

McDonald Becomes Chief Of Nutrition, Dietetics for PHS

Mrs. Barbara McDonald has recently assumed her duties with the U. S. Public Health Service here as Chief of the Nutrition and Dietetics Branch of the Alaska Native Health Area.

She came to Anchorage from Window Rock, Arizona where since 1959 she had held a similar PHS position working with the Navajo.

Mrs. McDonald served as Chief Nutritionist for the State of Arkansas for eight years.

She received her masters degree in nutrition from the University of Tennessee and was Associate Professor of Public Health Nutrition for that institution at Knoxville.

Other assignments in the same general field have included work with the Palm Beach Health Department in Florida where she was in charge of a Children's Bureau project for migrant health and health services.

Her work in Alaska will be family and community centered and will concentrate on improving the total Native family health situation in terms of nutrition.

Mrs. McDonald will direct the work of field and hospital nutritionists and all will be concerned with food—how to

choose and use the best combination for health from what is available.

This includes situations involving food stamps, commodity goods and mixtures of all—Native foods and prepared items.

Field work will also emphasize how to prevent disease or control some special health condition through proper food use and how to treat a modified diet in a family setting for a convalescent or other family member requiring specialized foods.

Mrs. McDonald and her staff will work closely with nurses and others related to the village family food supply.