga, Faye Ongtawasruk and Betty Oxereok of Wales, Clara Sookiayak and Mable Takak of Shaktoolik, Blanche Day and Norma Anasogak of Koyuk, Helen Jack and Digna Andrews of Stebbins, Elizabeth Katogan and Martha Paul of Elim, Fannie Barr and Betty Eningowuk of Shishmaref, Helen Koyuk and Bernadette Aketachunak of St. Michael.