

KACDC Grant

John Shively, Executive Director of RurAL CAP, has announced that the Kodiak Area Community Development Corporation has been the recipient of a \$53,000 grant from the Office of Economic Opportunity to improve health services and facilities for elderly persons.

Under the grant, it is planned to establish a Senior Citizen Center for the first time in Kodiak, which will act as a coordinating vehicle for all funds coming into the community for the aged; hot meals will be served and nutritional education will be provided to older persons and their families.

The need for improved services to this group has been a regional priority of the KACDC since its inception and includes providing transportation, arranging appointments and referrals, providing follow-up on clients and distributing foodstuffs to the elderly and their families.

Programs will be coordinated and supportive services provided for adequate housing, better medical and dental services, emergency food and improved food stamp opportunities.

Highest priority will be given to families with lowest cash incomes and to those who are not now participating in a food assistance program.

The director said other agencies and organizations are involved and have expressed a need to deliver services to the elderly.

Many people are not aware of services that are available to them or the mechanics of applying or participating in certain programs, and a newsletter will be established to keep the elderly informed about programs and benefits that will affect them.

This will include nutritional items as well as supporting services available to them on the local, state and federal level.

The hot meal program will provide ten people one hot meal daily, five days a week for the first six months; 15 people the following six months and 25 people during the last six months of the program which will be initiated in Kodiak the first six months and then move out to

the villages.

It is estimated that approximately 400 persons on Kodiak Island would be eligible to

participate in the program. This included Ouzinkie, Port Lions, Larsen Bay, Karluk, Akhiok and Old Harbor.