

# Development grants awarded to Native groups

Fifteen grants, totaling \$1.5 million, have been awarded for Native development projects in Alaska.

The grants were awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and will be administered by the Administration for Native Americans.

"By awarding these grants in this manner," Rep. Don Young said, "the Department of Health and Human Services has demonstrated they believe Native leaders in Alaska are most capable of using the money to benefit their communities in the best way possible."

Sen. Ted Stevens said, "These grants will help strengthen local village governments and foster economic activities to provide more employment opportunities in rural areas. I urge other Native communities to take a close look at this program and consider how it could be applied in their areas."

Dorcas Hardy, Assistant

Secretary for the Department of Health and Human Services, heads the administrative office of the program.

"The Administration for Native Americans hopes to demonstrate, as it has in the past in the lower 48 states, that providing funds directly to a local government and putting them in control will show definite, measurable impact on the community," Hardy said.

Grant recipients are:

Aleut Community of St. Paul, \$152,200, to provide planning, administrative and economic development services during transition period from the phase-out of National Marine Fishery Service to the development of a new economic base related to fisheries which will provide permanent jobs and establish new businesses;

Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association, Inc., \$75,000, to

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provide assistance to four villages to develop economic initiatives that will develop a local economic base for moving toward self-sufficiency;

Angoon Community Association, \$59,596, to strengthen the administrative capacities with respect to planning, management and economic development; secure a loan of hatchery development which is expected to reduce unemployment by 50 percent; establish a fish processing plant and establish Indian-owned businesses;

Association of Village Council Presidents, \$86,714, to assist in the organization of up

to 30 village governing structures and functioning judicial system with locally appropriate codes.

Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes, \$100,102, to establish an inter-community computer network in five rural Southeast Alaska communities which will assist in social and economic development and secure job placements for 50 Indians;

Copper River Native Association, \$50,000, to assist eight villages in the Ahtna Region in securing funding and managing village accounting and accountability reporting;

Fairbanks Native Association, Inc., \$80,474, to establish

10 new Native businesses including the expansion of current business and work with local and distant government agencies to become a provider of contract services;

Ketchikan Indian Corporation, \$75,965, to establish a child care facility for employed persons and those in school using a barter system, in part, for low-income users;

Native Village of Kotzebue, \$90,353, to increase Native employment through the enactment of employment ordinances and affirmative action.

Nikolai Village, \$150,000, to establish a commercial transportation system and create

jobs related to the timber industry;

North Pacific Rim, \$156,253, to implement local strategies for social and economic development to include bingo, space rental, village planning, ordinance development and land use;

Maniilaq Association, \$57,627, to plan for the establishment tribal codes and procedures for Indian child welfare services; to promote state/tribal agreements; and increase the numbers of services provided by tribal governments that are now provided by federal employees;

St. George Traditional Coun-

cil, \$145,000, to establish an economic base for the local economy to adjust to the withdrawal of National Marine Fisheries Service for the Pribilof control over the operation and development of infrastructure services;

Stevens Village Council, \$30,406, to plan and operate a fuel and service business at junction of Yukon River and Dalton Highway;

Village of Selawik, \$210,000, to establish a fish processing enterprise that will create permanent jobs by taking advantage of under-utilized fish and modern processing and marketing.