

BBNA NEWS



Bristol Bay Native Association

www.bbna.com

March 2020

IGAP

~CaSandra Johnson, Environmental Program Manager

BBNA's EPA Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) has hired CaSandra Johnson as the new Environmental Program Manager in December 2019. CaSandra previously worked in the Brownsfield Program over the last 5 years assisting tribes and other entities remediating contaminations. In this new program, CaSandra is excited to assist tribes with not only contamination issues but with other environmental concerns like air quality, water quality, solid waste, and much more.

During this new transition, CaSandra will be diving into the IGAP program to learn how this program can be used to address tribal environmental concerns. CaSandra is learning about the IGAP program as she provides assistance to tribes by request with their tribal FY2021 IGAP funding pre-proposals due January 17, 2020. Through this process, she familiarized herself with tribal priorities, the IGAP funding cycles, and the type of projects-specific concerns for tribal communities. CaSandra will continue to assist tribes refining their proposals for the final submittal of the FY2021 IGAP application. She will also complete the annual registration on System Award Management (SAM) required for Grants.gov and learn to navigate grants.gov. CaSandra will also review EPA Tribal Environmental Plans (ETEPS) and conduct research on other topics to help tribes in the upcoming years.

CaSandra is looking forward to working with the tribes in this new program! If there are any questions or concerns related to IGAP please contact CaSandra at 907-842-5257 or at cjohnson@bbna.com.



**For help call
BBNA IGAP!**

BBNA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
INVITES YOU TO SEE

WHAT'S NEW? THE 2020 BBCEDS

Bristol Bay Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (BBCEDS)

VISIT BBNA'S WEBSITE TO VIEW THE LATEST PROJECTS HAPPENING
IN BRISTOL BAY AND VIEW POTENTIAL FUNDING PARTNERS FOR
DEVELOPING COMMUNITY PROJECTS

907-842-6223 or krandrew@bbna.com
<https://bbna.com/our-programs/economic-development/>

INSIDE ARTICLES

Tribal Justice Planning	pg 2
Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force	pg 2
VPSO Program	pg 3
Bristol Bay Reentry Program	pg 4
Workforce Development	pg 4
Vocational Rehabilitation	pg 4
Education, Employment & Training	pg 5
Coordinated Client Services	pg 5
Cash Assistance Services	pg 5
Working Together for our Grandchildren	pg 6
Brownsfields Update	pg 7
Bristol Bay Sustainability Summit	pg 7
BBNA Job Openings	pg 7
Important events at BBNA	pg 7
Alaska Counts 2020 Census	back

Community Services Department Highlights

Tribal Justice Systems Planning

~Bonnie Kropoff, Community Services Director

BBNA Community Services Department is in year 2 of administering the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), a 3 year grant to conduct a broad assessment of the current tribal justice system and develop a Comprehensive Tribal Justice Action Plan, guided by technical assistance providers from the National Criminal Justice Training Center, Fox Valley Technical College.

The Tribal Justice Systems Advisory and Tribal Justice Planning Teams were created to assist in the assessment and plan work. The Teams are comprised of one BBNA board member from each of the 6 BBNA sub-regions, along Tribal and State justice related partner representatives. During the August 27 - 28 face-to-face meeting, the teams learned about the strategic planning process, and developed a vision and mission statement to guide their work:

Vision: *Our Bristol Bay region is safe and strong with culturally healthy families, who work together, share and sustain a traditionally empowered lifestyle.*

Mission: *Engage in the development of a comprehensive strategic plan that assesses and identifies the justice needs within the 31 tribes of the Bristol Bay region. The outcome of the strategic plan will provide the platform for future tribal justice system enhancement based off the needs of the individual tribes.*

Also in August 2019, the teams identified data sources available through team members, and began work on the Tribal Justice Survey. At the January 22 - 23, 2020 face-to-face meeting the teams learned how to collect data through interviews, surveys, and community forums. The team is currently collecting data from all 31 tribes in the region with a Tribal Survey, one-on-one interviews and holding focus groups with community members around the region. Future data collection will also be collected by a Community Survey. The next face-to-face meeting will be scheduled this fall, at which time the teams will compile and analyze data, and begin development of the Comprehensive Tribal Justice Action Plan. Check the BBNA website by August for the meeting date and an opportunity to comment on the final Comprehensive Tribal Justice Action Plan.

Do you know of a community elder or member who may have knowledge about traditional tribal justice practices? If so, we'd like to interview them. Are you interested in being interviewed to share your ideas related to tribal justice needs in your community? Please email your referral and/or interest to tribaljustice@bbna.com and include contact names and information on how to be reached.

For more information contact Bonnie Kropoff, BBNA Community Services Director. Bonnie can be reached at 907-842-5257, toll free 1-800-478-5257 extension 430 or by email at bkropoff@bbna.com.

Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force

~Bonnie Kropoff, Community Services Director

BBNA Community Service Department recently hired Teresa Capo as the new Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force Coordinator to continue development of needed reentry services to the Bristol Bay Region. The Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force is a team of individual members comprised of staff from various regional and state service providers, tribes, and former offenders. The members collaborate to find solutions to barriers for returning citizens, provide recommendations on development of needed reentry services, and continue work to meet the goals identified in the Bristol Bay Comprehensive Reentry Plan. The Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force holds bi-annual meetings in Dillingham at the BBNA central office boardroom. The next meeting will be held in April 2020 with another planned to take place in October 2020. The Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force also conducts quarterly Workgroup meetings that focus on 4 top reentry needs: Housing, Employment & Training, Treatment & Wellness, and Community & Cultural Connectedness. The Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force welcomes input, new members, and success stories from returning citizens from our region.

If you would like to share your success story, provide input, become a member, learn more about the Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force, or receive information about meetings please contact the Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force Coordinator, Teresa Capo by phone: (907) 842-5257 or toll-free 1-800-478-5257, or by email: teresa.capo@bbna.com. Updated news and information is also available on the BBNA website at: <https://www.bbna.com/bristol-bay-reentry-task-force/>.

The Bristol Bay Reentry Program and Bristol Bay Reentry Task Force is currently funded by the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health Recidivism Reduction Grant No. 602-240-20008 and the US Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance Coordinated Tribal Assistance Grant No. 2018-AC-BX-0011.



Bristol Bay Reentry Taskforce Coordinator, Teresa Capo, in her office located at the BBNA Annex on Woodriver Road.

VPSO Program

~Dean Lopez, VPSO Program Manager



VPSO Program Manager, Deon Lopez, at his workstation located in BBNA's Central Office building.

The Village Public Safety Officer Program provides a "First Response" officer for public safety emergencies such as search and rescue, fire protection, emergency medical assistance, crime prevention, and basic law enforcement. The Program provides 3 Officers, stationed in the communities of Koli-ganek, Pilot Point, and Togiak and a newly hired (November) Program Manager, Deon Lopez, located at the BBNA Central Office.

VPSO Cpl. Roger Wassillie of Togiak attended Fire Training in late September and the VPSO Coordinator's Meeting in early October.

The VPSO Program Manager attended the 2019 Veterans & Military Spouses Job Fair in November, which resulted in recruitment of an applicant who is currently going through the application process. Direct recruitment efforts continued in early December with the Program Manager's participation at the BIA Provider's Conference VPSO Program recruitment table. The VPSO Support Office, BBNA Program Manager and 9 BBNA sister-organizations/VPSO Program contractors also provided program information to Conference attendees through one-on-one meetings and program presentations.

The Interim VPSO Program Manager and new Manager attended the quarterly VPSO Coordinator's Meetings, held at the Aleutian Pribilof Island Association office in Anchorage in October and January. The Coordinator's group works on

VPSO's are needed around the
Bristol Bay Region.

Become a VPSO and serve your
local Community!

all aspects of the program, with a long time focus on improving recruitment and retention and the programs ability to provide adequate public safety services. The VPSO Contractor Caucus, made up of Program Contractor Leadership and Coordinators/Managers, met with the VPSO Legislative Working Group to discuss barriers to improve recruitment and retention of VPSOs and develop recommendations to remove the barriers.

The creation of the Joint House/Senate VPSO Working Group was introduced by Senate President Cathy Giessel and House Speaker Bryce Edgmon in May for the purposes of providing substantive policy recommendations related to the VPSO program. Appointed to the working group were: Senator Donny Olson, Co-Chair; Representative Chuck Kopp, Co-Chair; Senator Click Bishop; Senator Mike Shower; Representative Bryce Edgmon; and Representative George Rauscher. The working group coordinated with all stakeholders to examine the underlying program challenges and provided a report with findings and recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee. A bill will be introduced based on the report this legislative session.

Go to the BBNA website: <https://www.bbna.com/bbna-employment/> for information on open VPSO positions, how to apply, job qualifications and requirements; and to download the job description, eligibility form and employment application.

Employment information is also available by calling (907) 842-5257 / toll-free 1-800-478-5257 or emailing: Deon Lopez, VPSO Program Manager at deon.lopez@bbna.com or Personnel Manager, Olga Kropoff, at okropoff@bbna.com.

Additional information about the VPSO Program is available on the State of Alaska Department of Public Safety VPSO website: <http://dps.alaska.gov/ast/vpsol/>



Roger Wassillie of Togiak geared up for fire suppression training at the 2019 Alaska Rural Fire Chiefs Conference in September.



VPSO Cpl. Roger Wassillie of Togiak practicing fire suppression at the 2019 Alaska Rural Fire Chiefs Conference in September.

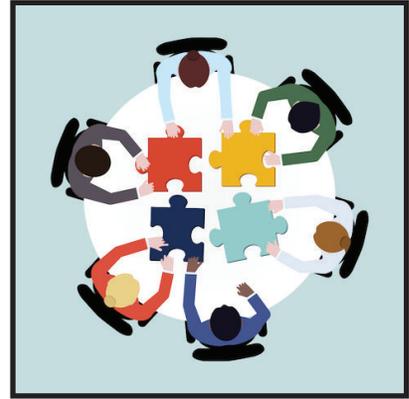
Bristol Bay Reentry Program

~Bonnie Kropoff, Community Services Director

In October 2019, Reentry case management moved from the Community Service Department to the Workforce Development Department.

Case management services are available to individuals who have served over 30 days in a correctional facility; are within 90 days of release from a correctional facility, or have been released in the past 6 months. Eligible applicants include: (a) medium to high-risk felony offenders who need multiple support services or who would not have housing upon release, and (b) high-risk misdemeanants. Case management service availability is limited to 3 months pre-release and 6 months post-release. The program links re-entrants to needed services, support, and assists in developing plans for self-sufficiency. In November the Re-entry Caseworker, Karl Clark, traveled to correctional facilities including Wildwood Correctional Complex in Kenai, Goose Creek Correctional Center in Wasilla, Spring Creek Correctional Center in Seward and the Hiland Mountain Correctional Center in Eagle River. The visits resulted in connecting with 23 Bristol Bay residents interested in utilizing the program's services.

Contact Karl Clark, Re-entry Caseworker, for more information by phone at 907-842-2262 or toll free at 1-888-285-2262; or by email at karl.clark@bbna.com. Updated news, upcoming events, and additional program information is also available on the BBNA website: <https://www.bbna.com/bristol-bay-reentry-program/>.



Workforce Development (WFD)

~Serena Aikins-McArthur, Director

WFD provides comprehensive case management to assist residents in finding, developing, and preparing for gainful employment. WFD focuses on education, employment and supportive services that address individual barriers and disabilities to employment and self-sufficiency.

The Workforce Development Team is happy to welcome the following new staff members to our team:

Marlena Bavilla - Cash Assistance Program Assistant
Ladonya Dull - 477 Caseworker, Eligibility
Cody Gardiner - 477 Caseworker, Dillingham
Jada Nukwak - 477 Caseworker, Manokotak
Betty Tretikoff - Workforce Administrative Support
Karl Clark - Reentry Caseworker

For more information and eligibility contact the WFD staff at:

Phone: (907)842-2262 ~ Toll Free: 1-888-285-2262 ~ Fax: (907)842-3498

Program Services Include:

- * Employment and Training
- * Adult Vocational Training
- * Youth Employment
- * Higher Education
- * Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation
- * Child Care Assistance
- * Tribal TANF
- * General Assistance
- * Heating Assistance
- * Burial Assistance
- * Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- * Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Vocational Rehabilitation

~Gail Sorensen, Program Manager

BBNA has successfully operated Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services since 1989 and was recently awarded another five (5) year grant (2020-2024) from Rehabilitation Service Administration's nationally competitive American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

VR's purpose is to provide services to tribal members with physical or mental disabilities. Offering assistance with obtaining and maintaining employment and/or learning skills necessary for self-sufficiency; specifically, for eligible, enrolled tribal members who experience a physical, cognitive, mental or sensory challenge that creates a barrier to employment.

The following services and appropriate accommodations are provided, but are not limited to: equipment, supplies, hear devices, assistive devices, transportation, training, higher education, self-employment and more. This may also include becoming productive in the subsistence lifestyle.



Education, Employment & Training

~Carol Luckhurst, Division Manager

After much consideration and realizing that many students are busy during the summer with work, fishing and/or subsisting, we have changed the Fall Higher Education Scholarship application deadline. Completed Applications must be received by the following deadlines:

June 15, 2020 by 4:30 p.m. for Fall 2020 Semester

January 3, 2021 by 4:40 p.m. for Spring 2021 Semester

Please make sure to include all necessary information requested when turning in your application. Any application received after these deadlines or if your application packet is incomplete by the deadline, your application will be denied. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you and helping you to achieve your educational goals.

Coordinated Client Services

~Patricia Buholm, Division Manager

Coordinated Client Services has been privileged to work with several departments within BBNA, to promote self-sufficiency of clients. We have been focusing on becoming self-sufficient through a traditional subsistence lifestyle; including the skills passed to us from our elders and community members willing to share knowledge of such activities while striving to meet the 4 purposes areas of Tribal TANF:

- Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes.
- Reduce the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.
- Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies.
- Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.



BBNA's first "Fish Friday" was held on November 1, 2019 at the Dillingham Boat Harbor by Patty Buholm.

Cash Assistance Services

~Pamela Murphy, Division Manager

The Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is accepting applications through **May 31, 2020**.

An eligible household may receive one heating assistance grant during this period.

Application Process Priority Order:

- Elderly or Disabled
- Households with children under the age of six (6)
- All other households

FY 2020 Income Guidelines – 150% of Federal Poverty

Household Size Gross Income in Prior Month

1	\$1,950.00
2	\$2,641.00
3	\$3,332.00
4	\$4,023.00
5	\$4,715.00
6	\$5,406.00

*For each additional household member add \$691.00.

Helpful information: What can you do to prepare?

- Keep paying your heating bills while you wait for a decision on your application, make regular payments each month to your electric and fuel vendors to prevent crisis.
- Contact your vendor and get on a budget plan. These plans take into consideration your annual usage and then set you up for a set budget amount each month. This spreads out the cost of heating and makes the payments more manageable and easier to budget for.
- Seal up drafts in your home yourself. Anywhere you can feel cold air coming in, the heat can also escape. Put a door sweep on the bottom of your door, use LED or compact fluorescent bulbs, wrap your hot water heater, and turn down the thermostat.



Working Together for Our Grandchildren, Tutgaraput pitekluki (Yup'ik)

~Kelly Pierson, *The Nature Conservancy* & Kristina Andrew, *BBNA Economic Development Program Manager*



From left to right: Kelly Pierson, Clinton Boskofsky, Kristina Andrew, Judy Jo Matson, and AlexAnna Salmon in Kake, Alaska.

We sat together on a fall day in Sitka, Alaska, watching otters and sea lions in the harbor. Sonia Ibarra from Juneau brought food. We shared smoked salmon, pickled sea beans and fiddlehead ferns. We listened to a group of elders share stories from their experiences and those of generations before them, telling of the historical and current challenges of traditional and commercial fisheries access in Southeast Alaska. Tommy Gamble, a respected Tlingit leader of the Sitka Tribe, passed around a jar of salmon. On it, he had written *Haa Dachxanx' l yan jeevis* – “for our grandchildren” in the Tlingit language. He shared messages of how Indigenous values inspire advocacy and conservation of natural resources. Tommy gave the jar to AlexAnna Salmon, asking her to share it with others after this meeting and carry forward this message. As he spoke, everyone in the room felt a shared motivation for the work that brought us together in Sitka.

The meeting in Sitka was the culmination of a week-long exchange that brought a group of young leaders from the Bristol Bay region to the Southeast region of Alaska. These are two very distinct regions in the 49th state. Because getting from one to the other isn't as easy as driving down the highway – no roads connect these places – people often don't meet, even when they have so much in common. Our group was visiting the Southeast communities of Kake and Sitka to learn about new ways of working – ones that build trust, share knowledge, and offer new economic opportunities built on local priorities instead of outside interests.

Kristina Andrew from Bristol Bay Native Association in Dillingham, Clinton Boskofsky from Chignik Lake, Judy Jo Matson from Naknek, AlexAnna Salmon from Igiugig, and Kelly Pierson from TNC in Anchorage share a vision of a prosperous future in Bristol Bay that protects the lands and waters that have sustained generations before and offers economic opportunities in line with regional values. Bristol Bay is a unique natural wonder in Alaska and globally. It's home to 31 villag-

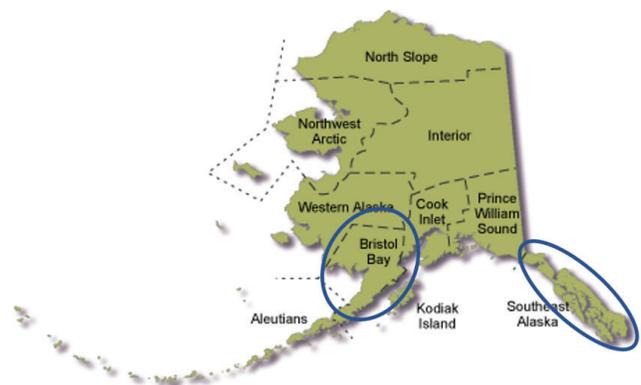
es, roughly 7,500 people and the largest wild salmon run in the world. It is also threatened by a proposed largescale mine at the headwaters of the two major salmon-bearing river systems and faces uncertainties like climate change. The challenges are immense and too big to tackle alone.

We traveled to Southeast Alaska to participate in the [Sustainable Southeast Partnership](#) (SSP) fall retreat and learn about how a collective impact network could help us realize our shared vision for Bristol Bay. A prosperous and sustainable future must take a holistic lens to recognize the interconnectedness of culture, ecology, and economy. Working together with a strong foundation of trust is essential. Though it takes time and commitment, SSP and collective impact methodologies do just that – they bring unusual partners from different sectors together to agree on a common agenda for achieving social change. Luckily, we are able to learn from the 10-year history and success of SSP, of which TNC was a founding partner, and build on the immense knowledge and strength in the Bristol Bay region.

Our hosts in Southeast Alaska shared exciting projects like the [Keex' Kwaan Community Forest Project](#), the reconstruction of the historical [cannery in Kake](#), the [Local Fish Fund](#), and the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association [Crew Apprenticeship Program](#). More importantly, we came away with deeper trust and an invaluable bond that will support us moving forward.

This work is built on the priorities of the people of Bristol Bay as shared in the [Bristol Bay Regional Vision](#). We are working to develop a diverse network of local leaders and experts who are committed to a triple bottom line approach (people, planet, profit) and who assert the importance of local voices in caring for our lands and waters. This is what conservation looks like – more than lines on a map, it's about connecting, sharing and reimagining new possibilities that align with local values. Trust is the cornerstone.

In time, we'll agree on a set of goals for a new approach that supports people and nature in Bristol Bay. For now, we share a motivation to do this work to sustain our grandchildren and know that *how* we work together is as important as what we achieve.

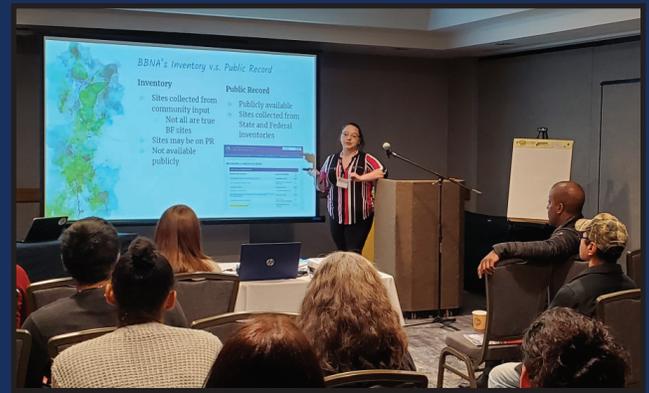


Regions of Alaska. Courtesy of State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation.

Brownfield Update

~CaSandra Johnson, Environmental Program Manager

The Brownfield Program job position, titled “Contaminated Sites Coordinator”, is vacant and seeking applicants! This job opportunity is a way to dive into the world of contamination and ways to prevent, clean up, and repurpose contaminated lands. Applicants can expect to work independently but also as a team member with tribal communities to assist in the brownfield process. This job is stationed at BBNA’s main office in Dillingham but will allow you to travel to rural communities and in-region conferences/workshops/trainings. Applicants will need to have good public speaking skills as they will be presenting on the program and working with the public, tribal councils, state & federal agencies, and other entities on potential projects. These are just some of the things that the applicant will be doing in this position. For more information about this job opportunity, please visit BBNA’s website for a job description and application or contact BBNA’s Human Recourse department by e-mail to request for information to okropoff@bbna.com or rfisher@bbna.com.



CaSandra Johnson Presenting at Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management for BBNA Brownfield Program.

BRISTOL BAY SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT

Creating a Thriving Future

April 7-8
Dillingham MS Gym

Join us to advance sustainable economic development so our region can thrive for generations to come!

Great opportunity for entrepreneurs, innovators, fishermen, small business owners, Bristol Bay tribal, municipal & corporate leadership and staff!

Deadline to apply for limited travel scholarships: March 2

General Registration Deadline: April 1

Questions or ready to register?
Register online & or apply for a travel scholarship at:
<http://bit.ly/sustainability-summit2020>
Or call UTBB for registration materials at (907) 842-1687







BBNA Job Openings

FAMILY SERVICES

- Case Worker III-IV; Children’s Services
- Coordinator; Prevention Services
- Opioid Prevention Services Coordinator
- Men’s Services Coordinator

NATURAL RESOURCES

- Contaminated Sites Coordinator
- Marine Mammal Harvest Local Research Assistant (5 Positions)

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- 477 Case Worker II-III Coordinated Client Services Division
- 477 Case Worker II-III Education Training And Employment Division

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPT.

- VPSO
- Determination of duty station is based on the availability of qualified candidates. Duty stations will be filled on a “first come first serve” basis.

1. Ekwok
2. Manokotak
3. Chignik Bay
4. Egegik
5. Port Heiden
6. Iliamna/Newhalen
7. Aleknagik
8. Levelock.
9. Clarks Point
10. Nondalton

CHILD DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- Program Logistics Manager

For more details or to apply contact:

Human Resources Office

Phone: (907) 842-5257

Toll-free: in Alaska 1-800-478-5257

Fax: (907) 842-6266

Email: rfisher@bbna.com or okropoff@bbna.com

Website: www.bbna.com/bbna-employment

Important Dates

- Full Board Meeting March 17-19, 2020
- Presidents & Administrators Workshop Tentative May 5-7, 2020
- Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Application **deadline May 31, 2020.**
- Higher Education Scholarship Application deadlines:
 - * **June 15, 2020 by 4:30 p.m.** for Fall 2020 Semester
 - * **January 3, 2021 by 4:40 p.m.** for Spring 2021 Semester



Bristol Bay Native Association
P.O. Box 310
1500 Kanakanak Road
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Anchorage, AK
Permit #537

Alaska Counts

2020 Census

What is the census?

Census data is used as the basis for distributing more than \$800 billion in federal funds annually to states, boroughs, and communities to support resources such as schools, hospitals, and fire departments. State legislative districts and local political boundaries are redrawn using census data, and these data also inform business decisions, policy, community initiatives, and consumer advocacy.

Why should Alaskans complete the census?

When Alaskans go uncounted, we all lose out. Responding to the census helps communities get the funding they need for local public services and helps businesses make data-driven decisions that grow the economy.

The census determines the resources that go to Alaska to help build roads and infrastructure, support hospitals, and deliver public services to children, veterans, seniors and families.

Will Alaskans' responses to the census remain confidential?

There are strong, long-standing legal protections in place that prohibit the Census Bureau or any other part of the federal government from using census data against the people who supply it.

Your individual responses to the 2020 Census are confidential and can only be used to produce statistics. This includes responses on census questionnaires, names, addresses, and residential locations.

Timeline for the 2020 Census in Alaska:

- Summer 2019 – Census Recruitment for part-time jobs in rural Alaska.
- August 2019 – In-field Address Canvassing and Group Quarters operation begins.
- January 2020 – Enumeration of Remote Alaska begins in Toksook Bay, AK.
- February – March 2020 – Interior and Eastern Alaskan counted in person.
- March – April 2020 – North Slope and Aleutians counted in person.
- March 2020 – Online Self-Response Opens.
- April 1, 2020 – 2020 Census Day.
- April 2020 – Non-response follow-up begins for households that did not submit a Census form.
- July 2020 – Self-Response Deadline.
- December 31, 2020 – Census Bureau delivers count to President of the United States.

Questions?
Visit www.alaskacounts.org
for more information.