

4 Agencies Join to Push Information Service

At a meeting held in RurAL CAP's Executive Offices on May 28th, attended by Joe Smith of Community Economic Development Corporation, Bill Jacobs of Alaska Legal Services, Jon Buchholdt of Greater Anchorage Area Community Action Agency, and John Shively, RurAL CAP Deputy Director, it was decided that the four agencies would join in a combined effort news and information service to take effect June 1st.

The program will run for 90 days under the direction of Mrs. Laura McCarley, and the purpose of the program will be to provide as much information as possible to the rural areas of Alaska about the agencies that theoretically put "hands across the tundra" to assist the Natives of Alaska, not only in their rural environment, but in their emergence to urbanization.

The new program will provide general information, news releases, a clipping service, and a bimonthly newsletter of combined agency news to a mailing list of approximately 2000.

It is hoped that this service will bring about an awareness of the existing OEO funded agencies their functions and purposes, and will create a liaison between rural and urban Alaska.

Mrs. McCarley has also expressed a desire for the program to reach the status of "ombudsman" for the Native people of

this state, and requests that as much information as possible be directed to her in care of RurAL CAP in Anchorage.

Land claims information will figure prominently in the program, as well as matters of housing, rural development, village cooperatives, education and health facilities.