

Advisory Board On Alcoholism

Evelyn Myers, RurAL CAP Alcoholism Training Coordinator, Cyrus Peck, Jr., Southeast Regional Alcoholism Counselor, and Joe Meade, Chief Administrative Services, RurAL CAP, attended the Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism held in Juneau Feb. 23.

The Governor's Board reviewed alcoholism grant applications for funding this fiscal year, and RurAL CAP will be receiving a total grant award of \$46,000. Forty thousand dollars will be utilized for salary increases and travel for seven regional alcoholism counselors. Evelyn Myers stated, "The salaries of our alcoholism staff are not at all in line with the work load of our counselors. We need to be realistic with the spiraling cost of living in our state.

"We have operated our regional alcoholism programs on a shoestring and travel within our regions has to be quite limited. We still will have budgetary limitations, but will be able to function in an expanded capacity.

"The State Office of Alcoholism and their board is demonstrating their concern for reaching all of Alaska by this grant award. Six thousand dollars of this is for innovative ideas in the field of alcoholism, and our staff will be discussing the best ways to implement this amount."

The regional counselors, i.e. Lena Andree, Dillingham; Sarah Cravens, Fort Yukon; Constantine Emanoff, St. Paul Island; Rodney Hunnicutt, Kotzebue; Stewart Nicolai, Copper Center; Cyrus Peck, Jr., Juneau; and Ted Velanis, Kodiak, are all busy in their respective regions.

The alcoholism staff will be attending an Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Board meeting in Anchorage followed by a Preventative Approaches to Alcoholism workshop in Copper Center the week of April 8 through 13.