



Child Development & Administrative Services

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Child Development Department

Anne Shade- CDD Director



The Yoto device is a kid-friendly audio player that encourages independent play and learning without screens, ads, microphones, or cameras.

Hello and happy summer from the Child Development Department!

We're ramping up our recruitment efforts for Head Start students this fall. BBNA is funded to provide Head Start services for 80 students, 16 in each of our 5 classrooms.

If you live in Dillingham, Manokotak, New Stuyahok, or Togiak, and have a child who will be at least 3 by September 1st 2026, please pick up an application from your local Head Start center, WFD office, or from the BBNA website and get your application in soon.

We begin enrolling students for the fall in late May, so don't delay!

The Child Development Department is also gearing up for the Summer Youth Employment Program. This opportunity is open to youth aged 14-24.

Participants ages 14-15 will complete "World of Work" packets, which include 4 weeks' worth of lessons

focused on a variety of work readiness skills.

Students can earn \$250 per packet for a total of up to \$1000!

Youth aged 16 and older will be placed at job sites within their local communities. If you are an employer who can use an extra pair of hands this summer, please contact us and we'll get you set up as a job site.

We also recognize assisting elders as a valuable job placement. In these cases, youth would simply need a supervisor to oversee the work and document hours.

We are busy getting our new Language Revitalization grant up and running. Materials and supplies are on the way for the Togiak Yuraq group with much more to come!

Yoto Recording devices have been purchased and will soon be in use, allowing us to capture stories and songs and share them with Bristol Bay's youngest

learners. By completion of the three-year project, we anticipate producing 15 books, and recording 18 songs in Yup'ik, as well as hosting 48 community yuraq events.

In addition, participating teachers will receive training focused on increasing language acquisition and culturally grounded social emotional learning practices.

We are proud to partner with Igiugig Village Council, BBNC and the Bristol Bay Borough School district on this meaningful effort.

As always, if you have questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact me.

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BBNA Welcomes 3 New Executive Leaders

Strengthening leadership, service, and organizational capacity for the Bristol Bay Region



Deanna Olsen- Chief Administrative Officer



Levi Fuller- Program Development Director



David Kindlespire- Comptroller

As BBNA continues to strengthen internal systems, expand programs, and support long-term sustainability, these leadership appointments represent an important step forward for the organization.

BBNA's mission is rooted in maintaining and promoting a strong regional organization supported by the Tribes of Bristol Bay, serving as a unified voice and providing social, economic, cultural, educational, and related opportunities for the region. These new executive positions will support that mission by strengthening administration, program development, and financial leadership across the organization.

Deanna Olsen, Chief Administrative Officer – 07/13/2026

BBNA welcomes Deanna Olsen of Dillingham, Alaska, as the new Chief Administrative Officer. In this role, Deanna will provide executive-level leadership and oversight for key administrative functions that support BBNA's daily operations and long-term organizational goals.

Her leadership will help ensure that internal systems, staff support, policy alignment, and administrative services continue to meet the needs of BBNA's programs, departments, and member Tribes.

As a local leader from Dillingham, Deanna brings valuable regional perspective to this position. Her understanding of rural Alaska and the Bristol Bay service area will be an asset as BBNA continues building strong internal operations that support effective service delivery throughout the region.

Levi Fuller, Program Development Director - 07/13/2026

BBNA also welcomes Levi Fuller of Dillingham, Alaska, as the new Program Development Director. Levi's role will focus on identifying opportunities to

strengthen and grow BBNA programs, support planning efforts, and help develop resources that respond to the needs of Bristol Bay Tribes and communities.

The Program Development Director position is an important part of BBNA's continued focus on expanding services, pursuing new partnerships, and improving program quality.

Levi's leadership will support departments as they plan for future needs, pursue funding opportunities, and develop programs that align with BBNA's strategic priorities and commitment to sustainable, thriving communities.

David Kindlespire, Comptroller – 08/01/2026

BBNA is pleased to welcome David Kindlespire as the new Comptroller.

David will be bringing his family to Dillingham as he joins BBNA's leadership team and steps into a key financial role for the organization.

As Comptroller, he will help support accounting operations, financial reporting, internal controls, and the fiscal systems that allow BBNA to responsibly manage resources on behalf of its programs and the Tribes it serves.

Strong financial stewardship is essential to BBNA's ability to maintain programs, meet grant and compliance requirements, and support long-term organizational stability.

David's role will contribute to BBNA's continued efforts to build a strong financial foundation and maintain accountability across the organization.

Looking Ahead

These new executive leaders join BBNA during an important period of growth, transition, and strategic focus. Together, Deanna Olsen, Levi Fuller, and David Kindlespire will help strengthen the organization's administrative capacity, program

development efforts, and financial operations while supporting BBNA's broader mission to serve as a strong regional organization for Bristol Bay Tribes and Native people.

BBNA extends a warm welcome to Deanna, Levi, David, and all their families as they begin this new chapter with the organization.

Their leadership, experience, and commitment will help support BBNA's continued work to preserve our history, protect our culture, build our future, and strengthen communities throughout the Bristol Bay Region.





BBNA Advances Regional MMIP Response Planning

Courtenay Carty- CSD Director

In May 2026, the Bristol Bay Native Association convened a multi-day Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Tribal Regional Response Planning session in Anchorage.

The meeting brought together Tribal, federal, state, and local partners to continue the difficult but necessary work of strengthening how agencies coordinate, communicate, and respond when a person is missing or when a family and community are facing the tragedy of violence or loss. The purpose of the gathering was not simply to share information.

It was to build a stronger regional foundation for action. Across Bristol Bay, our communities know how important it is that families receive timely support, that cases are taken seriously, and that agencies work together instead of in separate systems. The meeting provided an opportunity to look directly at those needs and begin shaping a coordinated response plan for the region.

The first working sessions focused on law enforcement coordination, investigative resources, and the tools available to support missing persons and homicide investigations.

Participants heard from the U.S. Attorney’s Office, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Missing and Murdered Unit, the Alaska State Troopers, the Anchorage Police Department, and other partners with experience in case response, cold case review, trafficking concerns, federal jurisdiction, and investigative coordination.

BBNA Village Public Safety Officers in attendance included Regional Public Safety Officer Craig Maines, Koliganek VPSO 1st Sgt. Gust Tunguing, Pilot Point VPSO Sgt Byron Wise of Pilot Point, Newhalen VPSO Ken Brockman, Clarks Point VPSO Aquila Kapotak, Ekwok VPSO James Baehm,



In May 2026, the Bristol Bay Native Association convened a multi-day Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Tribal Regional Response Planning session in Anchorage.

and Cpl. Martin Gardiner who recently transferred from Aleknagik to Curyung in Dillingham.

Presentations also highlighted important resources such as the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, Team ADAM rapid response support, the NamUs missing persons database, familial DNA collection, and search and

recovery planning. North PAW K9 Search & Recovery shared specialized experience in search operations, while law enforcement representatives discussed lessons learned from real cases and the importance of clear communication between agencies.

During the week, BBNA participants also attended the Alaska MMIP Justice Summit at the Dena’ina Convention Center. That statewide gathering expanded the discussion and provided additional opportunities to learn from other regions, share best practices, and strengthen relationships with partners working on MMIP response across Alaska.

The final working session focused on victim services, family support, and regional planning. Presentations from SAFE, Violent Crimes Navigators, the Alaska Office of Victims’ Rights, and the Alaska Violent Crimes Compensation Board helped identify resources available to survivors and families.

The Alaska Department of Law also led a candid discussion about prosecution challenges and system barriers that can affect MMIP cases. A major outcome of the convening was initial

drafting of the Bristol Bay Regional MMIP Response Plan. BBNA staff and partners began identifying existing protocols, service gaps, and practical steps needed to improve coordination across law enforcement, victim services, Tribal governments, and other responding agencies.

This work is still in development. After a draft plan is prepared, BBNA will engage directly with Tribes to review the plan, incorporate Tribal names and data appropriately, and make sure the final document reflects the realities and needs of Bristol Bay communities. After Tribal review and feedback, staff expect to bring a draft plan to the BBNA Board of Directors for review.

Current planning anticipates summer and fall plan development, fall and winter Tribal engagement, and tentative Board consideration in spring 2027.

BBNA extends its appreciation to the agencies, Tribes, organizations, and individuals who contributed their time and expertise to this effort.

MMIP work requires seriousness, respect, persistence, and partnership. The goal is to help build a stronger regional response system that supports families, improves accountability, and better serves Bristol Bay communities when they need it most.



Yup’ik Artist Amber Webb of Dillingham created a 12-foot memorial qaspeq on which she drew the portraits of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

|Meet BBNA’s Opioid Prevention Coordinator

Desi Bond- Opioid Prevention Coordinator

The Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA) Opioid Prevention Program works to strengthen community health and wellness across the Bristol Bay region through education, outreach, prevention, and collaboration.

The Opioid Prevention Coordinator leads program implementation and works closely with Tribal communities, schools, partner agencies, and youth-serving organizations to increase awareness of opioid misuse and connect individuals with prevention and treatment resources. Key responsibilities include coordinating youth-focused opioid education and outreach activities, supporting grant-funded initiatives, collecting and reporting program data, promoting community engagement, and helping develop prevention materials.

The position also collaborates with Tribal Councils, state and federal agencies, and community partners to ensure services are responsive to local needs and are culturally appropriate. The program emphasizes building strong relationships throughout the region, supporting health promotion efforts, maintaining client confidentiality, monitoring program effectiveness, and identifying opportunities for future growth and funding. Travel to Bristol Bay communities is an important part of the role, helping ensure that prevention services and resources reach communities throughout the region.

Born and raised in Dillingham, Deserie “Desi” Bond brings both professional expertise and personal passion to opioid prevention and community wellness efforts in Bristol Bay. With a strong commitment to helping others, especially youth, she is dedicated to building healthier communities for future generations.

Desi has experience in program development, grant writing, budgeting, data collection and analysis, and coordinating community meetings that create safe spaces for learning, healing, and support. Her work has involved connecting individuals and families with resources, promoting trauma-informed approaches, and collaborating with a wide range of community members and organizations.

Driven by a belief in the power of knowledge and accessible services, Desi is committed to developing innovative programs, fostering partnerships, and supporting positive outcomes throughout the region.

Her combination of lived experience, professional skills, and deep community roots makes her a strong advocate for wellness, prevention, and lasting change in Bristol Bay.

For more information or questions for Desi you can reach her by email: deserie.bond@bbna.com or by calling 907-537-7293



BBNA’s CSD Welcomes 2 New Tribal Admins

BBNA’s CSD department welcomed two new Tribal Administrators to the program; Sylvia Wassillie(Chignik Lake) and Samantha Campbell. (Chignik Lagoon)



Sylvia Wassillie joined BBNA as the Chignik Lake Tribal Administrator on May 18th.

Sylvia has worked for the Chignik Lake Village Council as Clerk Alternate and Administrative Assistant.

We are excited to have Sylvia on our Tribal Government team!



Also on May 18th, Samantha Campbell joined BBNA as the Chignik Lagoon Tribal Administrator.

Samantha is looking forward to returning to the village after living in Eagle River and working in property management.

Welcome back to the region, Samantha!



Tribal Technical Assistance

Michelle Anderson-Tribal Administrator

My name is Michelle Leah Anderson, and I am currently serving as a Tribal Administrator with Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA), providing support to Tribes throughout the Bristol Bay region.

Unlike a traditional Tribal Administrator, I am not assigned to a single Tribe. Instead, my role focuses on providing training, technical assistance, and one-on-one support to administrative staff across the region.

Prior to stepping into this position earlier this year, I spent eight years as a Tribal Administrator and an additional ten years as a grant and project coordinator serving within the region. I was born and raised in Alaska and, as an adult, spent 17 years living in a rural Alaska village. Those experiences have given me a deep appreciation for the strengths, opportunities, and day-to-day challenges of rural Tribal communities.

About the Position

My role was created to serve as a regional resource for Tribal governments by providing administrative guidance, training, and problem-solving support, particularly for:

- Tribes without a current Tribal Administrator
- Tribes with new or transitioning Administrators or Clerks
- Tribes needing short-term assistance with specific administrative projects or functions

While the primary focus is on new and transitioning administrators, experienced Tribal Administrators are also encouraged to utilize the resources available through this position.

Any Tribe in the BBNA Compact is welcome to seek assistance with reporting requirements, grant and funding management, program implementation, operational challenges, or other administrative matters.

The purpose of this position is to help strengthen Tribal administrative capacity by supporting effective project and funding management, navigating compliance requirements, improving organizational systems, and building knowledge for long-term success. No question or project is too small.

While we may not always have every answer, we are committed to helping identify solutions, conduct research, and connect Tribal staff with the resources and expertise they need. Whether you are seeking information, working through a challenge, developing new processes, or exploring innovative ideas, I encourage you to reach out.

How We Can Help

Assistance can range from answering simple questions and locating information to supporting funding administration, reporting requirements, program implementation, and other routine administrative functions. Support may be provided through training, one-on-one technical assistance, resource sharing, or referrals to other subject matter experts when appropriate. Although this role continues to evolve, assistance provided to date has included:

- Supporting Tribes in navigating BBNA pass-through funding processes through training sessions and one-on-one technical assistance.
- Assisting with the development, review, and refinement of Tribal budgets.
- Helping Tribes navigate and maintain federal and state online systems, including SAM.gov, ASAP.gov (Automated Standard Application for Payments), Treasury reporting platforms, EFTPS (Electronic Federal Tax Payment System), Department of Energy systems, and Denali Commission portals.
- Providing guidance on financial management practices and reporting requirements.
- Assisting with BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) Transportation contracts and related administrative processes.
- Connecting Tribes with additional resources, funding opportunities, and technical assistance providers.

As needs arise, support is tailored to each Tribe’s specific circumstances.

To further support Tribal governments, step-by-step guides are currently being developed to assist during periods of transition and to support the onboarding and training of new Tribal Administrators and administrative staff. In addition,

reporting checklists are being created to help Tribes navigate BBNA requirements and deadlines more efficiently. A compilation of training materials, reference documents, and administrative resources is also being assembled for distribution to Tribal staff throughout the region.

Working Together to Build Capacity

The goal of this role is to provide practical support, foster collaboration, and help Tribal governments build administrative knowledge, navigate challenges, and strengthen operations throughout the region.

Your feedback is invaluable. We want to better understand the needs, challenges, and gaps Tribal administrators, clerks, and councils encounter in their day-to-day work. We encourage you to share your questions, ideas, concerns, and successes so we can continue improving services and identifying meaningful solutions that support Tribal governments.

Contact Information

If you have questions or would like assistance, please feel free to reach out:

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Tribal Administrator Training and Technical Assistance
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Teams: 1-907-931-7636

Courtenay Carty
Director of Community Services
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Mary Lou Nelson
Accounting & Office Management Specialist
mary.nelson@bbna.com
Teams: 1-907-519-7736

We look forward to working alongside Tribal leaders and administrative staff throughout Bristol Bay and supporting the important work you do for your communities.



Forestry

Frank Woods III-Forestry Program Manager

At Choggiung’s 13 Mile Gravel Pit site, BBNA acquired two 40-foot connex containers to store and dry lumber produced by its portable sawmill.

BBNA Forestry also acquired an excavator to support mechanical fuel break operations for future community wildfire protection plan fire breaks, and a portable wood chipper capable of processing branches, limbs, and other woody material up to 6 inches in diameter.

Community Wildfire Defense Grant – Final Meetings

Alaska Venture Fund’s Wildfire Resilience Program hosted final meetings for the Community Wildfire Defense Grant with the communities of Aleknagik and Dillingham from May 19–22.

BBNA and AVF brought together landowners, local governments, other interested parties, and fire suppression agencies.

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a community-developed plan

created in collaboration with emergency management and land management agencies to proactively address wildfire risk. At minimum, a CWPP requires community collaboration, prioritized fuel (vegetation) reduction, and treatment of structural ignitability.

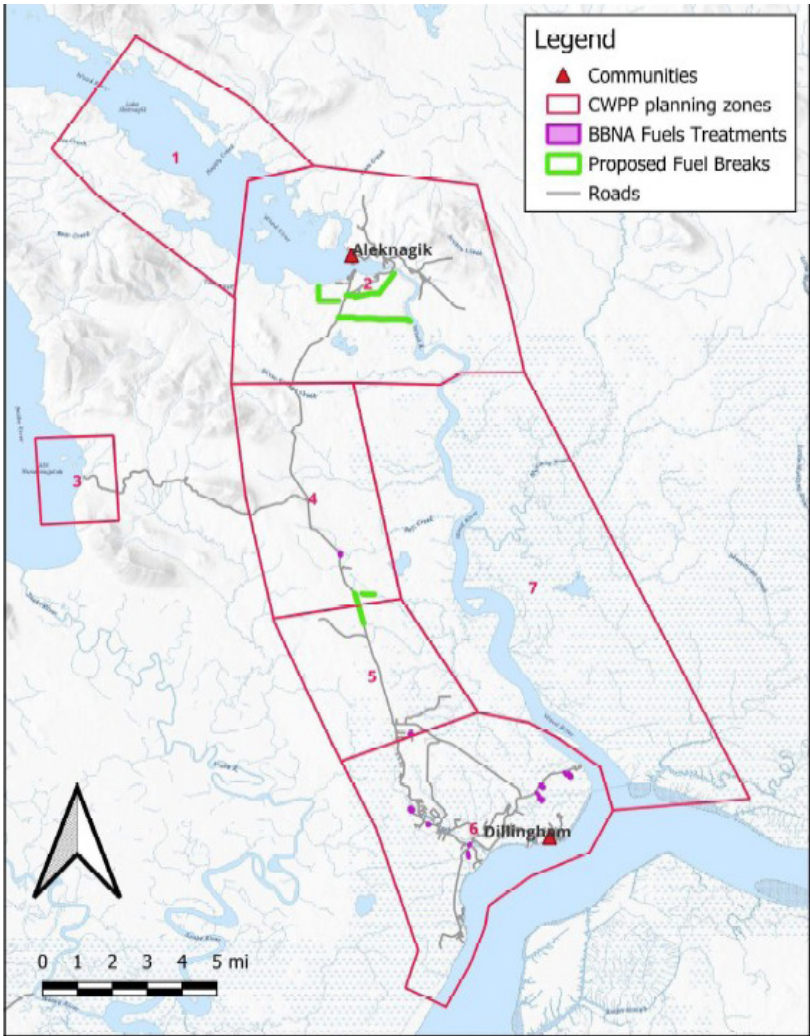
The meetings addressed next steps in CWPP implementation, including implementation planning, funding pursuit, and ongoing coordination among Aleknagik, Dillingham, the State Division of Forestry & Fire Protection, and other partners to carry out wildfire mitigation activities.

For more information, visit the BBNA CWPP page: <https://sites.google.com/alaskaventure.org/bbna-cwpp-2024/home>

The proposed firebreaks will allow BBNA Forestry to expand fuel treatments beyond Bureau of Indian Affairs Native allotment lands to other lands and pursue funding to carry out those treatments.



Choggiung Ltd. Fire Break Map



Fuel Break and Fuel Treatment Summary Map



Forestry Staff hard at work clearing brush



| Lumber Grading Workshop May 7-8 run by Matt Labrenz from UAF

Lumber Grading Workshop

Matt Labrenz of the UAF Alaska Lumber Grading Program met with BBNA Forestry to conduct a two-day lumber grading workshop on May 7–8.

The class was hosted at Choggiung Limited’s 13 Mile Gravel Pit, a woodlot site operated through a partnership between Choggiung and BBNA Forestry designed to expand BBNA Forestry’s sawmill infrastructure.

The workshop was open to the public and drew 10 participants.

The Alaska Lumber Grading Program covers sawmill operations and lumber products derived from spruce and birch.

Participants received technical support in dimension grading along with educational resources on lumber drying and sawmill operations. A follow-up class is planned for August.



Workforce Development

2026 477 Program of the Year

Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA) is proud to announce that the BBNA 477 Program has received the 2026 477 Chief’s Award for Program of the Year.

The award was presented at the NINAET Conference in Sacramento and recognizes BBNA’s national leadership in workforce development, family-centered services, innovation, accountability, and service to Tribal communities.

This honor reflects the outstanding work of BBNA’s Workforce Development Department, where the 477 Program is housed, as well as the many staff and partner departments who deliver coordinated services across the Bristol Bay region.



Pictured left to right: Katharine “Denise” Baylon, DWD Division Chief; Pamela Murphy, WFD Deputy Director; Michael Knezevic, Youth Division Lead Caseworker; Alec Arellano, Database Services Division Manager; Serena Aikins-McArthur, Director of Workforce Development; Anthony Riley, DWD 102-477 Branch Chief; Ida Doyle, BIA DWD AOTR; and Tahnee Barnes, DWD Financial Specialist.

Chief’s Conference

Under the leadership of Serena Aikins-McArthur, Director of Workforce Development, the 477 Program has continued to grow and strengthen its service model.

Over the past year, key accomplishments include the creation of a fully operational Youth Division, expanded access to local training opportunities, and continued development of BBNA NET, a tribally designed, family-centered service delivery model that integrates Workforce Development, Child Development, and Family Services.

BBNA NET reflects a shared commitment to ensuring families receive the right support at the right time.

Built on coordination, shared responsibility, and culturally grounded practices, the model helps eliminate barriers by preventing families from having to navigate separate systems on their own.

This work directly supports BBNA’s mission to improve quality of life and strengthen self-sufficiency throughout the region.

The award also recognized the 477 Program’s responsiveness during times of regional need, including:

- Assistance to families during the federal government shutdown
- Food security support when SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits were delayed
- Support for Western Alaska communities impacted by Typhoon Halong
- Partnership with the local food bank to provide holiday meal boxes

These efforts reflect the practical, compassionate, and community-centered approach that BBNA staff bring to their work every day.

In accepting the award, Serena recognized the 477 Management Team, including Pamela Murphy (Deputy Director of Workforce Development), Alec Arellano (Database Services Division Manager), and Michael Knezevic (Youth Division Lead Caseworker).

Serena also acknowledged the full 477 staff; the individuals answering calls, assisting participants, coordinating services, and responding to urgent community needs.

Serena further expressed appreciation to BBNA leadership, partner departments, and the 31 Tribal communities that trust BBNA through Tribal compacts to deliver services under the 102-477 Program.

This award belongs to the Workforce Development Department, the 477 Program team, and all BBNA departments and partners whose collaboration makes coordinated service delivery possible. It also reflects the strength, resilience, and commitment of the Bristol Bay region.

Please join us in congratulating Serena Aikins-McArthur, the Workforce Development Department, the 477 Program team, Child Development, Family Services, and all staff and partners who contributed to this national recognition.

Quyana and congratulations to BBNA Workforce Development and the 477 Program!

Natural Resources

CaSandra Johnson-Environmental Program Manager

BBNA Tribal Response Program Begins Hazardous Building Materials Survey at Former Trident Cannery

The Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA) Tribal Response Program (TRP) is partnering with the Chignik community and the Center for Creative Land Recycling (CCLR) to begin a Hazardous Building Materials (HBM) Survey of the former Trident Seafoods Cannery in Chignik Bay.

BBNA and CCLR are currently developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to hire a qualified environmental contractor to complete the survey.

The HBM Survey will identify hazardous building materials that may be present within the former cannery, including asbestos-containing materials, lead-based paint, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), mercury-containing equipment, and other regulated materials associated with historic industrial operations.

The information gathered will help the community better understand the condition of the buildings, protect human health and the environment, and support future redevelopment planning.

Following completion of the survey, BBNA will work with the community and project partners to evaluate redevelopment opportunities for the property. Depending on the survey results and available Tribal Response Program funding, BBNA may be able to support limited hazardous building material abatement activities to help reduce barriers to future reuse.

Any additional cleanup or remediation beyond the scope of the Tribal Response Program would be coordinated with the property owner, responsible parties, and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC).

This project represents another step toward preserving an important piece of Chignik Bay’s history while exploring opportunities to transform the former cannery into a community asset that supports local priorities and long-term economic resilience.

For more information about the BBNA Tribal Response Program or to learn how your community can add a property to the BBNA Brownfield Inventory, please contact CaSandra Johnson, Environmental Program Manager, at cjohnson@bbna.com

Upcoming Emergency Spill Response Training coming to Bristol Bay

The Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA) Environmental Program is excited to announce an upcoming Emergency Spill Response Training designed to strengthen local preparedness and response capabilities throughout the Bristol Bay region.

BBNA will be partnering with Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation’s Environmental Health to host this training.

Fuel and petroleum products are essential to everyday life in our rural communities, but accidental spills can pose risks to human health, subsistence resources, wildlife, and the environment.

This training will provide participants with practical knowledge and hands-on experience to help safely respond to spills and minimize environmental impacts.

Training topics will include:

- Spill prevention and preparedness
- Incident Command System
- Initial emergency response procedures
- Personal safety and hazard recognition
- Spill containment and control techniques
- Proper use of spill response equipment and materials
- Incident reporting and documentation
- Protection of waterways, fish habitat, and subsistence resources

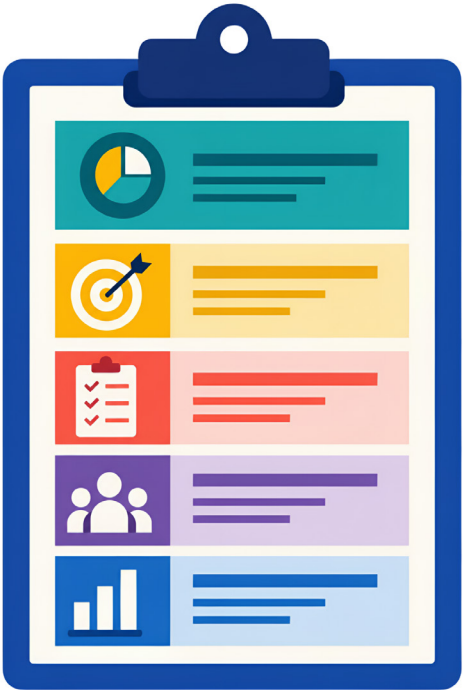
Whenever possible, the training will include hands-on exercises that allow participants to practice deploying spill response materials and applying response techniques in realistic scenarios. Participants will receive an (8-hour) HAZWOPER Awareness certification after completing the training.

By building local knowledge and response capacity, communities can be better prepared to protect public health, preserve valuable natural resources, and reduce the impacts of accidental spills before they become larger environmental problems.

This three-day training will take place in Dillingham during the week of August 10th. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact CaSandra Johnson, the Environmental Program Manager.



Participants in the last Spill Response Training hosted by the Brownfield Program at the Bingo Hall in Dillingham, AK- June 2017



Employees of the Quarter

We're excited to announce our Employee of the Quarter for 1st and 2nd Quarter: Deanna Snyder and Erin Martin!

This recognition is awarded to team members who consistently demonstrate excellence, dedication, and a positive impact on both our customers and colleagues.

During the past quarters, Deanna and Erin have gone above and beyond by filling in gaps for their department, taking on extra duties, having a positive attitude, helping clients with services, and serving their communities. Their commitment to our values, willingness to support others, and consistent high-quality work have made a meaningful difference across the organization.

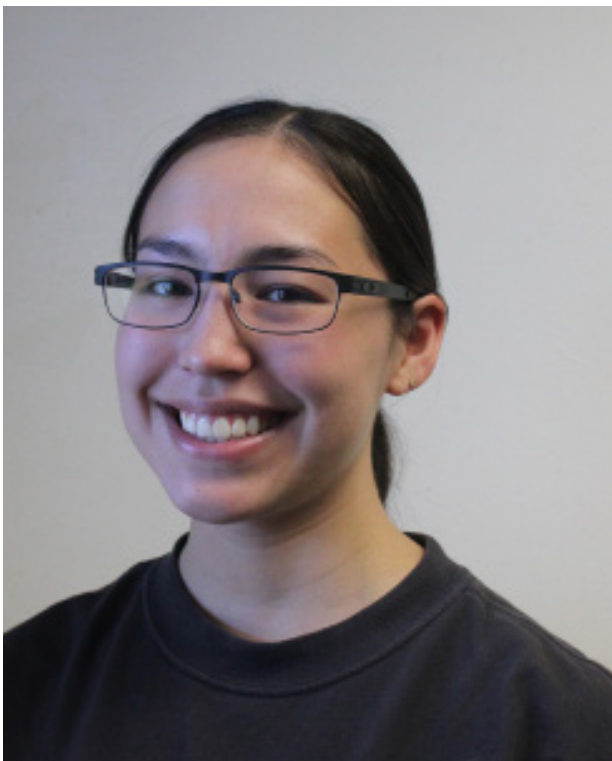
Please join us in congratulating Deanna and Erin on this well-deserved achievement! We appreciate everything they do and look forward to their continued success.

The Employee of the Quarter Award comes with two days of paid leave.

Again, congratulations to Deanna and Erin!



| Quarter 1 Employee of the Quarter Deanna Snyder



Quarter 2 Employee of the Quarter Erin Martin

Building Opportunities Through BBNA Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation.

Gail Sorensen- TVR Manager

BBNA Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation is committed to providing support and resources for individuals with disabilities across the Bristol Bay region.

TVR staff plan to travel to villages for outreach visits. During these visits, TVR can share program information, help with applications, provide referrals, and meet one-on-one with individuals and families.

These visits will help local residents know how to connect interested individuals to TVR services.

TVR supports individuals with disabilities who want help with employment, training, and greater independence. Services may include help with job goals, work readiness, training opportunities, referrals, and other supports based on individual needs.

TVR can travel on-site upon request. Interested in learning more or requesting a visit? Please contact TVR at 907-531-7653 or 1-877-203-6461.

The Crane Operator Training was held

in Iliamna, Alaska, from April 27 through May 1, 2026.

Congratulations to the recent graduates of the Crane Operator Training: Robert Bell, Jack Paine, Tyler Anelon, Eric Reimers, Clint Anelon, Natasha Christensen, Rhiana Nunez, Theodore Wassillie, Jack Wassillie, and Bryce Olympic.

This training was made possible through a regional partnership among Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Iliamna Development Corporation, Bristol Bay Native Association, and Crane Institute of America Inc.

Together, the partners helped bring practical, industry-focused learning to participants in the Bristol Bay region.

Throughout the program, participants gained hands-on experience and essential crane operation skills to support safe, skilled work in the construction and heavy equipment industries.

Training topics included crane standards, safety procedures, load chart interpretation, crane setup, pick-and-carry operations, rigging basics, and

hand and voice signals.

BBNA Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation celebrates the graduates, instructor Dub Huggins, and each partner organization for investing time, knowledge, and resources into workforce development.

Opportunities like this strengthen local capacity and help connect residents with practical training, industry knowledge, and the confidence to pursue employment and advancement.

Thank you to instructor Dub Huggins for sharing your expertise with participants throughout the training.

Partner websites: BBNC | Iliamna Development Corporation | BBNA | Crane Institute of America



Crane Operator Training in Iliamna, AK featuring graduates; Robert Bell, Jack Paine, Tyler Anelon, Eric Reimers, Clint Anelon, Natasha Christensen, Rhiana Nunez, Theodore Wassillie, Jack Wassillie, and Bryce Olympic

Tribal Broadband Bootcamp

Jayne Hardin- Media Services Specialist



From April 20–23, BBNA hosted a Tribal Broadband Bootcamp, an event put on by Was-kawiwin, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that hosts and manages the Tribal Broadband Bootcamps as well as finding other ways to assist building more Internet capacity in Indian country.

Around 20 learners attended from around Bristol Bay. We had attendees from Dillingham, Manokotak, New Stuyahok, South Naknek, Levelock and Togiak. We even had a local high school student who is interested in working in the field of technology.

The Institute of Local Self-Reliance is a national research and advocacy organization that partners with allies across the country to build an American economy driven by local priorities and accountable to people and the planet. They build local power to fight corporate control to help build thriving, diverse, equitable communities.

The Community Broadband Networks Initiative promotes locally rooted, democratically accountable broadband networks that provide fast, affordable and reliable internet access to all Americans.

At the bootcamp, attendees learned about Tribal Broadband practices and had multiple hands-on demonstrations and topics to learn about.

Some of these activities included:

- Cable Crimping
- Introduction to Fiber Internet
- Digital Equity
- A Field Trip to Nushagak Cooperative to tour the facility and watch demos by their very talented staff
- Introduction to Wireless Internet
- BBAHC CIO Presentation
- Fiber Stations Hands-On
- Basic Networking Crash Course
- Wireless Hands-On
- Wireless Home-Install Hands-On
- Troubleshooting Hands-On

The event was an incredibly informative and was a lot of fun for attendees. BBNA encourages anyone with an interest in technology to take advantage of these workshops and trainings when available.

In Loving Memory

“Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories.”

In Loving Memory of Sue Evanoff

5/13/1959-5/27/2026



Sue Evanoff, Pilot Point

Heaven gained a beautiful angel. Suzanne (Sue) Evanoff, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and the steady heart of Pilot Point, passed away on May 27th 2026.

She was strength wrapped in kindness, a woman whose love reached every corner of her family and community.

Born on May 13, 1959 to Jennie and Orin Seybert, Sue grew up with a deep love for tradition and hard work.

She managed a commercial setnet site in Pilot Point for most of her life and cherished subsistence fishing and processing fish with her family. She began her career with Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation in the early 1980s, later served as the Village Council Administrator in Pilot Point, and for 30 years devoted herself to the Lake and Peninsula School Board.

Though she retired briefly, her passion for keeping her village alive and thriving brought her

back. She was the glue that held people together, the one everyone could count on.

She loved cooking for her family, a warm kitchen filled with laughter, and a home where everyone felt welcome.

She instilled values that will live on: respect, strong work ethic, love for family, and joy in simple moments. Family came first, always.

Sue stayed strong to her last breath. She would want to be remembered for her strength and for the love she poured into her family and the community she served.

As she told her granddaughter whenever they parted,

“Look at the moon when you miss me. I will be looking at the same moon.”

In Loving Memory of Katherine Engell

2/20/66-6/14/26

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of our dear colleague and friend, Katherine Engell, who was part of BBNA's probate team for the past year.

Katherine was born in Kotzebue, AK on February 20, 1966.

Katherine joined BBNA as a probate assistant in 2025 and quickly became known for her friendly demeanor, strong organizational abilities and work ethic.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Katherine was a source of warmth and positivity. Whether offering guidance to new team members or sharing a laugh in the break room, she made our workplace brighter.

Many of us will fondly remember her collecting small trinkets to gift her friends and coworkers.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Katherine's family and friends. Her kindness, dedication, and friendship will remain in our hearts, and her contributions will continue to shape our work for years to come.

Katherine was kind to everyone, she loved everyone, and everyone loved her. She was an amazing, sweet soul anyone was blessed to meet. She loved her family and friends unconditionally; we send prayers to everyone.

We kindly ask that you keep Tom, her kids, grandkids, and great grand-daughter in your prayers as they go through this difficult time.



Katherine Engell and Tom Hoseth

