# Table of Contents

- **Fifty Years of Service** ................................................................. 1
- **BBNA Board of Directors** ............................................................. 2
- **Essential Services** ..................................................................... 4
- **Community Services** ................................................................. 5
- **Land Management Services** ....................................................... 8
- **Natural Resources** ...................................................................... 9
- **Family Services** ....................................................................... 13
- **Workforce Development** .......................................................... 15
- **Child Development** ................................................................. 17
- **Program Development** ............................................................. 18
- **Transportation & Infrastructure Development** ....................... 22
- **Employee Recognition** ............................................................ 23
- **FY 2016 Budget** ......................................................................... 24
- **Contact Information** ................................................................. 25
Trying to piece together exactly when BBNA was born can be challenging. Our earliest records show the Southcentral Alaska Native Association, formed in 1966, slowly evolved into BBNA, and BBNA was officially incorporated in 1973. Then in 1974 BBNA unified with the Bristol Bay Area Development Corporation, which was formed in 1969. These efforts focused building a unified voice in our region and the State land selection process, which evolved into the movement for the Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement.

Of course, there were skeptics along the way doubting the success of the early efforts and debating inclusion and exclusion in the organization. Some even said the Native land claims would never be successful. But that didn't discourage our leaders from continuing to work to bring our region together and finally in unity with leaders from across the State to achieve the largest land claims settlement in U.S. history.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act was signed into law in 1971 and BBNA worked on implementing it by organizing Native corporations, enrolling shareholders, and with land selections. Passage of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act soon after ANCSA was signed, made us even stronger.

BBNA started as a small organization to help with land issues and the land claims settlement. It operated on a shoestring – such as small grants from RurALCAP and AFN, and later operated a small CETA jobs program. There were less than a dozen employees.

We’ve come a long way in 50 years. Now BBNA provides many essential services that didn’t exist 50 years ago and has grown to be one of the largest employers and economic engines in the region. The programs and services are described in this annual report.

We’re proud of the many accomplishments BBNA made during the past half-century and how we’ve changed in keeping with the times and service needs.

Of course, we’ve faced challenges and skeptics along the way. We still do. They make us stronger. Working together in unity we continue to make progress and we’ve always moved ahead. The Bristol Bay Regional Visioning Project brought us even closer together.

We’re dedicated to meeting BBNA’s mission of being a strong regional organization supported by the Tribes of Bristol Bay to serve as a unified voice to provide social, economic, cultural, educational opportunities and initiatives to benefit the Tribes and the Native people of Bristol Bay.

We have tremendous confidence in our people. Together we’ve built a successful Tribal consortium, and by continuing to work together in unity we can meet whatever challenges that may lie ahead.

Happy 50th Anniversary!

Fred T. Angasan
Chairman of the Board

Ralph Andersen
President & CEO
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman.................................Fred T. Angasan
Vice-Chairman.............................Tom Tilden
Secretary.................................Robert Heyano
Treasurer.................................Jaclyn Christensen

ILIAMNA LAKE

Igiugig.................................Tanya Salmon
Iliamna.................................Dwight Anelon
Kokhanok.........................Peducia Andrew
Levelock.........................Gustie Tallekpalek
Newhalen..........................Henry Olympic
Nondalton.........................William Trefon Jr.
Pedro Bay..................Verna Kolyaha

NUSHAGAK BAY

Aleknagik..............................Margie Aloysius
Clarks Point......................Betty L. Gardiner
Curyung..............................Tom Tilden
Ekuk.................................Robert Heyano

PENINSULA

Chignik Bay..............................Ilane Ashby
Chignik Lake..............................John Lind
Chignik Lagoon......................John Jones, Sr.
Ivanof Bay..............................Jacob Shangin
Perryville..............................Patrick Kosbruk

MEMBERS BY SUB-REGION

ILIAMNA LAKE

Iliamna Lake.................................Tanya Salmon
Kvichak Bay...............................Victor Seybert
Nushagak Bay..............................Betty L. Gardiner
Nushagak River.......................Charlie J. Johnson
Peninsula.............................Patrick Kosbruk
Togiak Bay............................Anna May Ferguson

KVICHAK BAY

Egegik.................................Justin Alto
Kanatak.............................Henry Forshey
King Salmon............................Peter Angasan
Naknek.................................Judy Jo Matson
Pilot Point..............................Victor Seybert
Port Heiden........................Jacklynn Christensen
South Naknek........................Fred T. Angasan
Ugashik..............................Daniel Pingree Jr.

NUSHAGAK RIVER

Ekwok.................................Peter Walcott Sr.
Koliganek..............................Margie Nelson
New Stuyahok....................Peter Christopher Sr.
Portage Creek.......................Charlie J. Johnson

TOSIATI KAY

Manokotak.............................Mike Minista
Togiak...............................Anna May Ferguson
Twin Hills.............................Julius Henry

BBNA 50 Years 1966-2016
The Mission of BBNA is to maintain and promote a strong regional organization supported by the Tribes of Bristol Bay to serve as a unified voice to provide social, economic, cultural, educational opportunities and initiatives to benefit the Tribes and the Native people of Bristol Bay.

**Administration** includes Ralph Andersen, President & CEO; Wassiliisia (DeeDee) Bennis, CAO; the offices of Patty Heyano, Program Development; Bruce Baltar, General Counsel; Rose Fisher, Human Resources; and Finance.

**Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Development** currently directed by Patty Heyano, serves the Tribal Transportation, Infrastructure, and Emergency Preparedness needs of the Bristol Bay Region.

**Community Services** directed by Bonnie Kropoff, includes Tribal Government Services, Tribal Court Enhancement Program, Bristol Bay Prisoner Reentry Initiative, the Village Public Safety Officer Program and Community Oriented Policing Program (COPS).

**Child Development** directed by Anne Shade, includes four early education programs in Dillingham, New Stuyahok, Manokotak, and Togiak.

**Land Management Services** directed by Realty Officer Tom Hoseth, includes various land transactions and acquisitions.

**Natural Resources** directed by Verner Wilson III, includes five programs: Environmental, Subsistence Fish Monitoring, Marine Mammals, Subsistence, and Brownfields Programs.

**Workforce Development** directed by Rae Belle Whitcomb, focuses on Employment, Job Placement and Training, Higher Education, Vocational Rehabilitation, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), and Child Care Assistance, Heating Assistance Programs (LIHEAP, AKHAP).

**Family Services** directed by Lou Johnson, includes 3 divisions: Aging & Disabilities Division (Title III, Title VI Part A, Title VI Part C, Aging & Disabilities Resource Center, Senior In-Home Services, Nutritional Supplement Incentive Program); Children's Services Division (Indian Child Welfare Act, Title IV-E, Title IV-B Sub-Part 1, Title IV-B Sub-Part 2) and; Family Violence Prevention Division (Family Violence Prevention, Grants to Indian Tribal Governments- Violence Against Women, Wellness, and Food Bank).

Pictured from left: Ralph Andersen, President & CEO; Wassiliisia (DeeDee) Bennis, Chief Administration Officer; Tom Hoseth, Realty Officer; Rae Belle Whitcomb, Director of Workforce Development; Patty Heyano, Director of Program Development; Rose Fisher, Director of Human Resources; Bruce Baltar, General Counsel; Bonnie Kropoff, Director of Community Services; Lucille Johnson, Director of Family Services; Anne Shade, Director of Child Development. Not pictured: Verner Wilson III, Director of Natural Resources.
“Promoting Self-Determination for the Bristol Bay Tribes”

Bonnie Kropoff, Director / Diane Folsom, A&OMS
Amelia Christensen, Program Assistant

The Community Services Department (CSD) programs include Tribal Government Services (TGS), the Village Public Safety Officer Program (VPSO) and the Tribal Justice Programs (Prisoner Re-entry Project and past/pending Tribal Court Enhancement Program).

The Community Services Department came about in the early years of BBNA to support and promote Bristol Bay Tribes’ sovereign right to Self-Determination with a small Tribal Government Services staff who worked to guide Tribes to resources and provide them with a myriad of assistance to meet the goal of Self-Determination. BBNA has administered the VPSO Program since the late 1970s and the program moved under the direction of the Community Services Department in December 2005. Tribal Justice Programs are fairly new; the Tribal Court Enhancement Program began in 2011 and the Prisoner Reentry project began in 2012. Both Justice Projects were started under the direction of long time and former Director, Ida Roehl. Ida retired in June after 19 years with BBNA and took with her a great wealth of TGS, VPSO & Tribal Justice knowledge gained as CSD Director, Tribal Judge and former Administrator during and prior to her 11+ years as CSD Director. We thank her for her many years of direction and wish her well in her retirement. We also said farewell to Nena Larsen, who worked in CSD as Accounting & Office Management Specialist for 10 of her 15+ years at BBNA.

Services are multi-faceted, including monitoring federal, tribal and state governmental actions, and evolving trends for potential program development. TGS staff work closely with Compact Tribes to assure the federal funds will enhance local Tribal governance and programs. BBNA’s Compact Pass-through Policy lays out the guidelines for eligible Tribes to access the Consolidated Tribal Government Services fund. The policy allows a Tribe to adopt and manage its program budget. BBNA partners with Tribes to provide a village-based Administrator to assist the Tribe to manage and account for the Compact Program. Several Tribes are eligible for the Johnson O’Malley Program funds which purpose is to ensure appropriate cultural enrichment education for Alaska Native students.

Accounting & Office Management Specialists provide supervisory oversight and technical assistance in areas of budget development, accounting and review of quarterly financial reports.

The 2016 Annual Presidents & Administrators Workshop was held for 2.5 days the end of April. This year’s theme was “Keeping up with Federal/State Program Changes”. The agenda included updates from Bristol Bay Housing Authority on NAHASDA, AHFC, and HUD Program changes; US Fish & Wildlife presented information about drafting their Alaska Native Relations Policy; BBNA Departments provided overviews and changes which included Family Services, Workforce Development, Natural Resources, and Human Resources. CSD’s Accounting & Office Management Specialists gave power point presentations on Compact Pass-through Policy, the Memorandum of Agreement for the Village-Based Employee, and Samples Review of Compact requirements. The VPSO Program Manager provided a program overview and updates. Prisoner Reentry Project staff also provided an overview, project developments and updates. BBNA’s Controller provided information about upcoming Compact Pass-Through reductions. BBNA’s President & CEO and General Counsel were also present to provide background information on the reductions and answer questions. Workshop participants provided evaluations to convey what information they found helpful, what information would be helpful for the next workshop, and other areas or issues of interest.
Village Public Safety Officer Program

“VPSOs partnering with rural Alaskans to improve safety and quality of life.”
Carla Akelkok, Program Manager

The Village Public Safety Officer Program began in the late 1970s as a means of providing rural Alaskan communities with needed public safety services at the local level. The program was created to reduce the loss of life due to fires, drowning, lost persons, and to address the lack of immediate emergency medical assistance in rural communities. BBNA started as one of ten non-profits contracting with the Department of Public Safety to employ Village Public Safety Officers. When the program was new, VPSOs conducted patrols on foot. Today, public safety services are supported by the use of patrol vehicles and skiffs.

Annual grant funding for the program comes from the Alaska Department of Public Safety (DPS). BBNA has also applied for and successfully received USDOJ CTAS Grant Funds for equipment purchases and training which helps officers respond faster and more safely. Equipment has been upgraded, twelve communities received 2013 Ford Police Interceptor Vehicles for “First Responders” and fifteen communities received Lund skiffs. BBNA was also awarded a 2015 CTAS COPS Training Grant to expand options of Public Safety Training.

We are humbled and honored to have the service of all of our past and present VPSOs. We share sorrow and condolences to family when honoring two officers which have given their lives during the call of duty: Ronald Eugene Zimin on October 22, 1986 and Thomas Olaf Madole on March 19, 2013.

State funding for rural law enforcement is limited. For FY2017, DPS provided funds for seven VPSO positions. Four are currently filled and three are vacant. Recruitment is open for three positions from seven potential duty stations: New Stuyahok, Chignik Bay, Egegik, Port Heiden, Iliamna/Newhalen, Aleknagik, or Manokotak. Determination of duty station is based on

the availability of qualified candidates. Duty stations are filled on a “first come first serve” basis. Rural law enforcement requires a deep commitment to public safety and a willingness to face difficult and dangerous situations. Exceptional character is required to become an officer with longevity in a small community. BBNA is proud of the longevity that has existed on our team.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WorkStation</th>
<th>VPSO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ekwok</td>
<td>Cpl. Corey Nicolai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koliganek</td>
<td>1st Sgt. Gust Tunguiung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilot Point</td>
<td>Sgt. Byron Wise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togiak</td>
<td>Cpl. Roger Wassillie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Becoming a VPSO is an excellent opportunity to serve one’s community. Candidates must be 21 years of age, of good moral character with no serious criminal history. Recruits launch a potential career ladder by passing the Sitka Academy’s fifteen week, rigorous training in Sitka, Alaska. Qualifying VPSOs with one year of service may advance to Firearms Training during the Alaska Law Enforcement Training (ALET). VPSO applicants must pass a minimum standards Physical Fitness Pre-Employment Test that includes 25 Pushups, 27 Sit-ups within a minute, and a 1.5 mile run within 15:12 minutes.

For more information on the VPSO program and how to apply go to the BBNA website: http://www.bbna.com/bbna-employment/. Additional information is available on the State of Alaska Department of Safety VPSO website: http://dps.alaska.gov/ast/vpso/.
**TRIBAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS**

*Project Manager, Vacant*

*Annie Golia, Program Assistant*

In conjunction with Bristol Bay Tribes, BBNA is working to expand Justice Programs wherever possible and advocate for increased funding, resources, and support to strengthen tribal justice systems in our region. US Dept. of Interior funds look promising for Tribal Court assessment outreach and equipment for Tribes, and State of Alaska Department of Corrections funds look promising to continue our Prisoner Reentry Program efforts. These opportunities edge us towards stable and consistent annual funding to enhance Tribal Courts and Prisoner Reentry program development.

**ORGANIZING PRINCIPLES FOR TRIBAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS**

The Tribal Justice Programs are organized around the following principles: 1) Comprehensive and system-wide approaches are critical for operating effective tribal justice programs and must include judicial, law enforcement, and policing components. 2) Tribal Justice is an essential Tribal government service. 3) Capacity-building, development and enhancement of Tribal Justice Systems are essential and an extension of nation-building. 4) The protection, exercise and respect for Tribal Sovereignty are key to the administration of Tribal Justice in a stable, fair, equal, and efficient manner.

**TRIBAL COURT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM:**

Past program grants from the US Department of Justice allowed CSD to develop proposals in several justice purpose areas and provide a series of tribal court trainings, starting in 2011. In 2013 the program partnered with the UAF-Bristol Bay Campus, and Native Law Scholars to design, develop, and deliver college-accredited training courses to over 100 students from the region. The students encompassed a diverse array of tribal judges, elders, council leaders, court clerks, regional service providers, stakeholders, and state justice system personnel including law enforcement officers (VPSOs and Dillingham City Police). Course titles included: “Federal Indian Law for Alaska Tribes” and “Tribal Court Development for Alaska Tribes.”

The vast majority of these classes were attended by first-time students that had never enrolled in a college course. Instructional methods significantly contributed to “growing” and sharing indigenous knowledge related to traditional Native justice. As a result, a 15-student cohort has been formed. If students complete all courses, they can obtain an occupational endorsement in Tribal Justice from the University of Alaska Tribal Management Program.

**BRISTOL BAY PRISONER REENTRY INITIATIVE:**

In 2012, BBNA CSD was awarded a $731,630 “seed” grant from the Department of Justice under the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation to pilot implementation of the Bristol Bay Prisoner Reentry Initiative. The primary purpose is to reduce Native recidivism, and improve public safety and outcomes for offenders reentering the Bristol Bay region.

In 2013, CSD convened a region-wide “Prisoner Reentry” Forum. Discussion was primarily focused on the impacts that Native incarceration and recidivism has on tribal communities, youth, families and children, subsistence, transmission of traditional knowledge and indigenous language(s), and erosion of tribal cultural values.
Land Management Services

Tom Hoseth, Realty Officer

Bristol Bay Native Association Land Management Services (LMS) opened its office in Dillingham early in 1986. The staff consisted of the Realty Officer, a Realty Specialist, and a clerk/typist. Before long, the staff was increased because of the workload. 2016 is our 30th year of operating the Realty program under the compact with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

At first, the emphasis was helping applicants obtain title to their Native allotments and restricted Native Townsite lots. There were also a number of transactions such as sales, gift deeds, leases, and easements. Most allotment applicants have received the certificates (title) to the land for which they applied. Although we continue to work on the remaining pending applications, the majority of our work is spent assisting landowners with sales, gift deeds, leases, easements, subdivisions, gravel leases, partitions, resolving trespasses and preparing probate packets in preparation for probate hearings.

BBNA LMS has had several excellent Realty Officers, LMS Specialists, and probate specialists since 1986. Two current staff members began with us in 1986. Other staff members have been with us for ten or more years.

There have been changes since 1986 regarding processing transactions concerning restricted land (allotments and restricted townsite lots). The transactions are more complicated because of federal regulation and Bureau of Indian Affairs policy changes. These changes require more time to complete transactions.

Another major change has been in the use of new computer technology such as ARC GIS (Geographical Information System). This has allowed LMS to use digital maps instead of using maps drawn on paper. It has also enabled LMS to scan documents and store them in our computer system, which we call Realtynet. We can look at maps and documents in our computer instead of having to go to our files and look for them. Today, we record documents in the State recorder’s office electronically. We receive recorded copies within 30 minutes instead of waiting several months via the mail system. In 2016, our Annual Trust Review (audit) was completed electronically.

In 1994, we added the Forestry services. Over the years, the forested Native Allotments were aerial photographed and forest inventories were completed. A region wide Forestry Management Plan was developed and approved by the BIA in March 2015. In the event of a forest fire(s) in our region, the plan outlines how LMS/Forestry can provide information to assist State/BLM agencies in fighting the fire(s). Our priority is the protection of the Native Allotments and Native Townsite lots. The Forestry department closely monitored the fires occurring within our region during the 2016 fire season. As of Sept. 19, 2016, there were 58 reported fires in Southwest Alaska and 73,152 acres burned. None of these fires required our request for suppression.

Wildfire near Dillingham, November 2012.
On BBNA’s 50th Anniversary, Celebrating Sustained Dedication for Our Rich Natural Resources

Verner Wilson III, Director of Natural Resources

During BBNA’s first 50 years, our region’s abundant natural resources inspired the creation and growth of our Natural Resources Department. As current staff during BBNA’s 50th anniversary, we want to reflect on the efforts of our Department’s predecessors who worked hard to protect our salmon, moose, caribou, marine mammals, birds and other rich natural resources that have sustained our people for millennia. The dedication of those before us reflects the values of our ancestors who taught us to be warriors for future generations. And because of those values, we still have among the world’s greatest and most abundant resources today, at a time when other areas are devastated or in decline due to poor management practices.

In the last 50 years, our resources and our people have gone through a lot. The sustainability of our world-class salmon runs are continually tested, even today, at all levels of society. Earlier in the 20th century, over-exploitation by both domestic and foreign fishermen led to severe decline of our fish. Previous leaders of the Department helped lead the way toward solutions. Robin Samuelsen was the first Director of the Natural Resources program. Both Robin and his father, Harvey Samuelsen, led our people when injustices were happening, such as when outside fishing companies mistreated locals—and encouraged overfishing. “Changes are always going to happen...organizations like BBNA Natural Resources have to help our people adjust to these changes” he said in an interview with me, as he discussed how we can adapt to hardships. He guided many changes during his tenure, such as the ability to obtain contracts from the federal government that were critical for the Department to help manage our resources, among others.

Increased local participation in natural resource management was also the goal of my predecessors. “The idea of co-management of our wildlife resources was new during my time in Natural Resources” said Ralph Andersen, former Director and current President and CEO of BBNA. “The creation of resource partnerships and co-management bodies like the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council and the Partners for Fisheries Management Program were important to me. I wanted to make sure our people have a rightful seat at the table.” Today BBNA Natural Resources staff-members have an active role in many wildlife and resource management organizations helping make management decisions for our region.

Those partnerships have been critical. Today, habitat issues related to potential mining in the region continue to test us. One of my other respected predecessors, Molly Chythlook, told me: “We will always have these issues, ’til death do us part...but one of the greatest opportunities is to educate others who don’t understand our region, to inform them of the issues we care about.” Elder leaders like her inspired others to partner with our people to do what is right for the region. It has inspired and influenced important decision-makers that live thousands of miles away, tasked with deciding our region’s fate. In my short career working on these issues, visits to the Bay included Interior Secretary Ken Salazar and EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. Most remarkably, President Barack Obama, during his historical 2015 visit to Dillingham, called Bristol Bay “a national treasure.” He vowed to visit Bristol Bay again in his lifetime.

The hard-fought efforts of those before us prove the continued determination by our people. In these past 50 years, BBNA has been integral on sustaining our resources. Countless staff within the Department spent long hours to get where we are today. Seeing BBNA in action while growing up in Dillingham, I have long viewed it as a dedicated tribal organization that has been there for our people. My colleagues and I are thankful to be part of the continual quest of protecting our resources that have helped our people survive for thousands of years. As you read our program updates, I know all of us within the Department are looking forward to the next 50 years, as we pass on the values to future generations of leaders.

From left: Helen Aderman, Marine Mammal Program Manager; Susan Flensburg, Environmental Program Manager; Verner Wilson III, Director of Natural Resources; CaSandera Johnson, Tribal Response Program Coordinator; Gayla Hoseth, Subsistence Research Specialist; Cody Larson, Subsistence Fisheries Scientist.
The Natural Resources Department would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the following previous/current Natural Resource Department employees for their dedication to BBNA, and most importantly to the people of Bristol Bay: Robin Samuelson, Ralph Andersen, Molly Chythlook, Courtenay Carty, Verner Wilson III, Ted Krieg, Russell Nelson, Delena Norris-Tull, Sue Flensburg, David Johnson, Wendy Nielsen, Ricardo Lopez, Hans Nicholson, Helen (Chythlook) Aderman, Dan Kingsley, Karen Pletnikoff, John Chythlook, Annie Golia, Frank Woods, Mariano Peters, Arla Johnson, Sally Rector, Sidney Nelson, Gayla Hoseth, Bryan Fritzke, Glenda Agayar, Christopher Strub, Danielle Stickman, CaSandera Johnson and Cody Larson.
SUBSISTENCE FISHERIES PROGRAM

Cody Larson, Subsistence Fisheries Scientist

Since the inception of the Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program in 2002, the program has led many subsistence fisheries research projects to help monitor and manage our fisheries. It has strived to maintain a high quality subsistence way of life in our communities, prioritizing local access and involvement of local subsistence harvesters and tribal councils. It included lengthy projects such as documenting subsistence uses in the Kvichak watershed, and impacts to subsistence by factors such as regulation changes and economic activities. For example in 2016, the collaboration between BBNA, the Manokotak Village Council, BBEDC, Trident Seafoods, Peter Pan, and ADF&G to continue operations at the Igushik River salmon counting tower, demonstrated our dedication to continue proper fisheries monitoring in Bristol Bay. With our state government’s current fiscal crisis, we will likely see more of these types of partnerships in co-managing our fisheries in the future. Some upcoming projects focus on studies of sharing subsistence salmon on the Alaska Peninsula, assessment of the Chinook salmon harvest from the Togiak River, and a potential region-wide abandoned net clean-up campaign.

Aside from direct federal subsistence fisheries research and co-management efforts, an imperative component of the BBNA Partner’s Program has been implementing the summer fisheries internship program. BBNA has hosted 79 college internships and 4 high school internships since its beginning. The Fisheries Intern program has been successful in developing students from the region into professionals in natural resource management around the state. The Fisheries Program started with strong roots, and will continue to bridge the region’s resource managers with stakeholders in a way that provides the best information and to facilitate productive conversations in order to make informed decisions on fisheries issues.

SUBSISTENCE PROGRAM

Gayla Hoseth, Subsistence Research Specialist

The Subsistence Program has been working hard over the years for the protection of our culture and traditional lifestyle. Bristol Bay is a place like no other, and living here is a blessing. The air we breathe is so crisp and clean, the water is our life, the land and ocean is our garden. We need to hold onto the values of our grandparents, who have taught us over the years to pass on traditions to the younger generations.

Working with our fellow Bristol Bay residents is one of the most rewarding aspects of our jobs. We have established lifelong friendships over the years. Together we have been successful in having people’s voices heard on fish and wildlife issues to help protect our resources. The road hasn’t always been smooth and easy, and we went through many hard times. The staff who previously worked in the Department laid the groundwork for us to continue the journey of protecting what we have. These individuals have spent many hours researching issues, sitting in meetings, taking notes, writing proposals, giving testimony, traveling away from home, sometimes even having to sacrifice personal time with families to make sure we get the job done on these important issues. Explaining our way of life is sometimes so challenging. Presenting and explaining our traditional practices to people who haven’t had the opportunity to grasp the beauty that surrounds us and the traditions we still practice today can be difficult.

We will continue to work with the agencies and go through the processes to make sure our voices are heard on subsistence issues. Learning the processes for each regulatory body and identifying if you have to abide by the state law or federal law gets confusing sometimes, especially when our main focus is to harvest and gather for our families.

Our staff is here to serve the residents in Bristol Bay. Education and outreach is our priority in helping get the word out on various issues. Our Department continues to work with the Federal Subsistence Board and the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council for subsistence fish and wildlife issues on federal lands. We also work with the State ADF&G: BBNA is actively involved in the Board of Fish and Board of Game process and participates in the local advisory committee meetings either in person or teleconference.

Over the years we have worked closely with different organizations on various projects to gather traditional ecological knowledge and continue these partnerships today. I served as chair of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council (AMBCC) and helped change spring/summer subsistence harvest season regulations. I also coordinated the Yaquillrit Kelutisti Council (YKC), the Bristol Bay Regional Council who reports to the AMBCC for regional reports and any regulatory changes we would like to have changed for migratory birds. We are here to help and will continue the fight to protect our resources for us and for generations to come.

BBNA 50 Years 1966-2016
The Marine Mammal Program has come a long way since it started in 1995. On BBNA’s 50th anniversary, our program is celebrating its 20th anniversary along with two important Bristol Bay marine mammal organizations that the Department closely works with: the Qayassiq Walrus Commission and the Bristol Bay Marine Mammal Program. Program goals are inspired by our traditional and cultural values to continue protecting our lands and waters for continued access to our traditional resources our people have had for millennia. The best way to accomplish any local Alaska Native knowledge and research goals with the tribes is to work together as a team to enhance tribal skills and confidence. In two decades of service, these three organizations that I am heavily involved with have been working with Bristol Bay tribes on integrating local traditional knowledge and western science on marine mammal research projects.

One important project includes the Bristol Bay Summer Youth Stewardship Program (BBSYP) for young Alaska Native high school seniors. For years, youth in this program have been on-the ground at Round Island, learning about Pacific walrus, seabird, and Steller sea lion monitoring as well as critical outdoor and wildlife management skills. These integrative, collaborative research projects have helped inspire confidence in our tribes’ ability to help manage our resources. As a result, many tribes have conducted their own marine multi-

The creation of Tribal Response Programs (TRP’s) stemmed from the 1980’s Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, or Superfund) which authorizes EPA, states, and Native American tribes to respond to hazardous substances released into the environment. CERCLA was passed by Congress after disasters such as the Love Canal in New York where contamination had caused major health effects in entire communities, and damaged drinking water and surface soils. These environmental issues showed the overwhelming need to protect human environmental health. Over the years, there have been other efforts to enhance CERCLA: in 2002 the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfield Act provided grant funds to start the TRP’s to address, coordinate and manage Brownfield sites in tribal communities across the country, like in Bristol Bay.

In 2008, BBNA applied for the CERCLA Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program and subsequently received the grant. BBNA's TRP goals are to promote capacity building and economic opportunities created by remediation and redevelopment of contaminated sites in our region. The first Brownfield Manager, Arla Johnson, started the ground work of establishing the program: she enrolled 12 tribes during her tenure and helped former TRP Coordinator Bryan Fritze and me to continue establishing and enhancing inventory and public records, conduct site visits and provide presentations to communities. The program has assisted tribes, DEC, and EPA in these efforts. It has also conducted outreach to communities about funding opportunities, and trainings to increase regional capacity to address Brownfield sites within the Bristol Bay region.

Today there are 20 BBNA tribes enrolled with the program. Several other BBNA tribes are working on gathering information for services, and building their inventory to start the Brownfield process. The program will continue to assist tribes to get contaminated sites back into reuse, enrolling more tribes into the program, and to build capacity.
Hi my name is Lou Johnson, Director of Family Services. Since I have been here at BBNA- (October 15, 1990) I have seen a lot of changes for Family Services- going from 3 program grants to maintain 1 social worker position to a department with 3 distinct divisions with approximately 30 employees to deliver the services for our programs. Over the years we have also administered programs that have come and gone as well as move to a more appropriate department- some that come to mind: Early Learning Opportunities; Child Care Program; BIA General Assistance; Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program; Child Care Development; Citgo Tribal Energy Assistance Program; Wellness; Healthy Families Program; Infant Learning Program; Personal Care Attendant Program; and Regional Food Bank. Even programs that we have had for years have evolved- Tribal Children's Services Program is now the Children's Services Division. Our Elderly Services Program is now the Aging & Disabilities Division. Our newest addition to the Department is our Family Violence Prevention Division.

Our Department originated as the Social Services Department in the early 1990’s with Ray Kent overseeing the department until a few years later when a department director position was created. In late 2011/early 2012 I began and implemented a department restructuring process and in late January, 2012 we officially became the Family Services Department with 3 distinct divisions: 1) Children’s Services Division (Formerly Tribal Children's Services Program); 2) Family Violence Prevention Division (Newly with the Children's Services Program); and 3) Aging & Disabilities Division (formerly Elderly Services Program). The following is a brief summary of our departments’ divisional histories.

**Children’s Services Division**

The Tribal Children’s Services Program began November, 1992 with the addition of 29 village-based workers and 1 additional regional social worker position providing Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and general social services delivery for our communities. This program combined ICWA and Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funds and required the employees complete the Early Childhood Certificate Program- Child Development Associate through our new contract with the UAF Bristol Bay Campus. We used the CCDBG funds to contract with the campus to hire an early childhood professor to provide the educational needs for our program as well as the newly acquired Head Start Program at BBNA. We hired Debi McLean as our professor, who is now the Campus Director.

When we compacted in the mid 1990’s the ICWA grants went away and we were moved under BBNA’s Office of Self Governance Program for ICWA funds- providing our program with 2 years of ICWA funding as our program historically ran one fiscal year behind. This ended our MOA with the Bristol Bay Campus as well as with the CCDBG program which moved under the Work Force Development Department. Fiscal Year 2003 BBNA signed an MOA with the State of Alaska Office of Children’s Services for Tribal Title IV-E Foster Care reimbursement funds. This MOA reimbursed BBNA for ICWA program expenses toward foster care/case management services. The program started at approximately $40,000 - $60,000 of reimbursements to this last fiscal year (2016) of over $189,000! Our Children’s Services Division currently funds the department director, division manager, 3 regional caseworker positions, and 11 village-based caseworkers.

**Aging & Disabilities Division**

The Elderly Services Program began long before I came to BBNA and it uses Title VI federal funds and Title III state funds for our Elder Nutrition Program. These funds are still available to us for the same purpose. We have contracts with 3 school districts within the region – 1) Southwest Schools; 2) Bristol Bay Borough; and 3) Lake & Peninsula Schools, to provide lunches for our elders and disabled individuals during the school year. We currently have 13 sites and provide both congregate and home-delivered meals to about 350.

In the mid 1990’s we added the Personal Care Attendant program to the services we provided to our elders/disable individuals. We developed a certified training program for PCA’s and began training local individuals to provide PCA services within their own community. That program has evolved over the years and due to state and federal regulations BBNA had to end that program but we do make referrals to those programs that are able to offer such services. We continue to provide very limited Homemaker/Chore Services and Respite Care Services.

In late 2012 the Elderly Services Program acquired the Aging & Disabilities Resource Center program from WFD. That program continues to be housed and is probably permanently housed in the department. Since our programs have always served our elders as well as our disabled individuals when we restructured the program transitioned to the Aging & Disabilities Division. We have since relocated our 2 Aging & Disabilities Division Caseworkers to the Dillingham Senior Center. This move has become a win-win situation for us, the senior center, and more importantly our elders and disabled individuals and their families. We are more accessible to our clients and their families and we seem to keep our clients at the senior center longer for the services. We provide more activities as well- bingo, haircuts, mani/pedi’s, exercises, movies, puzzles, games, etc.
BBNA had the Family Violence Prevention Services Act program funds for years prior to my coming on board. When SAFE opened its doors in the mid-1980s our Tribal Family Violence Prevention funds were sub-contracted to assist in the provision of advocacy and shelter services for victims throughout the region. When I began in 1990 the program sub-contracted about $20,000 a year with SAFE so as not to duplicate services. With the Stop Violence Against Indian Women Act in the early-mid-1990s we were able to continue to provide more than the minimal amount. With the FVPSA funds growing over the years and the STOP VAWA funds now available we were able to sub-contract between $120,000 and $350,000 a year for services for our Native victims. The VAWA funds have dwindled over the years and just 4 years ago was combined with the Coordinated Tribal Application Solicitation process - which combines several different funding sources and purpose areas for Tribes to apply for funds. We have received funds for our Tribal Government Services (formerly STOP VAWA funds), Sexual Assault Response Team Coordination Program, and now our Wellness Program.

The Regional Food Bank was also situated within the Children's Services Program - partially because the ICWA funds initially funded the food bank. The ICWA program purchased the first company vehicle for BBNA and assisted SAFE with the building of the Anana's House - a receiving home for children needing to be removed from their homes due to safety concerns yet not able to place in a foster home at the time of removal.

Our Children's Services Program historically administered the Family Violence programs and sub-contracted most funds with SAFE so as not to duplicate services. We now administer the programs in coordination with SAFE and most of the funding stays at BBNA for service delivery. The Regional Food Bank was also situated within the Children's Services Program - partially because the ICWA funds initially funded the food bank. The ICWA program purchased the first company vehicle for BBNA and assisted SAFE with the building of the Anana's House - a receiving home for children needing to be removed from their homes due to safety concerns yet not able to place in a foster home at the time of removal.

We continue our contract for services with SAFE for services but we also have built a Tribal Response Team program which coordinates with our villages and service providers to have a village response to the different societal problems - sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse/neglect, teenage pregnancy, substance abuse and its effects on the family.

In February, 2012 we inherited BBNA's Wellness program. At that time the Beauty for Ashes program was the main focus of Wellness for the region. We looked at BFA and other wellness curricula and decided to add AVCP's Healthy Families: The Yupik Way curriculum to our Wellness program. We have begun to work with 4-6 communities in implementing the Wellness: Circle of Life Program which is modeled after the Healthy Families curriculum.

The Regional Food Bank, this spring has begun to work with the SeaShare program which takes seafood by-catch and processes it to distribute to soup kitchens, food banks, schools, etc. We received our first shipment of 8400 lbs. of fish sticks this summer and then about 9 pallets of frozen king and red salmon fillets and about that much canned salmon for distribution.

The Family Services Department continues to collaborate with other service providers and programs to ensure that our clients receive the services they need to be self-sufficient and healthy. Along with the Work Force Development Department and the Head Start Program, the Family Services Department furthered its restructuring process by building the “NET” in collaboration with all three departments. We are looking at having departmental staff that are cross trained in the many different programs and services that are offered and provide seamless services for our families so that nobody falls out of the net!

We also continue to administer the “Christmas Angel Tree” Project every holiday season! This is something we enjoy and will continue to do so for as long as our people are so giving to our children! We will also coordinate with the program that provided gifts for our elders at Christmas time as well to assist in giving to our elders as well! Our rich history brings us full circle to today and we will continue to provide services and programs that fit the needs of our families and communities! We look forward to working with you in the future!

BBNA staff participated in wearing blue for Child Abuse Prevention Month in April 2016.

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Rae Belle Whitcomb, Workforce Development Director

Workforce Development Mission: Workforce Development provides quality services to Bristol Bay residents, promoting individual wellness and family self-sufficiency through employment and educational opportunities, which sustains cultural values and reflects economic trends of the Bristol Bay Region.

Workforce Development 2016

Workforce Development (WFD) manages nine state and federal tribal programs with services to tribal and non-natives dependent on funding regulations and within budget limitations. American Indian and Alaska Native organizations have full authority to design, implement and manage tribal program services directly from State and Federal agencies. Workforce Development focuses on employment and increasing self-sufficiency. Staff is elected to seats on tribal, local, state & federal boards, committees and workgroups to actively seek and strengthen our role in educating and directly addressing the challenges of tribal sovereignty with tribal determination and support of our tribal people.

Staff is working with individuals and families to build self-esteem in overcoming low income and addressing barriers including disabilities which impede employment. Individualized plans address employment barriers and the need for services to become employed. For communities with limited employment WFD may assist in the creation of small and micro-businesses focusing on establishing and maintaining a successful business.

Employment and Training services include: creating and updating resumes, job searches, employment counseling and interview techniques. Working with service partners, employers and contractors to develop jobs and identify employment needs of the Bristol Bay Region. Utilization of the Job Service Network and AlexSys Data Base helps to bring employees and employers together with jobs around the region and around the state. Additional employment related support services were provided to eligible individuals in obtaining or retaining employment such as short term transportation, grooming, clothing, tools and rental assistance.

WFD works with businesses to create worksites for individuals entering the workforce. If a business would like to set up work experiences or supported employment sites for adults or youth, please contact BBNA Workforce Development.

Higher Education provides scholarships to eligible students who are tribal members enrolled within BBNA compacting villages. BBNA increased the scholarship award up to $3,000 per year towards a student’s education depending on need.

Adult Vocational Training funds are provided to students with financial assistance to attend a vocational certification program of 6 months or longer.

The Youth Employment focuses on youth in developing individual career pathways and helps youth gain and maintain employment. Youth may work up to 100 hours within their communities assisting elders, working in offices and around the community. Youth are provided job placement experience; filling out an application, submitting all the required documents, and being interviewed. They gain work experience; showing up to work on time, doing required duties, filling out a time sheet, and gaining a reliable reputation. These experiences provide the ground work for higher self-esteem and self-sufficiency and in building positive work history and ethics that can carry on into their adult hood.

BBNA was awarded a five year discretionary grant from US Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration to continue providing Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR) to Alaskan Native and American Indian individuals with a disability experiencing employment difficulties. The program’s goal is to enable these individuals, consistent with their individual strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, and informed choice, to enter, maintain and advance in gainful employment. Program services are provided under an individualized plan for employment and may include native healing services, self-employment, subsistence and business ownership. Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program (VR) provided VR services to 64 tribal members with disabilities who reside in the Bristol Bay Region, consistent with their individual strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, and informed choices, so that they may prepare for and engage in gainful employment, including self-employment, telecommuting and business ownership. 17 individuals were successfully employed. VR staff traveled to 10 villages in FY16. Outreach activities were: conducting presentations, meeting with school age students and going on home visits. Confidentiality is maintained for all applicants and consumers.

BBNA 50 Years 1966-2016

Continued on next page
Child Care is to increase the availability, affordability and quality of childcare services to parents and providers in the Bristol Bay Region. The CCDF program continues efforts in maintaining a list of registered child care providers for working parents to access to meet their child care needs. Respite care for foster care parents may be offered on a time limited basis for children under protective services to allow foster care parents relief during the month for a break or to attend medical appointments. Respite care providers follow all child care provider health and safety regulations. With our reorganization efforts we have increased the number of families receiving child care assistance.

The 2016 Child Care Provider’s Conference was held in Dillingham August 2-4. Ten people attended the training with each receiving 1 college credit for the class called ECE 135 Family Childcare Training. The conference provided information, materials and resources that bring quality child care into communities, providing higher standards in health and safety and a greater understanding of children and family needs. Children deserve the best possible child care environment as we support working families.

The three day conference took place at the UAF Bristol Bay Campus and offered one Early Childhood Education credit for attendees. Workshops included; CPR and Pediatric First Aide, ACE’s Adverse Childhood Experiences, Billing and Invoices, Home Visits, Brain Development, Nutrition, Setting the Stage for Learning, SIDS/Back to Sleep, Running a Home Child Care Business. This conference is designed to give providers a better understanding of child development, safety and available resources. Attendees also receive materials and resources at the conference.

Child Care Center offers full day services and after school care with 3 classrooms; 5 children ages 0-18 months, 10 children 19 months to age 2 and 18-20 children ages 3-5 and up to 20 after school slots. The ITLC center is open from 7:30am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday. The children are provided with a variety of activities during the day. Children enjoy books, circle time, art activities, dramatic play and outdoor time daily. The children and parents enjoy the daily routine. The ITLC program makes the transition to Head Start or School much easier for the children. The ITLC employs three full time staff, 1 part time staff member and several Maximum Achievement Program (MAP) students. ITLC is open during the same time as the public school. The ITLC program operates from the last week of August to through the end of May.

General Assistance provides short term financial assistance to tribally enrolled individuals with little or no income. GA funds may only be used to meet essential needs, such as shelter, utilities, clothing and food. Families may not receive both GA and TANF at the same time. Families must apply for TANF. All general assistance recipients must become involved in community work service activities. Burial Assistance is provided under the General Assistance Program to low income eligible native residents of Bristol Bay with direct burial expenses.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families offers monthly cash assistance to income eligible families residing in the Bristol Bay region. The TANF program has offices in Togiak, Dillingham, Manokotak and New Stuyahok.

The four purposes of the TANF program are:

1. Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes.
2. Reduce the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.
3. Prevent and reduce unplanned pregnancies among single young adults.
4. Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

Adults on TANF are required to complete a family self-sufficiency plan (FSSP). The FSSP identifies the barriers and activities the family will participate in. Work activities may include: paid employment, work experience, community service work, traditional activities and other related activities to reach self-sufficiency and end dependence.

The Heating Assistance Program helps low income qualifying households pay a portion of their heating assistance needs. A household may receive only one grant per year. Income eligible households were awarded a heating assistance award paid directly to utility vendors. The Heating Assistance Program is working with the Bristol Bay Housing Authority and village councils to assist low income household with failed or unsafe heating units by installing new boilers, Toyostove and furnaces.

For more information on any of the Workforce Development Program Services, please contact Workforce Development at 907-842-2262 or 1-888-285-2262.
 MANAGEMENT STAFF

Director – Anne Shade
HS Program Manager – Carolyn Hoseth
Logistics – Jennifer Gardiner
CC Program Manager – Breanna Boyiddle
HS Wellness Manager – Jeanie Timmerman
HS Education Manager – Kate Berkoski
Mentor Coach – Elizabeth Wassille
Eligibility Tech – Bristelle Larson
ECE Career Development Advisor – Jenny Bennis
FRC Coordinator – Joy Crow
Program Assistant – Stephanie Kristovich

HEAD START: TOTAL ENROLLMENT OF 80 STUDENTS

TOGIAK:
Teacher - Emma Kasak-Ayojiak
Aides - Sam Kohuk, Liza Andrews

NEW STUYAHOK:
Teacher - Erick Hanson
Aides - Maria Christopher, Joanna Andrew

MANOKOTAK:
Teacher - Desiree Bartman
Aides - Sally Andrew, Kristin Gamechuck

DILLINGHAM:
Teachers - Kathy Whittington, Alejandra Garcia
Aides - Diana Merlino, Allison O’Brien, Rick Murphy, Katrina MacLeod
Bus Driver - Elia Akelkok
Kitchen Staff - Miles Gobert, Megan Olsen

CHILD CARE CENTER:
Total Enrollment 55 Students:
Teachers - Elizabeth Brothers, Kaylene Chuckwak, Kathy Whittington, Richard Murphy
Aides - Veronica Phillips, Makenzie Flensburg, Kayla Brothers, Latricia Leveque

CCDF:
Child Care Development Funding assists low-income families in obtaining child care so they can work or attend training/education.
119 Children Enrolled
39 Providers
13 Communities

TOTAL FUNDING LEVEL 2016-2017
Federal – $1,396,303.00
Cola – $24,887.00
State – $73,934.00
Program Income – $85,172.00
Other
(CACFP, CCDF, Admin) – $626,925.00
Total – $2,207,221.00
NFS – $356,213.00
Waiver – $229,258.00
NFS Required = $126,955.00

LAST FEDERAL REVIEW FINDINGS
Health and Safety – 1 Finding
Fiscal/ERSEA – 0 Findings

2015-2016 FINANCIAL AUDIT
0 Findings

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Category | 2015-2016 Budget | 2016-2017 Budget
--- | --- | ---
Personnel | $785,093.89 | $1,140,587.00
Fringe | $335,291.06 | $493,275.00
Substitutes | $15,000.00 | $15,000.00
Staff Travel | $61,229.00 | $34,329.00
Volunteers | $25,000.00 | $0.00
Local Travel | $2,800.00 | $3,000.00
Parent Services | $22,443.00 | $20,526.00
Staff Training & Development | $18,381.00 | $19,285.00
Supplies | $31,326.00 | $25,721.00
Maintenance Supplies | $29,568.00 | $11,999.00
Phone and Utilities | $96,630.00 | $86,500.00
Insurance | $19,136.00 | $19,136.00
Rent/Mortgage | $81,384.00 | $27,909.00
Contractual | $13,000.00 | $35,903.00
Other | $19,960.00 | $8,000.00
Bus Gas | $12,500.00 | $6,000.00
Bus Maintenance | $8,000.00 | $8,000.00
Food | $86,700.00 | $60,000.00
Indirect | $169,642.57 | $182,051.00
Total | $1,832,685.52 | $2,207,221.00

CLASSROOM TOTAL ENROLLMENT 2015-2016 | 2016-2017
--- | ---
Dillingham | 36 | 32
Togiak | 21 | 16
New Stuyahok | 18 | 16
Manokotak | 17 | 16
Total All Sites | 92 | 80

CLASSROOM MEDICAL & DENTAL SERVICES 2015-16 | 2015-16 DENTAL EXAM
--- | ---
Dillingham | 92% | 97%
Togiak | 81% | 90%
New Stuyahok | 94% | 100%
Manokotak | 94% | 88%
Total All Services | 96% | 94%

COMPONENTS OF HEAD START
♦ Education
♦ Staff
♦ Social Services
♦ Health
♦ Parent Involvement
♦ Behavioral Health

LAST FEDERAL REVIEW FINDINGS
Health and Safety – 1 Finding
Fiscal/ERSEA – 0 Findings

2015-2016 FINANCIAL AUDIT
0 Findings

BBNA 50 YEARS 1966-2016
Program Development Department
Patty Heyano, Program Development Director

The Program Development Department (PDD), formerly known as Planning & Program Development, was slowly built with the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Partnership Planning Grant as its base. In the early years it wasn’t a department and its functions were constantly changed and restructured as sources of funding came and went. In 1995-1996, when the tribes compacted under the Compact of Self-Governance BBNA received a large part of its funding through a stable, reoccurring agreement that allowed the department to take shape. The Director is charged with planning, new program development, grant writing, managing grants, supervising programs, and special projects. Patty Heyano is the PDD Director and is currently working on a couple of projects.

It is the third and last year of the FY2014 ANE Grant in partnership with the University of Alaska Fairbanks-Bristol Bay Campus (UAF-BBC). It is a project called, “Preserving Alaska Native Culture and Empowering Communities in Bristol Bay.” Patty provides grants management, while Annie Fritze, Economic Development Program Manager, delivers arts and crafts classes, the Arts & Craft Marketplace, and small business development classes. Annie also serves as the cultural barer, by monitoring the UAF-BBC’s activities under the project.

Patty received a FY2015 ANA SEDS-AK Grant for a “Regional Government Study with Tribes,” a project for the Dillingham Census (unorganized borough) Area. Ekuk Tribe sponsored the grant application through resolution and matching funds were contributed by the City of Dillingham and City of Aleknagik. The project is a borough study that includes the tribes in the discussion. It is looking at the level of resources available for a potential borough within the Dillingham Census Area. It is exploring how a borough can be formed with the tribes included in revenue sharing. The project is mainly a way for representatives from the municipalities, school districts, regional entities, and tribes to share their views on boroughs. The study is ongoing and expected to be completed in January 2017.

Economic Development Program
Annie Fritze, Economic Development Program Manager

BBNA has operated the Economic Development program since 1974. This program continues to complete a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) on an annual basis that spell out the economic development planning efforts of BBNA’s Economic Development Program, changes to the region’s economy, economic development potentials, barriers, and includes a work plan of goals and objectives.

This annual report will showcase reflections of accomplishments from the past and present.

BBNA’s Planner completed the Bristol Bay: An Overall Economic Development Plan. The report was considered the best in eight (8) western states by John H. Davidson, former Planning Director, EDA Regional Office, Seattle.

In 1992, BBNA’s planner, assisted area communities to organize the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation (BBEDC), the local Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) Group. Today, 17 of the region’s 29 communities are members of BBEDC.

BBNA’s Blue Ribbon Committee on Limited Entry: From 1994 to 1998, BBNA’s Planner organized meetings for this committee to examine ways to keep Bristol Bay salmon limited entry permits from leaving the region. This committee recommended the formation of a Bristol Bay Permit Brokerage to provide financial counseling to area fishermen experiencing financial problems and who are on the verge of losing their permits. This committee also developed criteria for establishing a revolving loan fund.

Bristol Bay Permit Brokerage: BBNA’s Planner supervised the work of Bernice Heyano who later joined the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation to offer financial counseling to area fishermen faced with serious financial problems.

Continued on next page
BBNA’s Tourism Brochure: In 1996, BBNA’s planner had 10,000 copies of Welcome from the Native People of Alaska’s Bristol Bay Region, a tourism brochure printed about the Bristol Bay area, its Native community, the subsistence lifestyle of the villagers, and some of the common concerns villagers have about tourist-related activities in the region.

Bristol Bay Visitors Council (BBVC): Back in October 1996, BBNA’s planner began to organize regular meetings of the Bristol Bay Visitors Council. This council met 2 to 3 times per year, and had worked on establishing cultural facilities and museums in the Dillingham, Newhalen/Iliamna, and Naknek/King Salmon areas. To date, it is not known if this council still is engaging in meetings.

Bristol Bay Cultural Facilities/Museums Project: BBNA’s Planner obtained $50,000 in Western Alaska Fisheries Disaster funds from the U. S. Department of Commerce, EDA (including a $15,000 contribution from the Bristol Bay Native Corporation) to hire Chris Beck and Associates of Anchorage to examine the economic feasibility of constructing cultural facilities or museums in the Newhalen-Iliamna area, Dillingham, and the Naknek-King Salmon area. As a result, a Bristol Bay Visitors Council Culture and Nature Based Programs and Facilities for Bristol Bay manual was created.

Tourism Development Workshops: From 1993 to 1995, BBNA’s Planner organized a Small Camp Tourism Workshops held in Ekwok, Naknek, Newhalen, and Chignik Lake. Then in 1999, BBNA’s planner received Western Alaska Fisheries Disasters funds from the EDA, and hired a BBNA’s Tourism Development Planner. Tourism Planner held workshops in Nondalton, Naknek, Port Heiden, Chignik Lake, New Stuyahok, Togiak, and Kokhanok. Then in 2002, tourism development workshops were held in Clark’s Point, Manokotak, Aleknagik, Levelock, Koliganek, and New Stuyahok.

BBNA’s Economic Development Program Manager organized a tourism workshop held in Port Heiden, Alaska on April 16-18, 2012.

On April 28-30, 2014 BBNA’s Economic Development Program Manager organized a Tourism/Small Business workshop held in Dillingham, Alaska at the UAF-Bristol Bay Campus where fifteen (15) students participated in this workshop. UAF-Bristol Bay Campus, Icicle Seafoods, and Bristol Bay Native Corporation provided student support. Representatives from Ekwok (4 students), New Stuyahok (3 students), Twin Hills (2 students), Pilot Point (1 student), Dillingham (3 students), and Anchorage (2 students) successfully completed this three-day event earning 1.0 credit hours. Local author and instructor, Joanne Nelson gave an excellent presentation on birding tourism opportunities. Students also heard from Luki Akelkok, owner of Maaluq Lodge from Ekwok; JD Bennis, owner of the Board Room Bed and Breakfast; Pete Andrew, former owner of Ayang-sii Tours; Todd Fritze, owner of Fritze’s Furs; and Kyle Belleque on his dog mushing tours on how they started their businesses and what lessons were learned.

On November 18, 2014 a GEO-Tourism Workshop was held in Naknek, Alaska at Dolly’s Hall which was hosted by Bristol Bay Native Association’s Planning & Program Development. Fifteen local participants attended this workshop, four participants attended by phone, UAF Professor Tony Nakazawa organized the Familiarization Tour of the Naknek, King Salmon, and Katmai National Park areas for our honored guests. Honored guests included Masa Yasu Ando, Hai Shirokuma Tours, LLC; Hiroyuki Matsuura, Taisei Gakuin University - Osaka (Japan-Alaska Bridgebuilder); Steve Rader, Anchorage Hilton Hotels; and Daisy Alfaro, Daisy Tours. Diane Chung and Roy Wood of the Katmai National Park and Preserve were recognized for their participation and support. Gift bags and items were provided by the Bristol Bay Borough, Bristol Bay Borough Chamber of Commerce, Chinook Gift Shop, Katmai National Park Service, and Alaska Commercial Company Store in King Salmon.
Pam Riddle brought teriyaki smoked salmon jerky and Maica Sherman of the Shire Bakery brought a chocolate cake that was enjoyed by the participants.

Honored guests and presenters were given jarred smoked salmon made by Deb Jones.

June 1980, *Bristol Bay Energy Report* was prepared by the planner addressing “the serious situation the region is faced with in terms of future energy needs”.

**Bristol Bay Alternative Energy Task Force:** In 1996, BBNA’s Planner organized this task force made up of representatives from the region’s electric companies, school districts, borough governments, and regional entities who generally meet 2 times per year to examine alternative energy sources for potential application in the region. This task force had examined wind power, tidal power, fuel cell technology, natural gas, and coal bed methane studies in the Chignik area. It had examined cost comparisons between coal and diesel fuel, and current oil and gas exploration activities in the region.

BBNA’s Bristol Bay Alternative Energy Task Force was the recipient of SWAMC’s 1999 Commitment of Conserve Award.

**Bristol Bay Economic Summit:** On April 23-25, 2003, BBNA’s Planner, with funds obtained from the State Department of Labor, offered its first live webcast of a major meeting in the region (the Bristol Bay Economic Summit held in Dillingham). About 200 village participants from throughout the region linked into the Economic Summit via the Internet.

**Visit and Explore Alaska’s Beautiful Bristol Bay Region:** On January 2016, the Economic Development Program completed a comprehensive regional visitor guide manual. 900 copies of “Visit and Explore Alaska’s Beautiful Bristol Bay Region” was printed to promote tourism opportunities in Bristol Bay. BBNA’s Economic Development Program Manager secured donation dollars from regional businesses to place ads in this guide. The funding helped offset the cost of printing the manual.

**World Wildlife Funds (WWF):** The BBNA Economic Development Program received $20,000 from World Wildlife Fund during this past year. This partnership resulted in offering various cultural classes to promote and market the Bristol Bay Alaska Native Arts and Crafts and offering of a small business class on “How to establish a cooperative” artist business opportunity in this region.

**Partnerships:** The Economic Development Program Manager secured $65,000 through contractual agreements with USDA-Rural Development, SWAMC, and Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation for FY 2015/2016.

SWAMC and BBEDC funding was used for the regional energy planning efforts and conducting non-residential energy benchmarking.

The USDA-RD agreement is to improve access to Rural Development programs to remote and isolated regions of Alaska. The Agreement will support Rural Development’s Strike Force and community economic development efforts and enhance Native American business development by leveraging partnerships and resources of diverse institutions and organizations.

BBNA Economic Development Program is the point of contact for USDA-RD information. Contact Annie Fritze at (907) 842-6223 or email afritze@bbna.com.

Each year, since 1974 a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is written by the Economic Program Staff. The product is ongoing planning efforts led by the CEDS Committee and tribally enrolled members and other participants concerned for the sustainable, long term responsible economic development, job creation, and overall improvement in the quality of life in the Bristol Bay Region. Funding is supported from the United States Department of Commerce - Economic Development Administration.

2016 was a remarkable year for the Economic Development Program. An estimated 222 jobs were created or retained as a result of the projects listed in the CEDS. Private sector investment generated by the projects was estimated at $21,448 and public sector investments was at $29.5 million dollars.
Alaska Native Education (ANE) Grant “Preserving Alaska Native Culture and Empowering Communities in Bristol Bay”. BBNAs Program Planning Department and UAF Bristol Bay Campus had designed the Grant to enhance cultural knowledge through participation in a variety of culturally relevant classes. The ANE grant impacted the following:

**High School Dual Credit Recovery Courses**
- Dillingham City School District: 186 students
- Bristol Bay Borough School District: 68 students
- Lake and Peninsula School District: 69 students
- Southwest Region Schools: 54 students

**Culturally Relevant Professional Development**
Teachers from nine villages took advantage of 54 traditional training courses in a vast array of arts and crafts: Dillingham 7, New Stuyahok 13, Manokotak 15, Togiak 6, Koliganek 3, Lake & Peninsula 1 and Aleknagik 1.

**UAF-Bristol Bay Campus will provide 10 traditional arts and crafts course offerings.**
30 various traditional courses were offered at the Bristol Bay Campus or surrounding villages impacting 324 student seats.

**Arts and Crafts Marketplace**
37 participants took advantage of two arts and craft fairs held at the Bristol Bay Campus. This has a huge impact on their income.

**Small Business Classes**
Small business or village based entrepreneurship courses was offered to sixty (60) student seats. These classes taught how to wire a business plan, project a financial plan, and administering the challenges of a small business.

**(ANE Grant) Technology Courses**
50 students took advantage of various technology trainings offered through the Bristol Bay Campus. An establishment of a Fab Lab was also created. A Fab Lab is a space which facilitates individuals to test and develop their ideas and inventions. The following hardware and software are available to students and the community: Computer Assisted Drafting, Computer Assisted Manufacturing, Computer Numeric Control Mill, 3D Printers, 3D Scanners, Vinyl Cutter and Solvent Based Printer and Laser Cutter.

**Small Business Technical Assistance**
Thinking about starting your own business? Need information on startup, preparing business or marketing plans or where to obtain loans? BBNA has information that maybe helpful. Stop by the Economic Development Program office located at the BBNA Annex Building or contact Annie Fritze for assistance at 907-842-5257 ext 323.
The BBNA Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Development (DOTID) suffered an enormous loss when Julie Baltar passed away on August 14, 2016. Julie had a great impact on tribal transportation in the region, the state, and at the national level. She was a forward thinker, with lots of energy and a passion for her work in transportation and infrastructure development. She will be greatly missed, and our heartfelt condolences go out to her husband, Bruce, and their family.

DOTID has been in existence for 4 years. Bruce Baltar ran the Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) program for BBNA on behalf of member tribes from 2006 to 2012, prior to the department being established. A Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Tribal Transit grant was secured in 2011 by Patty Heyano that Julie took over after she started working at BBNA in October 2011. In 2013 Julie quickly added the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) and the Tribal Transportation Safety Program, and FEMA Hazard Mitigation Planning in 2014.

There are 7 member tribes in the BBNA Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) Consortium. These include Clark’s Point, Ekuk, Ekwok, New Stuyahok, Pilot Point, Portage Creek, and Twin Hills. Projects in Transportation Planning, Indian Reservation Roads (IRR), and Maintenance include: Clark’s Point to Ekuk Access Road project, Clark’s Point Maintenance; Ekwok Klutuk Road; Ekwok Maintenance; New Stuyahok Road; Pilot Point Ugashik River Road; Pilot Point Maintenance; Portage Creek Landfill Road; Twin Hills Landfill Road; and Twin Hills Maintenance.

DOTID held combined planning meetings for Tribal Transportation Plan (TTP), Tribal Transportation Safety Plan (TTSP), and Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) for five tribes including Ekwok, New Stuyahok, Nondalton, Perryville, and Pilot Point. DOTID will hold public meetings with the other participating villages: Clark’s Point, Curyung, Ekuk, Egegik, Levelock, Port Heiden, Portage Creek, Togiak, and Twin Hills through the winter as needed. DOTID is working closely with communities to have a FEMA approved HMP, a TTP, and TTSP in place. Many Cities and the two Boroughs have existing plans. Tribal Plans will complement any existing plan. Once Plans are completed, the Tribes will have access to funding based upon projects identified in their approved plans.

Tribal Transit Planning Project is funded through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). DOTID has developed an implementation plan for a Dillingham / Aleknagik Transit System. The transit plan is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2016 upon approval by the coordinated transit committee. After that, DOTID will be working with the Tribes to apply for grants to implement the Dillingham / Aleknagik Transit System.

Bristol Bay Regional Infrastructure Coordination Committee: DOTID continued to work with the Bristol Bay Regional Infrastructure Coordination Committee to coordinate infrastructure projects in the region.

Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan: DOTID followed the development of the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) and gave input. The final plan was completed in April 2016 and can be found at www.swaktransplan.com.

Alaska Tribal Transportation Symposium (ATTS) was held March 22-24, 2016: Julie was President of the Alaska Tribal Transportation Working Group (ATTWG) that put on the Symposium annually. Julie took an active role in supporting and advocating for tribal infrastructure needs in the region, the state, and nationwide. An informative website for ATTWG is at www.attwg.org that has links to presentation of past Symposia.

Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) was passed and effective on October 1, 2015, providing $2.425 Billion in funding over five years from FY16 to FY20. BBNA entered into an Agreement with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for Tribal Transportation Planning, construction management, program administration, design, construction, road maintenance, safety, bridges, and other activities. Funds are accessed through an approved Tribal Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Plan (TTPTIP).

Feel free to provide information and photos of your infrastructure needs to aid DOTID in its advocacy on your behalf.

BBNA DOTID Contact Information:
Acting Director: Patty Heyano; pheyano@bbna.com; 907 842-6221
Program Assistant: Jenifer Wilson; jwilson@bbna.com; 907 842-6142
Technician: Gusty Akelkok, gakelkok@bbna.com; 907 842-6143

BBNA 50 Years 1966-2016
Visualize... calendar pages flipping, each blotted with reminders and deadlines. The pages represent months transforming subtly into years; becoming a career diary of days where plans sometimes came apart by instant change. When we recognize an employee’s longevity, we are giving witness to an era of a person’s life. Business hours are surrounded by separate identities; rising early, caring for children and elders, celebrations of new life; grieving for those who have left, harvesting food, volunteering as EMT’s Firefighters, youth supporters, and seeing babies suddenly graduating from high school. Employees with longevity have learned to balance dedication to service with enrichment of their personal lives. They’ve agreed and disagreed enthusiastically with colleagues but kept faithfully grounded on BBNA’s mission. There have never been enough words or tokens that can accurately represent the meaning of your time. So, we express what says it best; thank you and congratulations!

Dana D. Clark, Payroll Manager  30 years
Amelia Christensen, Community Services Program Assistant  20 years
Deborah A. Carlson, Tribal Administrator Chignik Bay  20 years
Byron N. Wise, Village Public Safety Officer, Pilot Point  15 years
Allen J. Ilutsik, Tribal Administrator, Aleknagik  15 years
Elizabeth M. Wassillie, Teacher/Mentor/Coach E.C.E. Head Start  15 years
Olga Kropoff, Personnel Manager  10 years

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD
Emma Kasak-Ayojiak, Head Start Center Coordinator / Teacher, Togiak

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER AWARDS
September – October - November
Stephanie Kristovich, Head Start Administrative Assistant

December - January - February
Amelia Christensen, Community Services Program Assistant

March - April - May
Darlene Olson, Workforce Development Job Developer

June – July – August
Susan Flensburg, Environmental Program Manager
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$26,218,532
CONTACT INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS
President and Chief Executive Officer.................................................................Ralph Andersen
Chief Administrative Officer.................................................................Wassiliisia “DeeDee” Bennis
Comptroller.................................................................Vacant
Human Resources Director..........................................................Rose Fisher
Program Development Director..........................................................Patty Heyano
General Counsel............................................................Bruce Baltar
Land Management Services Realty Officer.............................................Bonnie Kropoff
Community Services Director.........................................................Tom Hoseth
Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director..................Patty Heyano (Acting)
Natural Resources Director........................................................Verner Wilson III
Family Services Director............................................................Lucille Johnson
Child Development Director..............................................................Anne Shade
Workforce Development Director..................................................Rae Belle Whitcomb

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Fax (907) 842-2338
Toll Free 1-800-478-4059

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Fax (907) 842-4106
Toll Free 1-888-918-3663

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Toll Free 1-888-285-2262

Additional information about BBNA programs can be found on our website at www.bbna.com

BBNA Service Area

BBNA 50 Years 1966-2016