

Native Health Conference to be held in October

On October 22, 1980, a Statewide Native Health Conference will be held at the Anchorage Sheraton Hotel. The Conference, in conjunction with the AFN Convention, is co-sponsored by the Alaska Native Health Board and the Alaska Federation of Natives. This year's theme is: Our Health, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.

The purpose of the Conference is to promote the development of the highest possible standards for the delivery of quality health care to Alaska Natives. It will address a variety of topics dealing with health promotion, awareness and training. Seminars and panel discussions will examine issues and policies affecting present and future health care delivery.

The conference will also provide the opportunity for the 12 Native regions to honor their outstanding Community Health Aides. Each region will select one Community Health Aide who has made an outstanding contribution to the health and well-being of individuals in the community he/she serves.

The Conference is an outgrowth of a health workshop held in October, 1978 at the

AFN Convention. The recommendation that was adopted by the 1978 AFN Convention required that the "Alaska Native Health Board and AFN plan and arrange for a statewide health conference or seminar..." The Alaska Native Health Board, with the support of AFN, submitted a proposal to the Indian Health Service and received funding to plan, coordinate and evaluate a statewide Native health conference.

Currently the Alaska Native Health Board is soliciting input from the Regional Health Corporations, IHS personnel, village Health Aides and all other individuals who are interested. The Board needs information regarding any topics of interest regarding the delivery of health care to Alaska Natives. The Board is also interested in identifying individuals and organizations who have developed areas of expertise in any aspect of health care.

These organizations and individuals will be asked to share their skills and competence with the Conference participants. Any health related books, pamphlets, displays, films, slide shows, videotapes, etc. that individuals and organizations have developed are being identified and will be shared with others

at the Conference. Any ideas on topics or other aspects of the Conference should be directed to the Alaska Native Health Board office at 1689 "C" Street, Suite 230, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. Telephone 276-8989.

The Alaska Native Health Board is composed of representatives from 11 of the Regional Health Corporations. Regions represented include: Aleutian/Pribilof Island Association, Inc., Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation, Cook Inlet Native Association, Mauneluk Association, The North Pacific Rim, North Slope Borough Health Corporation, Norton Sound Health Corporation, Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation, and Tanana Chiefs Conference.

The Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation sends an observer to Board meetings. Ethel Gonzales, Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation, is Chairperson. Dr. David Cates is the Executive Director. Members of the Conference Planning Committee include: Jennifer R. Evans, Cook Inlet Native Association; Bob Worl,

North Slope Borough Health Corporation; and Darryl Trigg, Norton Sound Health Corporation.

Elaine Hultengren is the Health Conference Coordinator. For more information, contact Elaine at 276-8989.
