CAP Holds Alcoholism Counselor Training Program

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, in coordination with Annie Bowen, Trainer for OEO Alcoholism Programs, and Jerry Endres, Community Development Specialist from the University of California Extension at Santa Cruz, recently held a Native alcoholism counselor training program in Anchorage.

In the fall of 1971, RurAL CAP and the Greater Anchorage Area Community Action Agency selected Annie Bowen, who is currently working as an alcoholism counselor for the Greater Anchorage Area Health Department, and Cyrus Peck, Jr. of COMPAS (Community Property and Service Corporation) at Fairbanks, as potential alcoholism counselor trainers.

They attended five weeks of extensive training at the University of California Extension at Santa Cruz. During the last week of training, Cy and Ann wrote the curriculum for the Native- alcoholism counselor training which was held in Anchorage February 6 through 18.

Much of the program's coordination was done by Annie Bowen, Jerry Endres, and Peter Kunnuk, Director of Special Projects at RurAL CAP.

Participating in the February training were RurAL CAP's seven rural counselors: Lena Andree, Dillingham; Emil Berikoff, Unalaska; Richard Carroll, Fort Yukon; Evelyn Myers, Juneau; Stewart Nicholai, Copper Center Margaret Schultz, Kotzebue, and Ted Velanis, Kodiak.

The six participants from the Anchorage area were Hilda Sullivan, Native Welcome Center; Deanne Ohrazda, Greater Anchorage Area Community Action Agency and Ben Pike, Craig Anderson, Joseph Andrews and Paul Johns all of the Anchorage Borough Health Department.

Whittier Williams was the State participant from Kotzebue. Much of the coordination of the program was done by Annie Bowen, Jerry Endres, and Peter Kunnuk, Director of Special Projects at RurAL CAP.

The first week of training centered on information re-

source gathering. People from various agencies gave presentations on how their services could be utilized by the individual counselors.

During the second week, the counselors developed an organization called the Urban and Ru-

ral Alcoholism Counselors Association. The purpose of the association is for all concerned counselors within the State as an organization further develop their skills in counseling and support of alcoholism programs within the State.