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ANJC is able to accomplish much of its work thanks to the support of our many generous donors. At this time, we would like to highlight and thank the businesses, organizations and individuals who helped make our 12th annual fundraiser a success. We'd also like to invite you to join us at our 13th annual fundraiser, to be held in Fairbanks on October 26, 2007.

If you would like to join the ANJC family of supporters, please call 907.793.3550 or email dwing@anjc.net or jmeier@anjc.net.

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A Message from the President



Denise Morris

Dear Friends,

Summer may be winding down here in Alaska, but at the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC), we're busier than ever, ramping up for an exciting fall season.

It all kicks off with our 13th annual fundraiser, which will be held in Fairbanks on October 26, 2007, during the Alaska Federation of Natives conference. Each year, generous corporate and

individual donors come together to support ANJC's mission to promote justice through culturally based advocacy, prevention and intervention initiatives to restore dignity, respect and humanity to all Alaska Natives.

In addition to raising funds, the event also gives us the opportunity to recognize our valued donors. We invite you to join us for this fun-filled evening to further the work of ANJC.

If you are unable to attend, but would still like to support the mission of ANJC, please contact us at 907.793.3550 or mail your donation to 3600 San Jeronimo Drive, Suite 264, Anchorage, AK 99508. We accept checks and all major credit cards. This year, for the first time, you may also make a donation through our secure Web site at www.anjc.net.

There are several other noteworthy events happening in October. For example, as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, ANJC is helping to organize several "Meet and Greets" in downtown Anchorage. These events give us, and other volunteers from the Alaska Native Women's Sexual Assault Committee, the opportunity to share important safety information with bar patrons, employees and others downtown. You can read more about this effort later in our newsletter.

On October 27, we are also co-sponsoring and participating in Hiland

Mountain Correctional Center's Inside and Out conference. Last year, this conference planted the seed for our new Bridge to Success program, which launched this spring as a way to help female offenders successfully transition back into the community.

Bridge to Success isn't the only new program at ANJC. We are also proud to announce the addition of the Aggression Replacement Training (ART) program. ART, which launched this fall, is an evidence-based program designed to teach youth ages 14 - 18 how to manage aggressive behavior.

As you can see, it is an exciting time for ANJC - and much of that is due to our supporters. We thank each of you for your support and look forward to the many things we will accomplish together in the future.



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ANJC Partners with AmeriCorps for Prisoner Re-Entry Efforts

Through a partnership with Nine Star Education & Employment Services, AmeriCorps and the Alaska Coalition for Prisoner Re-Entry (AKCPR), the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC) is enhancing its prisoner re-entry efforts.

AKCPR was formed three years ago as a support network of community, governmental and faith-based agencies committed to helping ex-offenders successfully return to society. Currently, the coalition has approximately 100 individual members and 60 agency partners, including ANJC.

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ANJC Takes to the Streets to Raise Domestic Violence Awareness

Since 1987, the month of October has been nationally recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Mary Elam, advocacy coordinator at the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC), said the goal of the month is two-fold.

“For the community-at-large, many people don’t like to talk or think about domestic violence. It’s about bringing it to people’s attention, because it probably happens more often than they think,” she said. “For victims, it’s about helping them recognize what’s happening is abuse and helping connect them with resources to make changes.”

The need for awareness of domestic violence is especially acute in Alaska, which ranks first in the nation for the number of women killed by men, and ANJC is doing its part to raise awareness locally. For example, as the chair of the Alaska Native Women’s Sexual Assault Committee (ANWSAC), ANJC is helping to organize a series of “Meet and Greets” throughout downtown Anchorage during October.

As part of the Meet and Greets, ANWSAC volunteers head out at about 10 p.m. to distribute statistics and safety information to bartenders, patrons, taxi cab drivers and anyone else spending time downtown.

“We want to remind people while they’re out to think about their safety. We want them to think about how they are getting home, where they are staying, and where to get help if they need it,” Elam said.

The popular downtown area is the perfect place to reach a lot of people with this message, Elam added.

Elam said Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides the opportunity to educate people about misconceptions regarding domestic violence. For example, many married women believe it’s not sexual abuse if the abuser happens to be their husband. Other women think it can’t be domestic violence if there is no physical abuse. However, Elam said financial control, harassment and belittling can all be forms of domestic violence.

“It doesn’t have to be physical,” she said.

While a concerted effort is made in October, addressing and raising awareness of domestic violence is something ANJC strives to do year-round through crisis intervention and legal advocacy efforts.

“We help connect people with the appropriate resources, and also provide training to tribal courts, law enforcement agencies and other service providers,” Elam said.

For more information about Domestic Violence Awareness Month or ANJC’s year-round domestic violence advocacy efforts, contact Mary Elam, ANJC advocacy coordinator, at 907.793.3564 or melam@anjc.net.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Events

October 1 – Domestic Violence Awareness Month opening ceremonies, 1 p.m., Assembly Chambers at the Loussac Library in Anchorage

October 15 – Screening of the documentary “Searching for Angela Shelton,” 5 and 8 p.m., Bear Tooth Theatre in Anchorage

TBD – Meet and Greet, downtown Anchorage

Recognizing Domestic Violence

Courtesy of the National Domestic Violence Hotline

Domestic violence can include physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that frighten, intimidate, terrorize, manipulate, hurt, humiliate, blame, injure or wound someone.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone, regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender. It can happen to couples who are married, living together or who are dating. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1.800.799.7233. Or, to learn more about the warning signs of domestic violence, visit www.ndvh.org.

ANJC Launches New ART Program

This fall, the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC) will launch a new program called Aggression Replacement Training (ART). The evidence-based program, which was developed by Dr. Barry Glick in 1987, is used across the country to teach youth ages 14 – 18 how to manage aggressive behavior.

“The program is designed to teach youth to self-evaluate their thinking process and learn how to deal with situations in a positive way, rather than lashing out in anger or aggression. It’s about helping them find a positive way of dealing with their emotions,” said Karen Neagle, who received training through the State of Alaska and is now a certified ART instructor at ANJC.

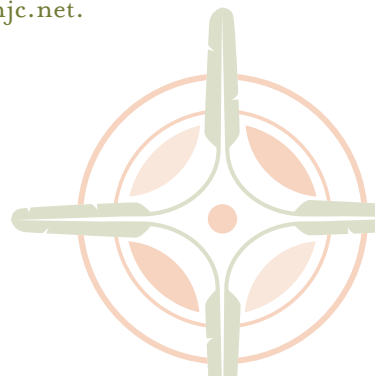
During the 10-week program, participants must attend three one-hour courses per week. Each week, the curriculum will focus on three areas – skill-streaming, anger control and moral reasoning. Through the use of exercises, role playing and discussions, ART program leaders will help the participants identify anger triggers, discover ways to select positive options, and discuss right

and wrong actions.

“The program is unique in that it is peer-driven, which means program participants are actively involved in the activities and discussions,” Neagle said. “The program also requires parental or guardianship involvement through follow-up evaluations at 30 and 90 days. These follow-up evaluations help us determine if the youth are using their newly learned ART skills at home and at school.”

The ART program is available free of charge and is open to all youth, although participants must complete an interview assessment before being placed into the program.

For more information about ART, contact Karen Neagle at 907.793.3562 or kneagle@anjc.net.



ANJC Bids Farewell to Original Board Member

Robert Singyke, an original member of the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC) board of directors, died on May 6, 2007 after a long illness.



Robert Singyke

Singyke, who served on the ANJC board from 1993 – 2004, assisted with many of ANJC’s efforts, especially in the area of fundraising.

“Bob made significant contributions to advance ANJC’s mission during his long tenure on the board,” said Denise Morris, ANJC president. “As an individual and as a supporter, he will certainly be missed.”

Singyke, who was born near Nome and grew up in Nome, Teller and Little Diomedes, was known as a life-long advocate of Alaska Native health care and a champion of youth leadership opportunities. During his career, Singyke served in several capacities within the Indian Health Service, including deputy director, executive officer and area director for the Alaska Area Native Health Services.

He also served on the board of directors for the Alaska Native Medical Center, Cook Inlet Region, Inc., Wish Upon the North Star, Southcentral Foundation and the Alaska Native Health Board, as well as ANJC.

ANJC Employee Passes Alaska Bar Exam

Julia Meier, special projects coordinator at the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC), recently passed the Alaska Bar exam, an achievement that licenses her to practice law in Alaska.

“We are very proud of her accomplishment,” said Denise Morris, president of ANJC.

Meier, who is originally from Philadelphia, Pa., received a bachelor’s in philosophy and history from the University of Oregon in 2001, and graduated from Harvard Law School in 2005. She moved to Alaska in November 2005 and has been working at ANJC since December of that year.



Julia Meier

As special projects coordinator at ANJC, Meier provides technical assistance to tribal courts, governments and councils, conducts pro-se clinics and helps develop restorative justice models.

“The focus of my position is to promote alternative approaches to restorative justice. I assist communities who are reworking their traditional forms of justice. My work is part of our agency’s overall goal of promoting local solutions,” Meier said.

Although Meier was sworn into the Alaska Bar on May 23, 2007, she is not currently practicing law. However, Meier said studying for and passing the Alaska Bar has already benefited her career.

“I’m using that knowledge and applying it to the work I’m doing every day,” she said.

ANJC’s 13th Annual Fundraiser

Generous corporate and individual donations make it possible for ANJC to pursue our mission to promote justice through culturally based advocacy, prevention and intervention initiatives to restore dignity, respect and humanity to all Alaska Natives. To support this mission, we invite you to attend our 13th Annual Fundraiser:

October 26, 2007

5:30 - 7 p.m.

Pike’s Waterfront Lodge, Binkley Room II
Fairbanks, Alaska

For more information or to RSVP, call
907.793.3550 or email cpennington@anjc.net.

Unable to attend? You can also make an online donation at our secure Web site, www.anjc.net. Or mail your donation to 3600 San Jeronimo Drive, Suite 264, Anchorage, AK 99508.

Your donation – large or small – makes a difference in the lives of the clients we serve, and is also fully tax-deductible.

ANJC Partners with AmeriCorps for Prisoner Re-Entry Efforts

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Last fall, Nine Star, a 30-year-old Alaska non-profit dedicated to developing Alaska’s workforce through literacy, job readiness and professional development, received a grant for placement of 50 AmeriCorps Members at AKCPR partner agencies. By providing a matching grant, AKCPR partners can have an AmeriCorps Member placed within their organization to provide value-added services.

“AmeriCorps Members are value-added. They do not replace an employee, they add value to the organization,” said Jana Chatham, director of community development at Nine Star.

ANJC, one of AKCPR’s original members, took advantage of this opportunity, and currently has two AmeriCorps Members placed at its offices.

“ANJC is committed to making systemic changes, so it only made sense to team up with Nine Star’s AmeriCorps program for our re-entry efforts,” said Deborah Wing, ANJC’s director of program operations.

ANJC has several re-entry programs, including one for juveniles and one for females, and is in the process of developing its male re-entry program. AmeriCorps Member Darlene Hughes is currently assisting with Bridge to Success, ANJC’s female re-entry program, while Kelvin Lee is working to further develop ANJC’s male re-entry program.

“There are many benefits to having the AmeriCorps Members at ANJC,” Wing said. “They are enthusiastic to learn, they

understand this population, and they are energetic working in a program that calls upon their expertise.”

While AmeriCorps Members receive a modest monthly living allowance stipend, health insurance and an educational award in return for their year of service, Chatham said the Members are “basically serving their community.” As AmeriCorps Members, they also gain experience in areas of interest that can apply directly to future employment.

“They care about making the world a better place, and are willing to give their time and energy to help those who are down and out find the resources to pick themselves up and go on to a better life,” added Janice Weiss, ANJC’s Bridge to Success re-entry coordinator.

In addition to ANJC, AmeriCorps Members are also placed at AKCPR partner organizations including the Anchorage Jail, Alaska Correctional Ministries, and Cook Inlet Tribal Council. Chatham said approximately 13 of the 50 positions are currently filled, and Nine Star is actively recruiting and placing additional AmeriCorps Members within the community.

For more information, visit www.ninestar.com, www.americorps.org, www.akcpr.com or www.anjc.net. Or contact Deborah Wing, ANJC’s director of program operations, at 907.793.3550 or dwing@anjc.net, or Jana Chatham, Nine Star’s director of community development, at 907.279.7827 or janac@ninestar.com.

Spotlight on ANJC Board Member Walt Monegan

Length of time served on the ANJC board of directors: Monegan has served on the board since appointment as chief of the Anchorage Police Department in the spring of 2001.

Goal of serving on the ANJC board: Monegan says he serves on the board in order to heighten awareness of Alaska Native issues.

Educational background: Monegan holds a bachelor of arts in organizational administration from Alaska Pacific University.

Professional background: Monegan recently retired from the Anchorage Police Department after 32 years, including five years as the chief of police. He was appointed as the commissioner of the State of Alaska Department of Public Safety in December 2006.

Career highlights: Monegan is credited with enhancing police effectiveness by installing mobile computers in police vehicles; implementing advanced 911 service to Alaska’s largest municipal population; writing plans to address gang and youth violence; supporting the establishment of professional standards for

village public safety officers; establishing a Citizens Police Academy and resurrecting police traffic units to address drunken driving.

Other community involvement: Monegan has served on many other boards and community task forces, including:

- Community Police Advisory Boards
- Ethnic Round Table
- Northern Endeavor Team
- Salvation Army Booth Memorial Home
- Anchorage Sexual Assault Task Force
- Mayor’s Task Force on Youth and Violence
- Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Municipal Employee Fund Raising Campaign
- Municipality’s Diversity Council
- Alaska Special Olympics State Board
- Community Action for Drug Free Youth
- Alaska Safe Kids Project

Personal background: A life-long Alaskan, Monegan was raised in the bush town of Nyac by his maternal grandparents. He has four children and resides in Chugiak with his wife, Terry.



Walt Monegan