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Anne Shade, Head Start Director
Bristol Bay Native Association
P.O. Box 310
Dillingham, AK 99576

December 30, 2009

Dear Mrs. Shade and Policy Council Members;

I would like to attend the "Juneau Conference 2010- Telling Our Stories to Inspire" as this is my son's first year in Head Start. I have seen my son, Clint make so many leaps and bounds this year since attending Head Start. The biggest change I have seen is in his social and emotional skills, he went from this very reserved child who didn't want to be in school, even asking other parents and staff members to bring him home, to now telling me with great excitement all of the fun things he did in school. Having seen this change I would like to be an active parent in his education and believe this is a great way to become more involved and advocate for our Head Start programs in the Bristol Bay Region. I would also like the opportunity to network with other parents and Head Start Programs to find out how they collaborate with others to enhance services. Not only am I a Head Start parent but an employee of BBNA Workforce and work closely with the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Coordinator. The CCDF program over the last few years has been working with staff from Head Start to coordinate and supplement services and I believe this would be a great place for me as both a parent and employee to find out how other CCDF programs and Head Start programs collaborate with each other.

It is my hope that by attending this conference that I will have a better understanding of how Head Start works and what I can do as a parent to help. The biggest piece I would like to bring back is the knowledge of networking with other programs and agencies to enhance our own Head Start programs.

Should I be selected to attend I would be more than happy to share the information I gained at the next Dillingham Center Committee meeting which I am a member of. I would also be willing to type up something for the newsletter and of course would report through the BBNA trip report. I would also make myself available to answer questions that any one might have.

Thank you in advance for considering me as a candidate to attend this year's conference in Juneau.

Sincerely;

Serena Aikins-McArthur

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