

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

DENTAL HEALTH AIDE - UPDATE

April 2007

Dental Health Aide Therapist - Training Center

- The students have had an intense 2nd quarter with classes such as Embryology and Histology, Head and Neck Anatomy, Oral Biology, and then they've ended the month with more hands on clinical work under Dr. John Deviny who taught Basic Restorative Functions.
- The Grand Opening of the training center occurred on April 11th. There were 70 to

80 guests, including Mayor Mark Begich of Anchorage, tribal leaders, local funders, and ANTHC leadership.

Students were stationed around the clinic to explain the functions of the different areas such as lab, clean and sterile room, and the operatories.

- The students are learning to stock and maintain the clinical areas, cleaning and



Student Danielle Boston gives a tour of the new operatory to Dr. Ken Glifort, Deputy Director of Alaska Area Indian Health Service and Chief Medical Officer.

sterilizing procedures, and training on the software to be used with patients. In addition they have begun the local Anesthesia course taught by Kathy Bassett, Dental Hygienist instructor from Washington who has taught this course for more than 20 years.

- Adjustments to living in Anchorage continue for the students. Housing will be changing for them, and we are in the process of finalizing their new living arrangements.
- All the students and program staff were special guests at the CHAP Forum where they were introduced. Because the DENTEX students will work hand-in-hand



L to R: Mary Anaruk, Christopher Evan, Sheena Nelson, Daniel Kennedy, Louisa Beal, Archie Watson, Danelle Shellikoff, Danielle Boston, Dr. Mary Williard, and Loretta Caldwell.

with the local CHAP providers in their assigned villages, the Dentex students and staff were pleased to accept their invitation to the awards luncheon.

- Some reorganization has taken place with administration and the DENTEX program is now officially under the CHAP program at ANTHC.