

NYC Program Well Received

The Neighborhood Youth Corps Program in Alaska, ever since its introduction in the state by the Office of Economic Opportunity, has been well received by the rural areas.

The following comments about NYC are from widely separated localities in Alaska.

Paul Hoxie wrote from Arctic Village to Ambrose Towarak, former regional director of the Fairbanks office of the NYC now replaced by Joe Nichols, said:

"Thank you for giving my request for Neighborhood Youth Corps program such prompt and positive action. The people of the town really appreciate it."

From James W. Griffin, NYC supervisor at Barrow:

"I feel that we have had a fine program going here for the past 12 months with our dropout, in school, and summer programs. I think I have put about as much time into this as any extracurricular activity that I have had...

"It curtailed my hunting and fishing quite a bit. I did it for the sake of the kids."

NYC supervisor for Huslia, Michael S. Clien, wrote to Towarak:

"On behalf of the village of Huslia and myself, I would like to thank you and the NYC program for making jobs and monies available for the youth of our village.

"In this context, I would like to apply for another NYC grant—program for this summer for about 14 youths. We hope you will be able to continue this fine program."

Bobby W. Esai, supervisor at Nikolai:

"The NYC is doing a real great job for our village."

D. S. Braden said of the program at McGrath:

"In general, the program was well accepted in McGrath by both the community and the children involved. I recommend that it be continued throughout the school year as well as the summer season."

John Worlund from Tanana:

"I believe the most important benefit of the NYC is learning the responsibilities of a job. Things as reporting to work on time and performing the task assigned are fundamental to any job."

Alfred Grant and a Mr. Matthew, also from Tanana:

Grant: "I feel that the Youth Corps employees have learned a little about self support through this program."

Matthew: "I feel the program gives a sense of responsibility and valuable experience in working with others. It also gives the person an idea of what type of work he would like to enter after leaving school and may decrease the dropout rate."