St. Mary's has drug seminar

Evelyn Hirschler, Youth Counselor at the Anchorage-based Akeela House Comprehensive Drug-Free Program, has been invited to take part in a drug awareness seminar at St. Mary's High School, in St. Mary's, February 6 and 7.

According to Jane Salisbury, Librarian at St. Mary's, an Akeela House speaker was requested, "to inform our students about drugs and drug use, so they will be better able to make decisions. They are definitely faced with such decisions now, since there is a growing influx of drugs to the bush."

Funding for participation in the seminar has been made possible by St. Mary's High School, Akeela House, and Municipality of Anchorage Department of Behavioral Health. In addition to presenting drug facts and providing motivational counseling to 150 students, Akeela House is using the opportunity to gather training which will be used to help Alaska's urban natives effected by drug-related problems.

Ms, Hirschler studied sociology and psychology at California State University in San Francisco. She moved to Alaska in 1978 and worked as Crisis Intervention Counselor at Open Door Clinic before accepting the position of Youth Counselor at Akeela House in August, 1979.