

Editorial



RurAL CAP focuses on sobriety

by Jeanine Kennedy

Rural Alaska Community Action Program

RurAL CAP, which has been at the forefront of the "Sobriety Movement" is currently changing gears and moving forward. In December 1984, the RurAL CAP Board of Directors adopted a mission statement: "To work toward the creation of a Native world unimpaired by alcohol."

Doug Modig and Amy Lohr have been instrumental in engaging rural Alaskans in the healing needed to move beyond substance abuse by working directly with villages as well as coordination and sharing with other organizations and agencies involved in the Sobriety Movement statewide.

We are sad to say Doug and Amy are leaving RurAL CAP to begin their own contractual business. While we will miss their leadership, we realize that change and growth are inevitable.

Mixed with the sadness of the loss is also a happiness that the state is gaining two well trained community and development trainers who are taking an empowering step in their own development. We wish them well and thank them for the time they spent with RurAL CAP.

A major emphasis of RurAL CAP has been to empower Native people. This empowerment process continues in the RurAL CAP Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program which develops Alaska Natives interested in being facilitators and trainers in community and personal development.

The continued focus of the RurAL CAP Alcohol Prevention Program will be to provide culturally appropriate personal and community development trainings; to continue to facilitate monthly statewide teleconferences for the purposes of sharing information and resources; and to develop a training program to train Native people who are interested in facilitating personal and community development trainings at the village level.

RurAL CAP has conducted a series of personal and community development trainings in the past year. The next training will occur Oct. 7-11, and the focus will be on Family System.

When people begin to sober up, issues begin to surface in the family. This workshop will provide skills and tools to heal family issues and to assist in the move toward healthy, strong families.

As you can read, many things are happening within the RurAL CAP Alcohol Program. As a statewide program, we have resources from around the state to share. We hope we get to know all of you better.

We thank the *Tundra Times* for this opportunity to tell you about growth and change in the RurAL CAP Alcohol Program.

