

Rural Employment Services on Expansion

A new program to expand and intensify employment services for rural residents was announced last week by Gov. Keith Miller.

Miller said the Department of Labor's Smaller Communities Program staff will be increased August 1 to include three man-

power specialists whose main duty will be to develop job opportunities for rural Alaskans and to arrange for vocational training when necessary.

"Many rural Alaskans do not have the means to learn about job openings and training opportunities as our urban citizens

do," Miller said. "Therefore, we are obligated to bring this service to them."

Funding of the manpower specialist positions was approved during the last session of the legislature after state efforts to obtain federal monies for them proved unsuccessful.

Miller said the manpower specialists will spend the majority of their time in Alaska's smaller towns and villages assisting residents on an individual basis to locate jobs and increase their employability through training programs at the Alaska Skill Center and other locations.