

ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM DENTAL HEALTH AIDE THERAPIST TRAINING PROGRAM

November 2010 Monthly Report



Picture above is Dr. Timothy Ward instructing first year DHAT Students on Oral Surgery. Students pictured from left to right are Trisha Patton from Napakiak, Jana Schuerch from Kiana, Kate Kohl from Bethel, Elsie Patrick from Toksook Bay and Tony Stevens from Hydaburg. Shannon Hardy of Fort Yukon is not pictured but is seated at the corner of the table.

Dr. Ward's position until recent retirement was Assistant under Secretary for Health for Dentistry Department of Veterans Affairs, Staff Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon, Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Though retired he plans to stay actively involved in oral health.

Anchorage - ANTHC/ UW DENTEX Training Center

Classes and activities this month were:

- Pharmacology with Dr. Louise Achey.
- Oral surgery with Dr. Timothy Ward.
- Students completed competency exams for cavity preparations.
- Students are preparing for the transition to the second year in Bethel.

Bethel - Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic

Dr. Timothy Ward, oral surgeon, also visited the 2nd year training program while in Alaska. He provided clinical instruction on simple extraction techniques and reviewed student's clinical cases.

During the first part of November, the DHAT students took an online course, "Oral Health for People with Special Needs," offered through the University of the Pacific.

Pictured to the right: Dr. Robert Allen overseeing DHAT students Erik Linduska, King Cove and Ferdella Sharp, Manokotak.



November 30, DHAT students presented case presentations and community projects to dentists at the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation. These same presentations will be given to faculty and year 1 students in Anchorage prior to graduation ceremonies.

The following guest lecturers gave presentations at the YEDTC in November:

Dr. Edwin Allgair, YKHC Staff Dentist / DHAT Supervisor, talked with the students about the DHAT preceptorship process, certification, and recertification.

Mike Bricker, YKHC Behavioral Health, Education, Training & Credentialing Coordinator, presented information on alcohol and drug addiction.

Michelle DeWitt, Tundra Women's Coalition, Executive Director, spoke about mandatory reporting of abuse for health care providers.



Pictured at left: DHAT student Alison Kaganak, Scammon Bay, presenting her community project to the YKHC dental providers. Alison worked with the YKHC Community Health Aide Program to help develop oral health training materials for Community Health Aides.

Profiled this month
Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation's newest DHATs



To the left: Pictured at YKHC, Bernadette Charles now working in St. Mary's, Precepting Dentist Dr. Edwin Allgair, and Tambre Guido now working in Hooper Bay. Picture taken the day they completed their preceptorship.

Tambre Guido from Hooper Bay sent this update:

"It is exciting to be working now out in the village. The need is so great where I am at, the people and especially the children are so precious. My focus is on the young mothers and their babies, to encourage and give hope that their child can have healthy teeth. I encourage the mothers to bring their child

in each time they have a new tooth for betadine and fluoride varnish to be applied. I also tell them each time their baby has a well baby check up to request to have fluoride varnish placed on their teeth. The other day I had a health aide come to me asking do we have fluoride? A young mother had requested fluoride varnish for their child. Yeah! Small steps will get us moving in the right direction. This is an awesome adventure!"

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