

Norton Sound hosts health workshops

Norton Sound Health Corporation has received a special grant entitled "Community Health Project Planning for Village Councils in Northwest Alaska" to put on public workshops on community health issues in four villages of Bering Straits region between this October and May. The grant covers largely travel costs, supplies, and small stipends for unemployed people selected to go. The resource people, will be health planners and scientists from the region including Norton Sound staff, and others including biologists, geologists and social scientists.

The main purposes of the workshops will be to:

1. To increase and improve methods of communication between citizens of isolated communities and scientists willing to serve as resource people to them in problem solving, upon request.

2. To give citizens an opportunity to learn methods of health planning which they can use to work on community health problems which they have selected.

About 15 resource people have volunteered to work on this project. The Norton Sound Board will be responsible for getting the information out to their communities and assisting coordination of the workshops, as well as follow-up support to the communities working on their own health projects.

The villages chosen will, based on interest, be one from the north, the upper Sound, lower Sound and St. Lawrence Island. Norton Sound is currently contacting the Health Councils in each village to see which ones would like to host a workshop. There will be enough money to bring in 9-12 delegates from surrounding villages to each of the workshops.

For further information contact Darryl Trigg or Nancy Mendenhall at Norton Sound.