Housing authority starts care center

The Cook Inlet Housing Authority and the Sisters of Providence Corps. have announced the start of construction for the Mary Conrad Center, a 90-bed care facility for the handicapped and frail elderly in east Anchorage.

The center, near the existing Cook Inlet housing project, is due to open in late summer or early fall of 1987.

It is a project of the Cook Inlet Housing Authority, part of Cook Inlet Region Inc.'s group of non-profit companies. The housing authority, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the state have worked together to form a partnerhip in the delivery of services for the elderly.

Project funding is on a shared basis among HUD, the state and Rainier Bank-Alaska.

The Mary Conrad Center will be owned by the housing authority and managed by the Sisters of Providence Corps. The sisters have been active in Alaska health care since 1902.

The center is named after Sister Mary Conrad, the first Sister of Providence to arrive in Alaska and the founder of the former Holy Cross Hospital in Nome.