

New health facilities to help promote better care

By Mike Stackhouse

Director
NSB Health Department

It is the Health Department's responsibility to promote "well-being," family health care and to enhance the quality of life with the residents of the North Slope Borough.

Our villages now have new Community Health Care Facilities with advanced medical technology and equipment, to warrant optimum health care. The burden of village travel expenses for health care will be reduced. Doctors and professionals will come to the villages with these better facilities, providing family health care.

The heart of any program or system must involve the participation and feedback of the people whose services it directly affects. Hence the establishment of the North Slope Borough Health Board and Coordinator

beginning in July.

We're also developing a pilot program paralleling the Health Aide Program but specializing in Village Social Health Care. It involves a Coordinator to administer and inter-act with local Health Boards to hire, train, and support local persons to work with the confronting social ills affecting their respective villages.

The central focal point of village health care success has been the Village Health Aides themselves. The village Health Aide is trained in primary health care, diagnostic skills, treatment of minor diseases, teaching and managing emergencies. These Aides are the core of our health care delivery system, working in their own communities, sharing a common language and assumptive worldview.

FY '84-85 properly reflects the combined determination of

the Health Department and the present Administration to provide quality health care with the residents throughout the North Slope Borough and an opportunity to participate meaningfully in this process. The challenges are many, the task lies before us; we must continue

to work together to build strong healthy communities.

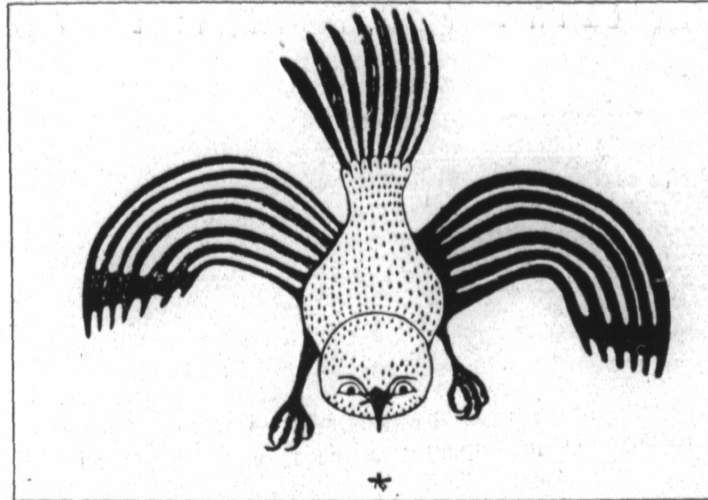
There has been an administration change within the NSB Health Department. IDA OLEMAUN is the Deputy Director in charge of Social Health Services. She is a highly qualified community leader long recog-

nized for her concerns and involvement with social issues confronting the people of the North Slope.

BARBARY BATHONY is the Deputy Director in charge of Physical Health Services. She is an Advanced Nurse Practitioner with a Master's Degree in Community Health and Administration.

CINDY YOUNG is the Deputy Director in charge of Central Administration Support Services. She is an Emergency Nurse Practitioner, registered Flight Nurse and a Clinical Specialist in EMS.

And myself, MIKE STACKHOUSE, Director of the Health Department. I have a Master's Degree in Counseling, Administered Treatment Facilities for socially troubled youth, taught grade and high school in Pt. Hope (1970) for four years and
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Health facilities

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worked in the Borough Children's Receiving Home.

HOUSE BILL 548

Community Health Aide Training

The North Slope Borough Health Department encourages the active advancement and passage of House Bill 548. This bill addresses the heart of the State's Rural Health Care System by providing funding toward training, supervision and skill development for its Community Health Aides.

Community Health Aide History predates statehood. Its origins germinated as a powerful response to circumvent the rampage of disease and T.B. epidemic raging havoc among the Native communities in the 1950s.

Today Community Health

Aides provide primary health care for approximately 40,000 state citizens throughout its rural communities. H.B. 548 represents a one million dollar increase over last year's funding which is a worthwhile expenditure to sustain the integrity of this ongoing historic health care system.

Support House Bill 548 — Community Health Aide Training. Contact your local Senator and State Representative, also contact

Milo Fritz, co-chairperson,
House Hess

Mae Tisher, co-chairperson,
House Hess

Joe Josephson, chairman,
Senate Hess

Address: Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Thank You.