

# Native Health Aide Program Speeds Up

The training program for Alaska Native Community Health aides (ANCHAT) moves into high gear in 1969 with employment of a second instructor by the Alaska Area Native Health Service.

Mrs. R. Elaine Arrington, a public health nurse who formerly worked in the state for the Alaska Department of Health and Welfare, will assume her employment with the U.S. Public Health Service in mid-January according to Mr. Donovan C. Shook, Chief, Office of Training Services for the Alaska Area.

Mrs. Arrington is presently employed in the Outpatient Department of Kettering Memorial Hospital, Kettering, Ohio. From the fall of 1966 to October, 1968 she worked for ADH as a public health nurse in the Nome area.

Prior to that she was employed in her PHN role with the Frederick County Health Department in Maryland. She received her BS degree at Columbia Union College, Takoma Park, Maryland and her masters degree in public health nursing at Boston University.

She is a member of the American Nurses Association.

The new instructor will join Mrs. Eva Boyce who has been coordinator and instructor for the ANCHAT program for the

past year.

Planned are twelve courses for a total of 115 Aides between now and May 29. The first classes of the new year began in Bethel January 13 and will continue through January 24.

Mrs. Arrington will monitor this group's instruction before undertaking subsequent courses in Bethel, Kanakanak, and Kotzebue. Mrs. Boyce, meanwhile, will teach courses in Tanana and Anchorage during the same period.

Mr. Shook reports that more than \$22,000 has already gone out to Aides in the special PHS payment arrangement which began for services given in October. More than 140 of the some 185 Aides authorized have already completed necessary paper work for issuance of purchase orders.

To be paid, Aides must indicate in writing their willingness to serve under the direction of a Health professional, be designated by their village council or other official group, and have their status as having been on duty verified by the Service Unit Director in the region in which their community is located.