

CHAs learn midwifery



By Renee Pelowski

This article is just a short update to keep you informed as to what's happening in the Community Health Aide Program.

We are pleased to let you know we had Carolyn Aoyama, consultant-midwife here in Barrow to teach a 3-day crash course concerning pregnant women, prenatal care, labor and delivery.

So that means, ladies (and gentlemen too — you can come with your partner) you should run to the clinic in your village to see the Health Aide (before you have to “waddle” in) and let them check you over if you think you're pregnant.

Most importantly, continue to see your CHA during your pregnancy and plan to have your child in the hospital to assure your and your child's safety and health.

Besides — those CHAs need a chance to show you their stuff!!

Well, after attending the classes in Barrow, 4 of the CHAs moved on to Anchorage to attend the Emergency Medical Services Symposium. One of the Coordinator/Instructors (me) also attended — and let me tell you, there was plenty to learn — and learn we did. There were day-long classes concerning toxicology or poisoning, infectious diseases, rescue efforts, etc. These ladies will carry this knowledge back to the villages with them and use it to improve your health care.

While in Anchorage, I also attended a seminar entitled “Motivating Employees” presented by Dunn & Bradstreet, Inc. It was a day-long seminar/workshop which left me with plenty of useful ideas and solutions.