

*Courses Conducted at Columbia University—*

# **ASHA Announces On-the-Job Training for Housing Specialists**

Robert H. Schenker, Executive Director of the Alaska State Housing Authority, is pleased to announce that on-the-job training for a housing specialist student is being provided by that agency in conjunction with a program sponsored jointly by the National Urban Coalition, Columbia University and the Foundation for Cooperative Housing.

Alfred C. Nakak, a 22 year old Eskimo from Nome, is the only student from Alaska who is participating in the Housing Specialist Program which is funded by the Ford Foundation.

A total of 40 students from several states were involved in this year's program which began with a seven-week seminar at

Columbia University in New York City.

To conclude the program, each of the students in attendance receive four months' on-the-job training in various federal, state, and local agencies dealing with the implementation of housing programs.

The Housing Specialist Program is the only one of its kind in the country, and its main function is to train primarily minority students to become professional technicians to work with federal low and middle-income housing programs.

Mr. Nakak is on a leave of absence from his position in Nome as Center Director of the Inupiak Development Corporation, a branch of RurAL CAP,

to allow him to benefit from the highly specialized studies being offered through the training program.

According to Robert Schenker, approximately two weeks of on-the-job training at the Housing Authority will be aimed at familiarizing Mr. Nakak with the Alaska Remote Housing Program and the federally-subsidized programs undertaken by ASHA, which will include the 50-unit Turnkey III Housing Project being developed in Mr. Nakak's hometown in Nome.

Upon completion of the full four months' on-the-job training received through different Alaskan agencies, Mr. Nakak will receive a certificate in Washington, D.C. classifying him as a Housing

Development Specialist after which he will return to Alaska to assist communities in alleviating housing problems.