

ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM
DENTAL HEALTH AIDE THERAPIST
TRAINING PROGRAM
Report-October 2007



DENTEX students: Daniel Kennedy of Klawock, Sheena Nelson of Yakutat, Danielle Boston of Chistochina, and Christopher Evan of Russian Mission

Dr. Tom Beckman, Pediatric Dentist from the University of Minnesota returned in October to start the Fall term. He continued work on different aspects of tooth preparation for 2 more weeks. Following this instruction, the students are preparing for competency evaluations, which will be done using plastic teeth in dental mannequins. By the end of this quarter, the students will be expected to have satisfactorily completed competency exams on skill sets pertaining to a variety of different tooth preparation and restoration techniques.

Interviews were conducted on October 20, 2007 for the second cohort of students who will begin class in January 2008. Interviewers included Aurora Johnson, DHAT and president of the Alaska Dental Therapist Association and Ruth Ballweg, Dean of University of Washington's MEDEX program. Pictured along with Aurora is Dr. Williard and current DENTEX students Danielle Boston and Daniel Kennedy. The current students gave a lunchtime presentation to the student applicants and answered questions about the training program.



Project Facilitator Carol Odinzoff gave a presentation on the program to the National Indian Health Board in Portland, Oregon and Dr. Ron Nagel presented at the National Academy for State Health Policy annual meeting in Denver, Colorado.

We heartily welcome a new staff person who has joined us from Norton Sound Health Corporation; Balassa Sobcienski is our new Senior Office Specialist at the front desk.

For more information, please contact Dr. Mary Williard, Clinical Site Director at 907-729-5600 or mewilliard@anmc.org.

November 2, 2007