

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

## **September 2009 Monthly Report**

Early this month we had the privilege of hosting visitors from Canada on a tour through our training center. It was an opportunity to share about our program. Photo is below.



Pictured from left to right ; Mary Anaruk, Rebecca Bouker CHAP instructor, Dr. Glifort IHS, Dr. Nagel ANTHC, Torie Heart Director CHAP/Rural Health, Shaleen Woodward, Evelyn Storr, and Crystal Lennie, Erik Linduska student, on the floor L to R Chelsea Shoemaker, Bonnie Johnson, Joni Boyd from Canada, and Corrina Cadzow, student.

### **Anchorage - DENTEX - DHAT 1<sup>st</sup> year Student activities included:**

The Summer Quarter came to an end and the Fall Quarter began with:

ANTHC Professionalism Course  
Operative, Propy and Local anesthesia Skills Consolidation Work  
Tobacco Treatment Counseling Course

### **BETHEL - YEDTC: DHAT 2<sup>nd</sup> year Students Activities include:**



Pictured to the left are 2<sup>nd</sup> year students, Tambre Guido and Ooyuan Nagaruk at the airstrip in Kipnuk. Tambre and Ooyuan traveled with Dr. Shoffstall to provided dental care to the residents of Kipnuk, a Southwestern Alaska coastal village. They enjoyed the trip and dental experience providing care to many of the village's approximately 500 residents. It has been over a year since a dental provider has visited this village.

The YKHC Dental Department invited the YEDTC DHAT students to present information to the dental staff on the effectiveness of povidone iodine and fluoride varnish applications in the reduction of dental decay. The presentation was well received and the YKHC Dental Clinic has started using povidone iodine as part of their dental protocol.

## **Profile of our First Certified, Alaska Trained Dental Health Aide Therapist- Daniel Kennedy**



Daniel Kennedy at Graduation  
December 12, 2008

My name is Daniel B. Kennedy and I was born on a couch in a Cannery Bunkhouse November 20, 1959 in Klawock, AK. I grew up here majority of my childhood but also in Seattle, WA. I have attended many colleges and worked many types of jobs. My last position prior to entering DHAT training was as a full-time dental assistant in Juneau, and I transferred to

Klawock in 2006. During the 1<sup>st</sup> year of DHAT training my most favorite class was Pathology. We started classes in a warehouse, then moved into the actual training clinic in the spring of 2007. This is a great clinical setup with a great classroom. The most challenging part of all the clinical segments in the 1<sup>st</sup> year for me was drilling a preparation on a plastic tooth. It is not the same as a real tooth. The last year of school is based in Bethel, AK. The Instructors at the Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic were absolutely great. They taught us so much in the time we were there. To this day I use their notes to help me with my operative procedures. One of my most relaxing moments in Bethel was picking the great tasting blueberries that were so abundant by the dorm. It was also fantastic that one of the student's relatives took us out gillnet fishing and we were able to catch some really large king salmon. So that fall and winter we ate great with all the salmon that was so available for us. I want to thank everyone that was involved with setting up this wonderful Dental Health Aid Therapist Program and that it allowed me to return to my hometown where I can now really help with everyone's Dental Care.

For more program information, please contact Dr. Mary Williard, Clinical Site Director, 907-729-5600 or email at: [mewilliard@anmc.org](mailto:mewilliard@anmc.org).