

6-man Delegation—

Seek Head Start Fund Increase in Villages

RurAL CAP central staff is presently organizing a delegation to go to Washington, D.C., to seek increased funds for Head Start programs in rural Alaska.

The six man delegation will consist of Dr. Clifford Hartman, Commissioner of Education or his designee; Elmer Armstrong, Chairman, RurAL CAP Board of Directors; Marlene Johnson, former RurAL CAP Board Chairman; Dolores Padilla, Regional Director of the Kodiak Area Community Development Corporation; Betty Scaman, Director of RurAL CAP Child Development; and John Shively, Deputy Director of RurAL CAP.

The trip is being financed by an appropriation made by the State Legislature. The purpose of the appropriation was to allow RurAL CAP and the State of Alaska to coordinate efforts to increase the number of Head Start programs in the villages of Alaska.

The visit is being coordinated by the offices of Senators Ted Stevens and Mike Gravel.

Senator Stevens' office will be setting up meetings with a number of different government agencies who are presently funding early childhood education

programs in Alaska and might have the potential to fund more programs and also with agencies who might have funds that are presently not being used in Alaska.

Senator Gravel's office will be setting up meetings with appropriate congressional leaders to discuss the need for further funding of Head Start programs.

The delegation will also discuss with both agency people and the congressional leaders the need to continue full funding of Head Start programs on a national level.

Presently there is a possibility of a major reduction in Head Start funding not only for rural

Alaska but also for the nation as a whole.

The delegation plans to be in Washington for three or four days before returning to Alaska.