

**ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM
DENTAL HEALTH AIDE THERAPIST TRAINING PROGRAM
December 2008 Monthly Report**

DENTEX and Yuut Elitnaurviat Training Clinic Combined Report



Pictured left to right are students, Ooyuan Nagaruk, Tatiana Barraclough, Tambre Guido, Bernadette Charles, Marian Petla, Ben Steward and Mary Anaruk, Dentex staff. Picture taken at recent ANTHC Annual Mtg.

Students spent the two weeks prior to graduation continuing to work on skill consolidation, with some patients scheduled for final work before this class (cohort II) transitions to Bethel. Students prepared to leave Anchorage by cleaning the training center, and organizing for the move to Bethel.

The Dentex Graduation took place Friday, December 12th at the ANTHC Office Building largest conference rooms. This room holds over 125 people and the event was full. Students' families and friends came, as well as many of our program partners such as the University of Washington MEDEX program, and funders such as Rasmuson Foundation and Bethel Community Services Foundation. We are very grateful to the following organizations: The Murdock Charitable Trust, Denali Commission, and the Kellogg Foundation who have been among our major supporters over the years.



Pictured to the left is the first graduating class of Dental Health Aide Therapists in the United States. Left to right are Danielle Boston, Daniel Kennedy, Sheena Nelson and Christopher Evan.

The first two weeks of December may have been a blur for the students as the Yuut clinic in Bethel was closing for the winter break and the students were preparing to graduate. Dr. Robert Allen supervised the students as they treated patients near the end of their training. He also introduced the students in techniques/procedures that they might be exposed to while practicing in their home communities.

Pictured below left to right are: Adrienne Welch, Tiffany Tony, Lamont Albertson (Yuut staff), Daniel Kennedy, Sheena Nelson, Dr. Anthony Brusca (Instructor), Danielle Boston, Dr. Ron Nagel (ANTHC Dental Consultant), Kathy Balasko (YEDTC Coordinator), Valerie Davidson (ANTHC Legal and Intergovernmental Affairs), and Dr. Robert Allen (Instructor). Sitting at the piano is Christopher Evan. In the front on the left side is Diane Aloralrea (office assistant at YEDTC).



The staff and instructors at the Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic wish to thank all of the wonderful people and organizations that have supported the program during this first exciting year of training in Bethel. On December 9th at Bethel, a reception was held where the Bethel community and staff were able to say good-bye and thank you to the students. These graduating students will be heading off to do their preceptorship in order to become certified as Dental Health Aide Therapists.

Happy Holidays and we will see you next year!

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