

Youths share concerns about Exxon Valdez spill

CORDOVA — Ninety-three young people ages 4 to 18 from communities hit by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, including Tatitlek and Chenega, had a chance to share their concerns earlier this month at the Cordova High School.

The event was coordinated by the Child Care Task Force of Cordova and the Susitna Girl Scouts, according to Gayle Campbell, Girl Scouts spokeswoman.

Meeting with the youths was a team of 20 professionals, including therapists, musicians, environmental educators, teachers and volunteer coordinators.

Children spent part of the time creating artwork to express their feelings. They were given an opportunity to put their finished artwork on a seven-foot chicken-wire totem pole that remains on display as a symbol of the day in the Cordova Library.

Youth from Tatitlek and Chenega Bay were brought to the event through the efforts of North Pacific Rim.

Sponsors for the day included Exxon, the State of Alaska and the Prince William Sound Rehabilitation and Clean-up Fund. Charter North Hospital also provided both staff and followup material.