

# Alternate health aides meet in Copper Center

**COPPER CENTER**—The first annual alternate health aide training program for the Ahtna region was held here from July 24 through August 4.

The students—who come from villages throughout the Copper River Basin—were trained to step in when a village's primary health aide is absent.

Said Lucille Thomas, Health Director at the Copper River Native Association: "They're there to be on call to help in common emergencies." Ms. Thomas explained that in addition to handling simple problems, village health aides

help channel persons with major ailments to medical care outside the village.

Homemaker aides (who render care to older people) also attended the workshop.

Alternate health aides are trained in a variety of health-related subjects, including anatomy and physical examinations, drug abuse, Well Baby screening and CPR.

The training program was attended by: Martha Goodlataw, Marie Craig, Beth Jackson, Ceciela Larson, Mae Marshall, Sheila Studstill, and Lucille Thomas—all from Copper Center;

Jessi Berberich and Muriel Cotter of Cantwell; Edna Charley, Evelyn Charley, Roxanne Kruckeberg and Mary Sanford of Chistochina; Sally Hale of Chitina; Sarah Kell of Mentasta, and Naomi Master of Gulkana.

At the workshop, Edna Charley received a Community Health Aide Training Certificate from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. This means she has met the needs of 24 college credits. Ms. Charley is the first to receive the certificate under the area's Community Health Aide Program.



**COPPER CENTER**—Barbara Bayless, area mental health technician, listens to behavior expert Eugene K. deValera at a July Human Services Workshop.