

# How Legal Services Can Help

*(EDITOR'S NOTE: A new and good friend of Native people is the Alaska Legal Services. We asked them to tell our readers what they're doing. Read the following story carefully and remember if you need help, CALL THEM.)*

Alaska Legal Services provides lawyers and legal assistance to anyone who can't afford a lawyer, at no charge or cost. These services are provided to persons whose income is under the official O.E.O. poverty levels.

In order to find out whether you qualify, you may contact any one of the thirteen offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Fort Yukon, Barrow, Kotzebue, Nome, Galena, Bethel, Dillingham, Kodiak, and Kake.

Alaska Legal Services can help you in many ways. At present it is helping people from the Fort Yukon area sue the State of Alaska to force the State to provide the food stamp program there. Alaska Legal Services also gives a hand to those Alaskans who have been given children and do not have adoption papers to protect the children's rights and benefits. Some people have no record of their birth, Legal Services can help.

Others wish to form cooperatives to catch and sell their fish at higher prices, or to purchase and own their fishing boats, here again, look to Legal Services.

Sometimes people need help in getting enough money or aid for them to buy food and find housing.

If any persons feel they have been cheated or treated unfairly they should telephone, write a letter, or visit one of the Alaska Legal Services nearest them.