

**ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM
DENTAL HEALTH AIDE THERAPIST
TRAINING PROGRAM**

Report-July 2007



DHAT student Christopher Evan

- Students enjoyed returning to their homes and families during a scheduled six week break. Some students completed remediation assignments during the break.
- Dr. Nagel and Dr. Williard spent several days in Seattle with the University of Washington (UW) MEDEX staff further refining the second year curriculum.
- Dr. Fiset of UW came to DENTEX to meet with Dr. Nagel, Dr. Williard and YKHC staff Dr. Allgair and Kathy Balasko, RDH, to continue working on the second year calendar and curriculum activities.
- As a follow-up to these discussions, we have been contacting tribal health directors, with positive results. We are expecting that some health corporations which have not sponsored previously will be sponsoring students for 2008.
- ANTHC purchased a small apartment building that will house the students. Four students returned, one student was dismissed and one student took a medical leave of absence and is expected to return as a member of the class beginning in 2008.
- Lessons learned during the program's first year have given us insight into our original recruitment, selection, and retention processes. As a result, we are actively refining a number of key factors to be used as we ramp up for our second year.
- Recruitment for a second cohort of students began with revised applications and a presentation to tribal health directors in June. Applications from potential students are due October 1 and interviews are scheduled for October 20.
- The summer quarter started July 30 with the students settling into their new living quarters. The first week was occupied with recruiting and scheduling of patients for the first weeks of the session. Formal classes began the first of August with classes in the morning and clinical opportunities in the afternoon.

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