

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

**DENTEX Training Clinic- First Year Activities**



*September 26<sup>th</sup> was the White Coat Ceremony which signifies the student's transition from pre-clinical activities into patient care providers. Pictured above "L" to "R", Front Row: Bernadette Charles, Marian Petla, and Tatiana Barraclough. Back row: Tambre Guido, Ooyuan Nagaruk and Ben Steward.*

The summer quarter which ended September 26<sup>th</sup> has had a full schedule of activities. The students have been working on treatment planning, amalgam and composite cavity preparations on mannequins, and assisting with Southcentral Foundation Head Start dental examinations.

Students, family and friends attended The White Coat Ceremony (pictured above). MEDEX Administrator, Jennifer Johnston attended. Dr. Louis Fiset (UW DENTEX Curriculum), Dr. Nagel and Dr. Williard presented the White Coats to the students.

Interviews occurred on Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup> and selection of the new class will be finalized the following week. It is gratifying to see that as we gain experience, and the Tribal Organizations become more familiar with what type of student to send we have a harder time with selection as the candidates arriving all have great qualities.

## **Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic - Second Year Activities**

September was a busy month at the Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic. In addition to the other activities mentioned below, over 100 patients were seen by students in the clinic.

Dr. Robert Allen was the clinical instructor in September. The focus of his instruction for the month was traumatic dental injuries. The students had lab experiences in fabricating mouth guards and placing dental splints for an avulsed tooth.

Student Community Projects Update: On Wednesday, September 17, all four students, Dr. Allen, Kathy Balasko, and Diane Aloralrea went to the Senior Center to provide dental/oral cancer screenings for the seniors. Fifteen patients were seen. Danielle Boston and Daniel Kennedy met with the Head Start teachers on September 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss completing dental education/care services. Sheena Nelson continues to visit the Pre-maternal Home where she provides dental education and fluoride treatments to the expectant mothers.

Dr. Louis Fiset from the University of Washington conducted his third site visit of the year the week of September 22<sup>nd</sup>. While he was here, he spoke with Dr. Allen and the students to discuss program accomplishments, concerns, and new ideas for the training program. During this visit, he also had the students working on case presentations. These case presentations will be completed and presented during graduation week, December 8 - 12, 2008.

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