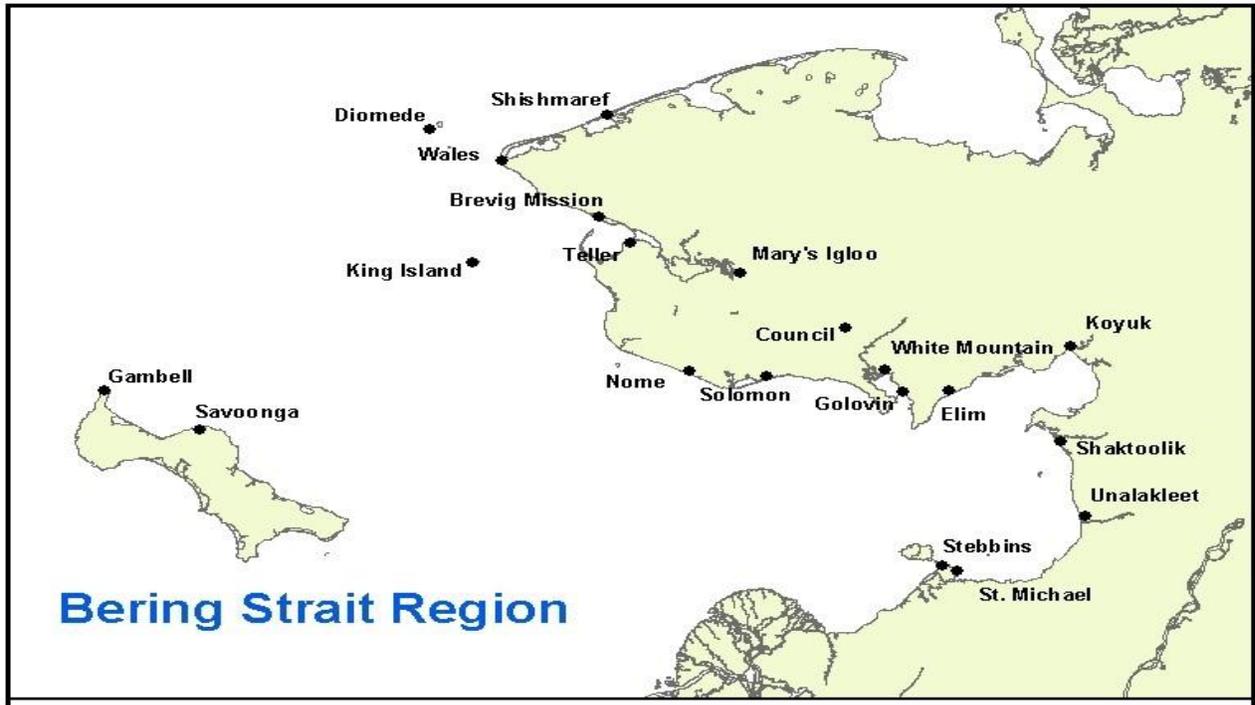


Kawerak Head Start



Community Needs Assessment

July 2013

Table of Contents

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Page Number</u>
Introduction	3
Executive Summary	3
Methodology	4
Bering Strait Region Demographics	5
Racial and Ethnic Composition, Culture and Language Data	11
Children with Disabilities Data	14
Community Resources to meet the needs of AIAN Head Start Eligible Children and Families Data	16
Strengths and Needs of AIAN Head Start Eligible Children and their Families Data	19
Data Analysis of AIAN Specific Information	21
Recommendations and Decisions	22
Works Cited	23

Introduction and Executive Summary:

Our mission is to open doors of opportunity for children by providing comprehensive quality family-centered services to eligible Early Head Start & Head Start families. Through team work and dedication to our families and community partners, we are committed to ensuring that the experiences children receive meet their social competencies and families are empowered as the primary nurturers of their children.

This Community Needs Assessment, using the data from census figures, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Services, State of Alaska, local organizations, and other sources, describes information concerning the people and conditions that prevail in the Kawerak Head Start/Early Head Start service area. The Kawerak Head Start/Early Head Start's service area is located in the Bering Straits Region of Alaska serving 11 out of 16 villages that are inhabited year around. These villages include: Brevig Mission, Elim, Gambell, Golovin, Koyuk, Nome, Shaktoolik, Saint Michael, Teller, and White Mountain. Our main office is located in Nome and all supplies are shipped to the various sites including: food, office supplies, classroom supplies, and bus maintenance supplies for the 240 children we fund through Head Start and Early Head Start funds we receive from other sources. We have one children's buses located in Nome.

The Head Start center based sites working closely with Bering Straits School District or Nome Public Schools, Norton Sounds Health Corporation, Era Aviation, Bering Air, and other Kawerak, Incorporated offices. All of the sites must be traveled to by air. Each August all staff members, including cooks, janitors, teachers, and teachers aids are flown to Nome for a pre-service training for the upcoming year. Each year a select number of staff is chosen to attend Head Start trainings beyond Nome, and sometimes Anchorage, to return to our program and hold trainings to share the information that they learned. Through Kawerak Incorporated our staff is able to attend the required collage courses, via distance education.

The information will be used by Kawerak Head Start/Early Head Start to assess the needs of people in the Bering Straits Region. The assessment will also provide valuable insight in determining if services provided are meeting the present and future needs of eligible children and their families.

Kawerak, Incorporated is a regional non-profit organization serving the Bering Straits Region. The organization is authorized by tribal resolutions from 20 villages in the region to provide needed services to their members. Kawerak's Board of Directors consists of the President or elected representative from each village's IRA or Traditional Council.

Through analysis of the data in this community assessment the Inuit culture is the dominant culture in our region. In our program we recognize this and have put great effort to better incorporate culture into our curriculum. We have added; activities, songs, language, stories, and games that will help the children learn and recognize their culture. The next priority we have is to increase our attendance. Parent trainings will be held each month to encourage parent involvement and to assist our parents with concerns identified on the community assessment survey and self assessment. It is our hope that by getting the parents more involved and stressing the importance of attendance, sleep patterns in children, nutrition and health the result will be an increased percentage of our attendance.

In addition to the above planned trainings we also have put together a resource list that will be available at each site. This list was created to provide families with various informational pamphlets (including health, mental health, parenting, grieving, and more) and applications from various assistance offices located in Nome that may be difficult to get (housing applications, general assistance, WIC, Denali Kid Care, and more).

Methodology:

The Community Assessment process began in February with staff training on what the Assessment is and what will need to be completed. A survey was created and sent out to each Head Start

Site and the IRA offices of all communities in the region. The surveys were sent to our Head Start staff in the spring and were distributed to the parents and Policy council members. The surveys that were sent to the IRA offices were distributed to the public and the Kawerak Board Members (our governing body). We received the completed surveys randomly throughout the months of February to May; the results were then compiled and analyzed in June.

Information that could not be collected by the survey was collected by interviews of various community recourses via telephone. All information to be collected was done between the months of February to May. We utilized our Child Plus data base and last year's community assessment and PIR to analyze and synthesize data from past years. Projections developed and predictions to better our program and recognize our areas of concern were taken from our self assessment. Being spring, this is a time for subsistence hunting to begin and has proven to be a challenge for our assessment as a majority of the male figures and male professionals take this time away from their jobs and families in order to provide food for their families and community.

In order to be eligible for the Kawerak, Incorporated Head Start Program at least 51% of the families must be considered low-income. The child or children must be at least three years of age by September 1st. As much as 49% of the families may exceed the low-income guidelines as long as all applicants that are considered low-income are already receiving head start services. 10% of our enrollment is reserved for children with a diagnosed disability.

Bering Strait Region Geographic Description

Located in the northwest Alaska, the Bering Strait Region (also referred to as the Seward Peninsula, Norton Sound, or the Nome area) is found between latitudes 63° 30' and 66° 30', south of the Arctic Circle. The region stretches from the village of Shishmaref on the northern shore of the Seward Peninsula to Stebbins on the southern coast of the Norton Sound, and includes villages on St. Lawrence Island, King

Island, and Little Diomedede. The area contains 570 miles of coast line that includes all of Norton Sound, and portions of the Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean.

Kawerak Head Start serves 11 of 20 Bering Strait villages. Included in Kawerak Head Start's services area are the following sites: Brevig Mission, Elim, Gambell, Golovin, Koyuk, Nome, Shaktoolik, Shishmaref, St. Michael, Teller, and White Mountain. Early Head Start programs are provided in Brevig Mission, Elim, and Nome for children 0-3 years of age. Center-based options are provided in Brevig Mission and Elim. In Nome there is a home-based option provided for pregnant mothers and children aged 0-3 years.

Location Description of Sites

Brevig Mission is located at the mouth of Shelman Creek on Port Clarence. It is 5 miles northwest of Teller, and 66 air miles northwest of Nome. The area encompasses 4 square miles of land.

Elim is located on the northwest shore of Norton Bay on the Seward Peninsula, 94 air miles east of Nome. The area encompasses 2 square miles of land.

Gambell is located on the northwest cape of St. Lawrence Island, 197 air miles southwest of Nome, in the Bering Sea. The area encompasses 11 square miles of land and 19 square miles of water.

Golovin is located on a point of land between Golovin Bay and Golovin Lagoon on the Seward Peninsula. It is 70 air miles east of Nome. The area encompasses 4 square miles of land.

Koyuk is located at the mouth of the Koyuk River, at the northeastern end of Norton Bay on the Seward Peninsula, 129 air miles northeast of Nome. The area encompasses 5 square miles of land.

Nome is located along the Bering Sea, on the south coast of the Seward Peninsula, facing Norton Sound. The area encompasses 14 square miles of land and 9 square miles of water.

Shaktoolik is located on the east shore of Norton Sound. It lies 127 air miles east of Nome and 33 miles north of Unalakleet. The area encompasses 2 square miles of land.

Shishmaref is located on Sarichef Island in the Chukchi Sea, just north of the Bering Strait. It is five miles from the mainland, 123 air miles north of Nome. The area encompasses 3 square miles of land and 5 square miles of water.

St. Michael is located on the east coast of St. Michael Island in Norton Sound. It lies 125 air miles southeast of Nome and 48 miles southwest of Unalakleet. The area encompasses 21 square miles of land and 6 square miles of water.

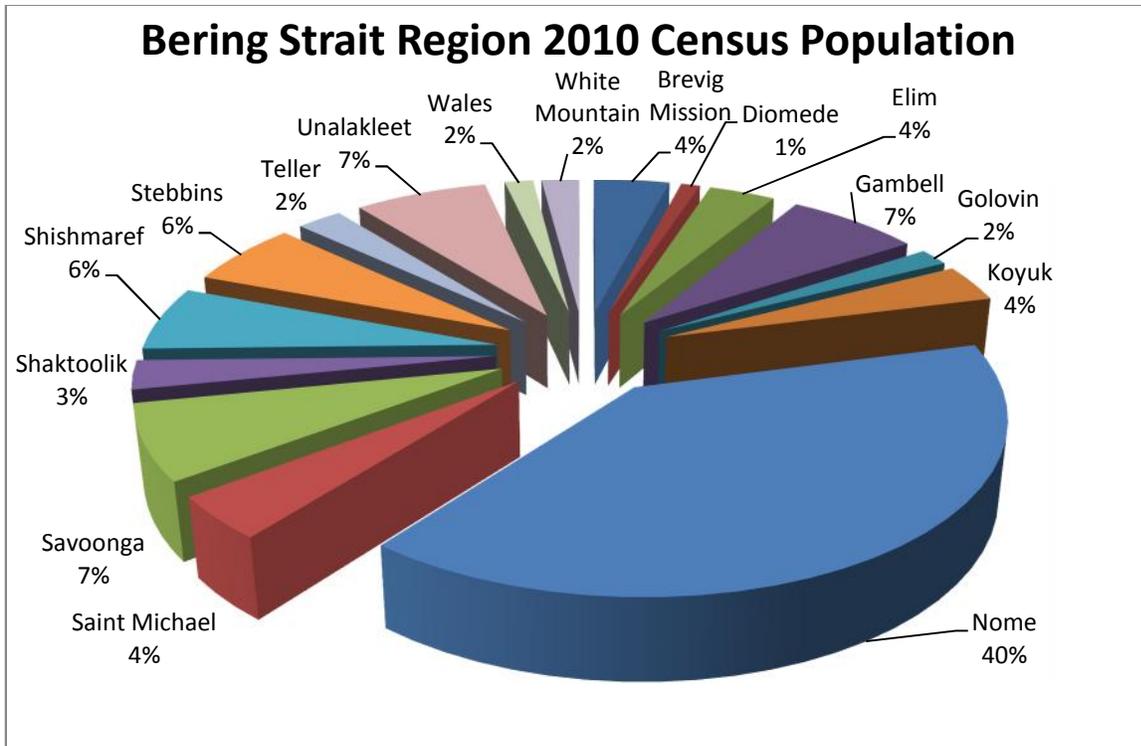
Teller is located on a spit between Port Clarence and Grantley Harbor, 60 air miles northwest of Nome, on the Seward Peninsula. The area encompasses less than 1 square mile of land and water.

White Mountain is located on the west bank of the Fish River, near the head of Golovin Lagoon, on the Seward Peninsula. It is 61 air miles east of Nome. The area encompasses 3 square miles of land.

Source: DCRA Community Database Online

Bering Strait Region 2010 Population

<i>Community</i>	<i>2010 Pop.</i>	<i>Community</i>	<i>2010 Pop.</i>
Brevig Mission	388	Savoonga	671
Diomedede	115	Shaktoolik	251
Elim	330	Shishmaref	563
Gambell	681	Stebbins	556
Golovin	156	Teller	229
Koyuk	332	Unalakleet	688
Nome	3598	Wales	145
St. Michael	401	White Mountain	190
Total Est. Region	9,244		



http://www.dced.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm

Above shows the most current data of the Bering Strait Region population, taken in 2010. The chart indicates that Nome has the highest population of the region with a count of 3598 people. According to the pie graph this is 40% of the total population in the region. The remaining 60 percent is finely divided between the other fifteen villages of the region with the next highest population count being in Unalakleet with 688 people and then Gambell with 681 people, both averaging a percentage of 7%.

The following table shows the quantity of people who identified themselves as being of the following races: White, Black, Asian, Hawaiian, Other, Alaska Native, and Multiple Ethnicities. Each ethnic category is classified by site. The chart indicates that the majority of the people in the region are Alaska Native. Those who selected Multiple Ethnicities and are also Alaska Native are included into the totals of the All and Partial Alaska Native category.

Population by Race (2010 Census data):

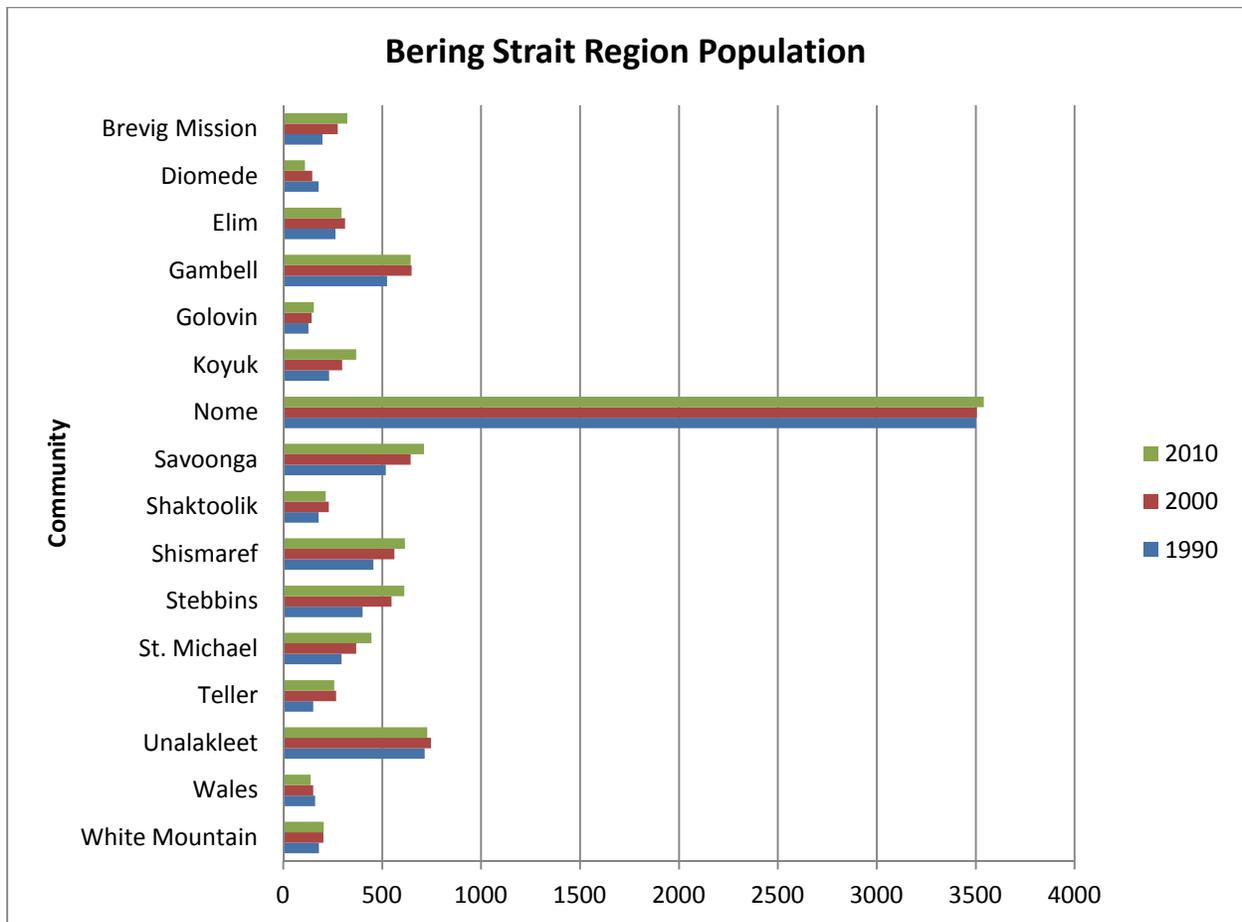
COMMUNITY	POPULATION 2010	POPULATION 2000	POPULATION 1990	WHITE POP 2010	BLACK POP 2010	ASIAN POP 2010	HAWIAN POP 2010	OTHER RACE POP 2010	ALASKA NATIVE POP 2010	MULTIPLE ETHNICITIES POP 2010	% NATIVE	AK NATIVE POP
Brevig Mission	388	276	198	18	2	0	0	2	355	11	91.50%	366
Diomede	115	146	178	5	0	0	0	0	106	4	92.20%	110
Elim	330	313	264	24	0	1	0	0	296	9	89.70%	305
Gambell	681	673	643	26	0	1	0	0	651	3	95.60%	654
Golovin	156	160	154	7	0	0	0	1	145	3	93.00%	148
Koyuk	332	333	368	12	0	1	0	0	295	24	88.90%	319
Nome	3598	3505	3500	1093	46	124	18	35	1971	411	54.80%	2348
Saint Michael	401	434	446	22	0	0	0	0	369	10	92.00%	379
Savoonga	671	722	712	33	0	1	0	0	634	3	94.50%	637
Shaktolik	251	214	230	9	0	0	0	0	241	1	94.80%	242
Shishmaref	563	615	562	20	0	2	0	0	534	7	94.90%	540
Stebbins	556	612	547	24	1	1	0	0	530	0	95.30%	556
Teller	229	258	268	9	0	0	0	0	220	0	96.10%	220
Unalakleet	688	727	747	103	4	4	0	1	532	44	77.30%	574
Wales	145	136	152	9	0	0	0	0	123	13	84.80%	136
White Mountain	190	224	203	23	0	0	0	0	155	12	81.6%	167

Source: Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development http://www.dced.state.ak.us/cbd/commdb/CF_CUSTM.htm

The following table and graph show the population comparisons from 1990 to 2000 to 2010. The Bering Straits population as a whole has increased from 2000. Diomede has decreased by 21% if their population from 2000. Brevig Mission has shown the most amount of growth with a 40% increase in population since 2000. Diomede (21%), Teller (15%), and Unalakleet (8%) have also shown a significant decrease since 2000. Koyuk (12%) and St. Michael (9%) have also shown a significant amount of growth since 2000.

Nome Census Area - Population Change 2010-2011
State of Alaska Division of Community
Advocacy

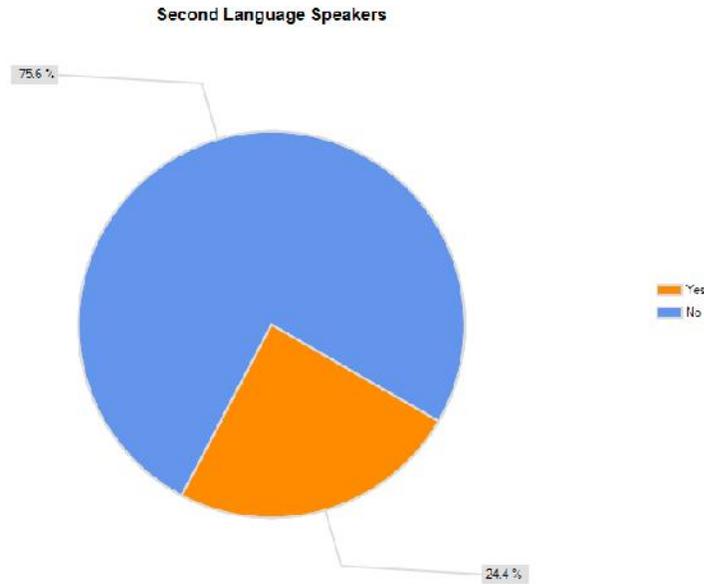
Community	2010	2011	Increase/ Decrease	%
Brevig Mission	388	414	26	7%
Diomedes	115	107	-8	-7%
Elim	330	332	2	1%
Gambell	681	677	-4	-1%
Golovin	156	171	15	10%
Koyuk	347	347	0	0%
Nome	3598	3695	97	3%
Saint Michael	401	411	10	2%
Savoonga	671	704	33	5%
Shaktoolik	251	258	7	3%
Shishmaref	563	573	10	2%
Stebbins	556	585	29	5%
Teller	229	245	16	7%
Unalakleet	688	692	4	1%
Wales	145	154	9	6%
White Mountain	190	199	9	5%
Totals	9309	9564	255	3%



Racial and Ethnic Composition, Culture and Language (s) Data:

The Bering Strait Region is predominantly (77%) populated with people of the Inuit culture more specifically of Inupiat, Siberian Yupik or Central Yupik decent. About half of the overall population is relatively young, an estimate of 4221 people are age 19 and younger for 2006 (45% of 9380). An estimate of 506 children of that 45% is 4 years old and younger (12% of 4221). Though 80% of our region is populated with Alaska native people according to our survey English (93%) is the primary language in our region, a remaining 1.5% speak Inupiaq as a primary language and English as a second language, 1.5% speak Yupik as a primary language, and a 3% with Siberian Yupik as a primary language. It is very rare that an individual in our region does not speak English as a primary or secondary language;

there are a handful of respected Elders who still require translation to the English language. The Native language is slowly going away with less people speaking a second language in our region.



Kawerak Head Start Community Needs Survey 2013

Region School enrollment:

Two districts include that make up the school system in our region include; Bering Strait School District and Nome Public Schools. There are also a number of educational services to assist teens and adults with education. The Nome Eskimo community offers a tutoring session and after school activities for high school students, Kawerak offers an adult education assistance program, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks Northwest Campus offers many different opportunities for distance education and local classes in Nome.

District Name	School Name	City	Enrollment	Dropout Rate
Bering Strait School District	Aniguiin School	Elim	107	5.71%
Bering Strait School District	Anthony A. Andrews School	St. Michael	172	1.89%
Bering Strait School District	Brevig Mission School	Brevig Mission	122	6.12%
Bering Strait School District	Diomedea School	Diomedea	39	16.67%
Bering Strait School District	Gambell School	Gambell	202	7.14%
Bering Strait School District	Hogarth Kingeekuk Memorial	Savoonga	226	4.49%
Bering Strait School District	James C. Isabell School	Teller	73	0.00%
Bering Strait School District	Koyuk-Malemute School	Koyuk	110	2.70%
Bering Strait School District	Martin L. Olson School	Golovin	67	0.00%
Bering Strait School District	Shaktoolik School	Shaktoolik	75	0.00%
Bering Strait School District	Shishmaref School	Shishmaref	192	8.06%
Bering Strait School District	Tukurngailnguq School	Stebbins	193	10.26%
Bering Strait School District	Unalakleet School	Unalakleet	167	1.49%
Bering Strait School District	Wales School	Wales	40	0.00%
Bering Strait School District	White Mountain School	White Mountain	45	7.14%
Nome Public Schools	Anvil City Science Academy	Nome	44	0.00%
Nome Public Schools	Extensions Correspondence	Nome	16	0.00%
Nome Public Schools	Nome Elementary	Nome	394	0.00%
Nome Public Schools	Nome Youth Facility	Nome	7	0.00%
Nome Public Schools	Nome-Beltz J./Sr. High School	Nome	231	3.90%

Source: Alaska Department of Education & early Development 2011-2012 school year <http://education.alaska.gov/reportcardtothepublic/>

In Head Start and Early Head Start as of May 2013, 100% of our teaching staff are American Indian/Alaska Native however, in the Bering Strait School District and Nome Public Schools a majority of the teachers are non-native and many are not from Alaska. The primary language in the region is English, though there are many that speak both their native language and English. These individuals that do speak both languages are for the most part among the older residents of our population suggesting a future loss of the cultures' languages.

State of Alaska Division of Public Assistance and Kawerak General Assistance: In the Bering Strait region subsistence life style is still very common, most predominantly the 16 village sites (including the 11 Head Start sites). According to the survey we sent out in the spring of 2013, 38% of the responding families reported an annual income of \$30,000.00 or less. 43% of our families during the 2012/2013 school year received services from the TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Program. For many families, their only income is their permanent fund dividend collected each fall.

General Assistance in the Bering Strait Region

	GA			BU		ER	
	apps rec'd (# of all people)	# of apps appr'd	participants approved	apps rec'd	apps appr'd	apps rec'd	apps appr'd
Jan	24	13	13	1	1	0	0
Feb	24	15	17	2	2	0	0
Mar	16	12	14	2	0	0	0
Apr	17	16	16	0	0	0	0
May	15	13	14	1	0	0	0
June	34	17	22	0	0	0	0
July	56	19	29	1	1	0	0
Aug	27	12	18	1	0	0	0
Sept	33	17	18	0	0	0	0
Oct	18	17	14	2	1	1	0
Nov	18	17	17	0	0	0	0
Dec	23	15	22	1	0	0	0
	305	183	214	11	5	1	0

GA=General Assistance, BU=Burial Assistance ER=Emergency

Source: Kawerak General Assistance Program *excludes the following tribes: Native Village of Gambell and Nome Eskimo Community

The following table shows of the total number of families, the highest level of education obtained by the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) is most commonly high school or GED. Each family is only counted once for their highest level of education.

Education Level	Number of parent(s)/guardian(s)
11 th Grade or less	49
High school graduate or GED	108
Associate Degree, Vocational School or some college	8
Advanced Degree or baccalaureate degree	7

This information was taken from the Kawerak Incorporated Head Start & Early Head Start Program 2012 PIR.

Children with Disabilities:

1305.3(c)(2) Other Child development and child care programs serving Head Start eligible children, including publicly funded State and local preschool programs, and the approximate number of Head Start eligible children served by each.

Program	Location	Hours	Capacity	HS Eligible (est.)	EHS Eligible (est.)
Infant Learning	NSHC	8:00am-5:00pm	24	n/a	24
BSSD Pre K	Unalakleet		20	20	n/a
Nome Pre School	Nome	2 days a week	37	37	n/a

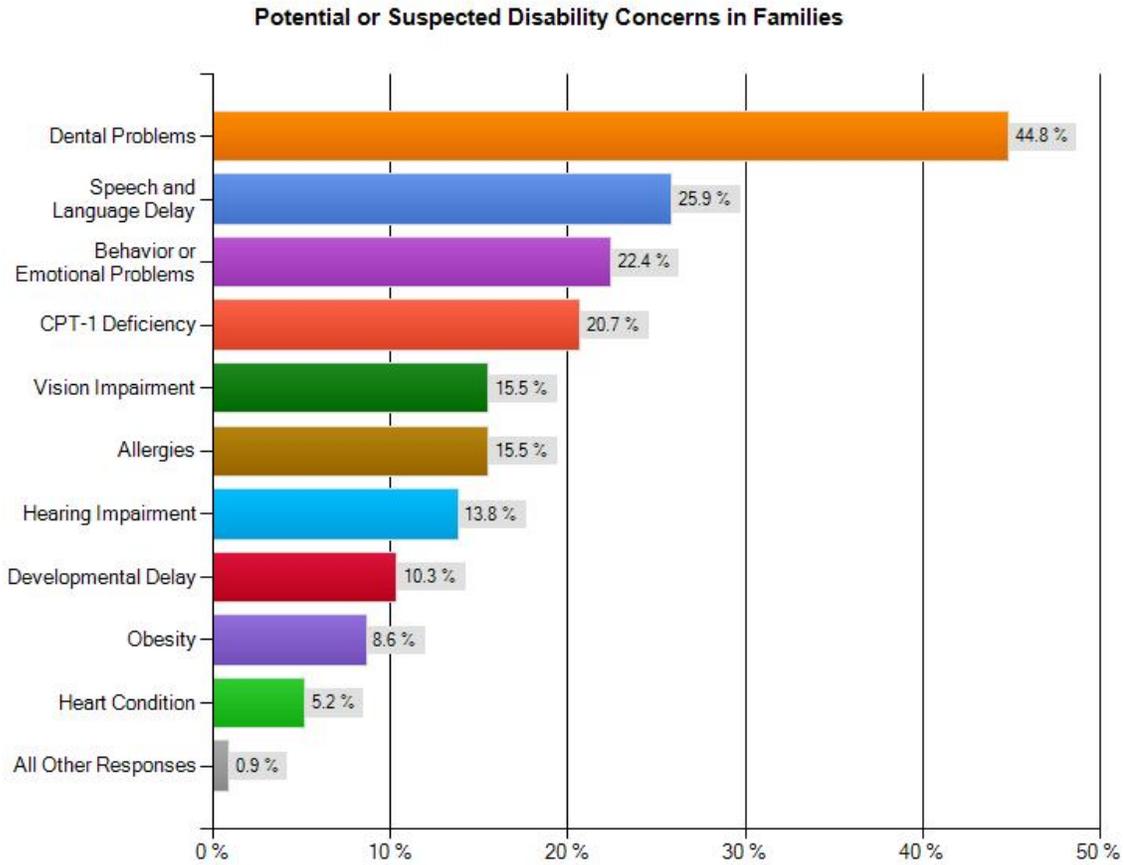
1305.3(c)(3) Estimated number of children with disabilities four years old or younger, including types of disabilities and relevant services and resources provided to these children by community agencies.

Infant Learning Program: The Norton Sound Health Corporation Infant Learning Program serves children between the ages of birth and three years old. Once the children have reached age three they are then transitioned into a special education program within Kawerak Head Start, Nome Pre-school, Unalakleet Pre-K, or directly into kindergarten at the age of five. Bering Strait School District and Nome Public Schools provides special education services for children older than three years old. We ensure that families were in collaboration and were decision makers in their child’s education, Individual Education Plan/Individual Family Service Plan meetings were only held if the parents were present and provided input on their child’s strengths.

Diagnosed and Receiving Services	Ages 0-2	Ages 3-4	Total
Eligible Prior to the School Year	2	12	14
Eligible During School Year	3	9	12

This information was taken from the Kawerak Incorporated Head Start & Early Head Start Program 2012 PIR.

The following graph is based on the community survey that was conducted in the spring of 2013.



Community Resources:

Kawerak Incorporated has several departments that are geared toward education, training, and general assistance. The community education department includes an English Literacy Specialist, ABE/GED program specialist and a community education specialist. The Employment and Training department has two employees who focus on workforce development and higher education. The general assistance program is there to help the people who want to gain the education but need assistance with every day expenses while attending classes or training. Kawerak Incorporated also has a department completely dedicated to village based training and another for vocational rehabilitation.

Nome Eskimo Community is another great resource to tribal members in the Nome area. They do have an education and training program similar to Kawerak Incorporated to assist people with their educational goals. They also have a housing program to assist families with buying, renovating, and weatherization needs.

Each village site has a Norton Sound Health Corporation (NSHC) health clinic. These clinics are limited and most cases will have to be transported to Nome or Anchorage. All pre-natal care and births, if no complications, are scheduled in Nome. When the pregnant woman reaches 8 months gestation she is transported to Nome and resides at the pre-maternal home until the birth of her child. If there are complications or a difficult labor is predicted the woman is then transferred to Anchorage where adequate services are available.

The NSHC clinics are staffed with trained health aids there is not a doctor on site. The health aids communicate patient information via telephone and digital images to doctors in Nome. Upon the doctors conclusion the patient is then transported to Nome for further examination or emergency medical attention. The health aids do not conduct dental, vision, auditory, public health, or social services, thus the doctors employed at NSHC in Nome that specialize in these fields travel (by air only) twice a year to each village to provide their services. Behavior Health travels on a when needed bases to provide social services, though Shaktoolik, St, Michael, Elim, Koyuk, Gambell, Teller, Golovin, Wales, Unalakleet, and Brevig have local village based counselors also known as VBC's. The remaining five villages do have positions for VBC's however they are currently vacant. Each VBC works with an assigned clinician who travels from Nome to the village at the request of the VBC. The VBC's provide ongoing mental health and substance abuse counseling, prevention and wellness activities, support counseling, and after care services. The travel of the departments is not always guaranteed and depends on weather conditions and staffing. If a family is out of town or misses an appointment during these visits

then they must wait until the next visit, which could be up to one year, or travel to Nome. Due to these limited resources immunizations, dental exams, well child exams, physical exams, and social services are difficult to complete.

In the case of travel from Nome to Anchorage (by air only) another 537 miles are added to the number of miles already traveled as stated in the below table. Travel from Unalakleet to Nome does not usually occur since it is closer to transfer patients to Anchorage.

Expected Travel for Medical Services (Air Miles):

Nome	Brevig Mission	Diomedede	Elim	Gambell	Golovin	Koyuk	St. Michael	Shaktoolik	Shishmaref	Teller	Wales	Wt. Mountain	Savoonga	Stebbins
0.0	66	134	94	197	71	129	124	127	123	60	109	61	162	116

Within the Kawerak Inc. Head Start Program year of 2012/2013 35% of the enrolled families had some type of health insurance. Among health services, families receive other public assistance through programs like WIC. WIC is a supplemental food program for pregnant women, post-partum women, infants and children up to age five. The WIC offices are located in Nome with staff traveling to the villages to enroll potential clients. 54% of our children were enrolled in their local WIC program. For the 2012/2013 school year 46% of our children were considered obese or overweight. In addition to WIC, NSHC CAMP department specializes in nutrition for children and diabetes. Invitations are extended to the multiple departments at the NSHC regional hospital to attend the Head Start Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC). The WIC office is a dedicated member of our HSAC and is working to encourage Head Start parents to enroll in WIC.

Kawerak Incorporated Head Start Attendance and Enrollment:

Below is a table that shows the enrollment at the conclusion of the 2012/2013 school year. Referring back to geographic information above, some of the sites located on islands and peninsulas experience very harsh winter weather conditions which results in a lower average daily attendance.

HS Site	Average Daily Attendance (w/excused absences)
Brevig Mission	86.33%
Elim	79.66%
Gambell	66.67%
Golovin	88.78%
Koyuk	75.89%
Nome	87.33%
Saint Michael	79.78%
Shaktoolik	79.60%
Shishmaref	78.61%
Teller	82.44%
White Mountain	85.56%
Totals	80.97%

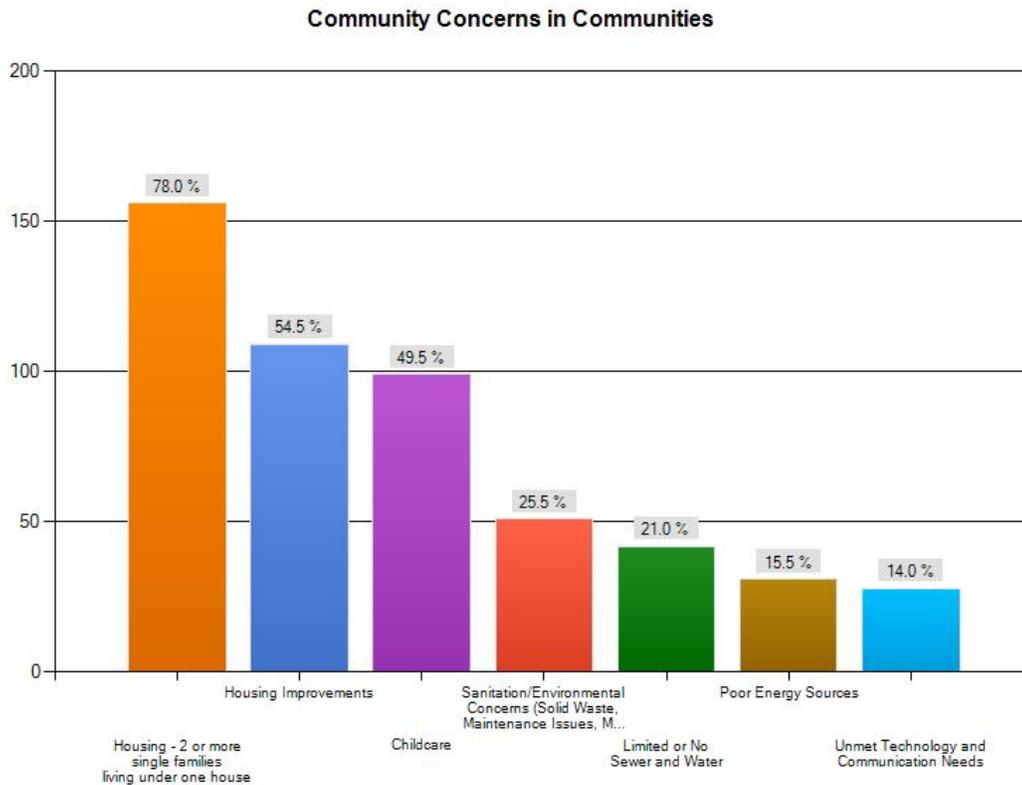
EHS Site	Average Daily Attendance (w/excused absences)
Brevig Mission	84.78%
Elim	76.33%
Totals	80.55%

Family Service Provided 2012-2013 (PIR):

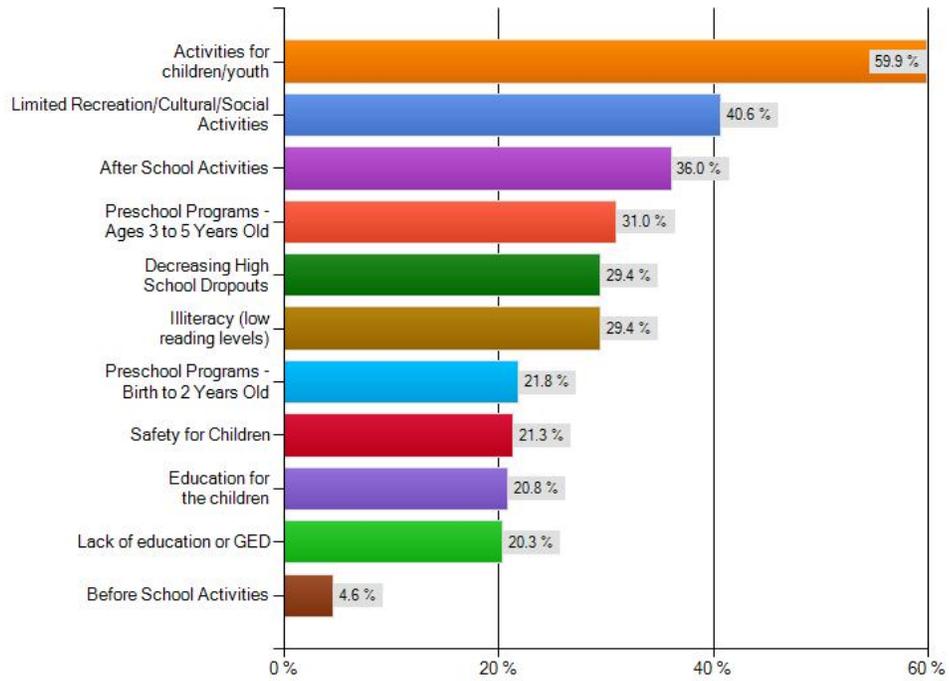
Emergency – food/clothing /or shelter	Housing	Mental Health	Adult Education	Child Support	Health Education	Parent Education
70	37	33	43	4	76	48
Total Services Provided:		311				

Strengths and Needs of AIAN Head Start Eligible Children and their Families Data:

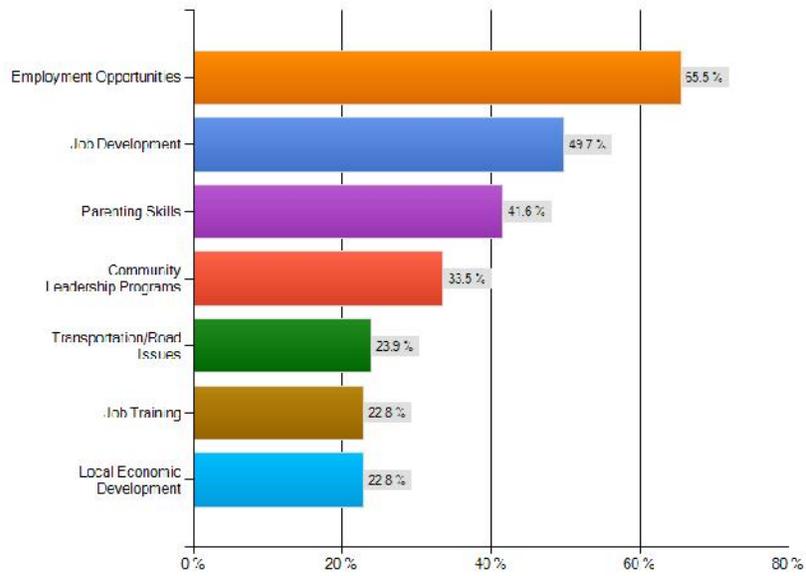
Utilizing the data from the 2013 Community Needs Assessment Survey the following graphs shows the top concerns for the Bering Strait Region in their communities.



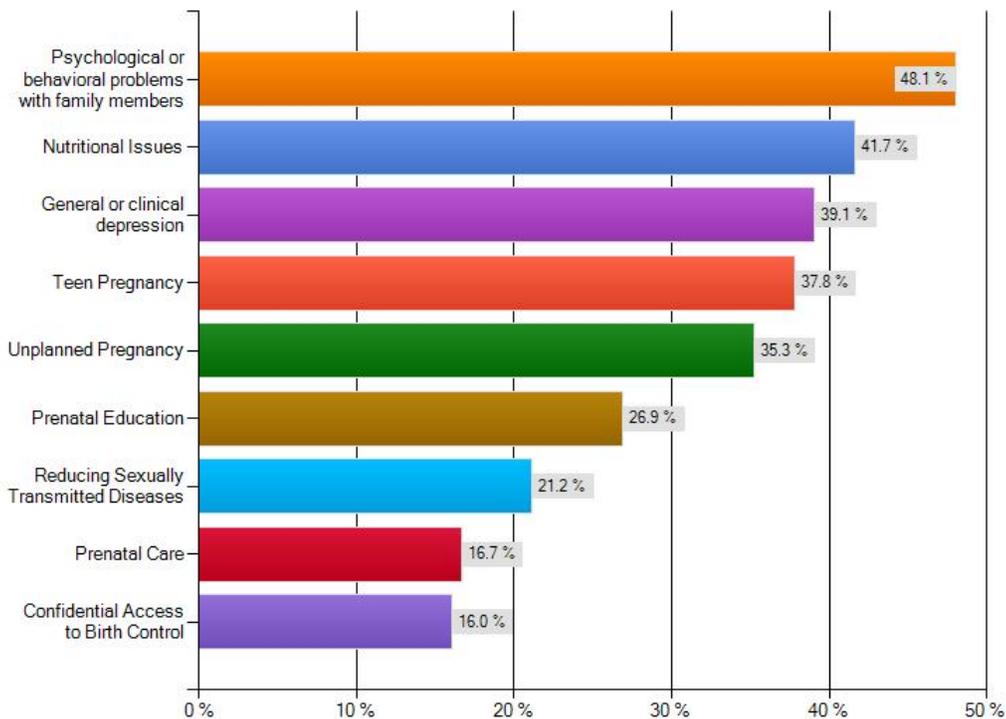
Education Concerns in Communities



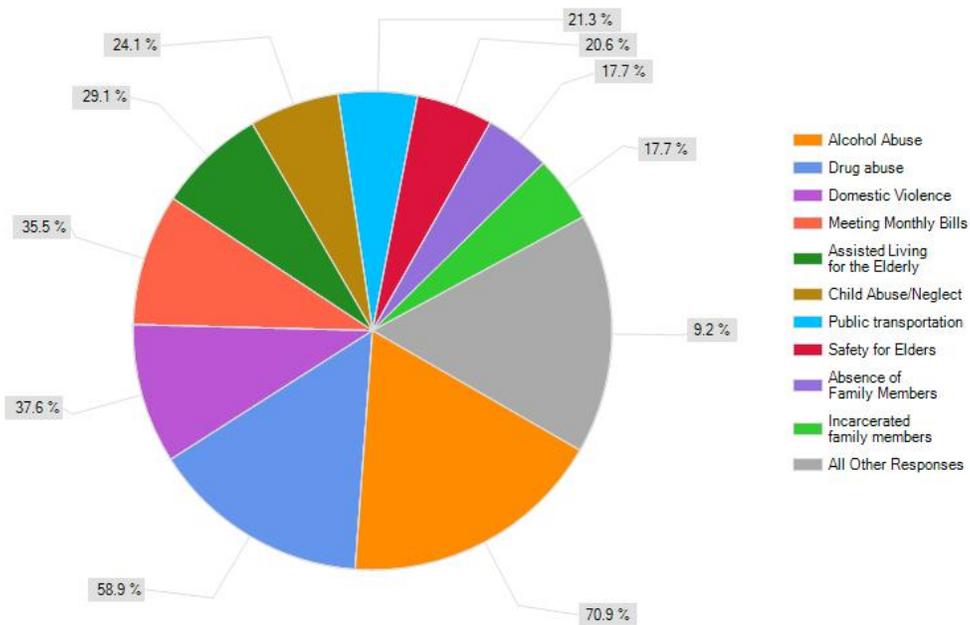
Employment & Training Concerns in Communities



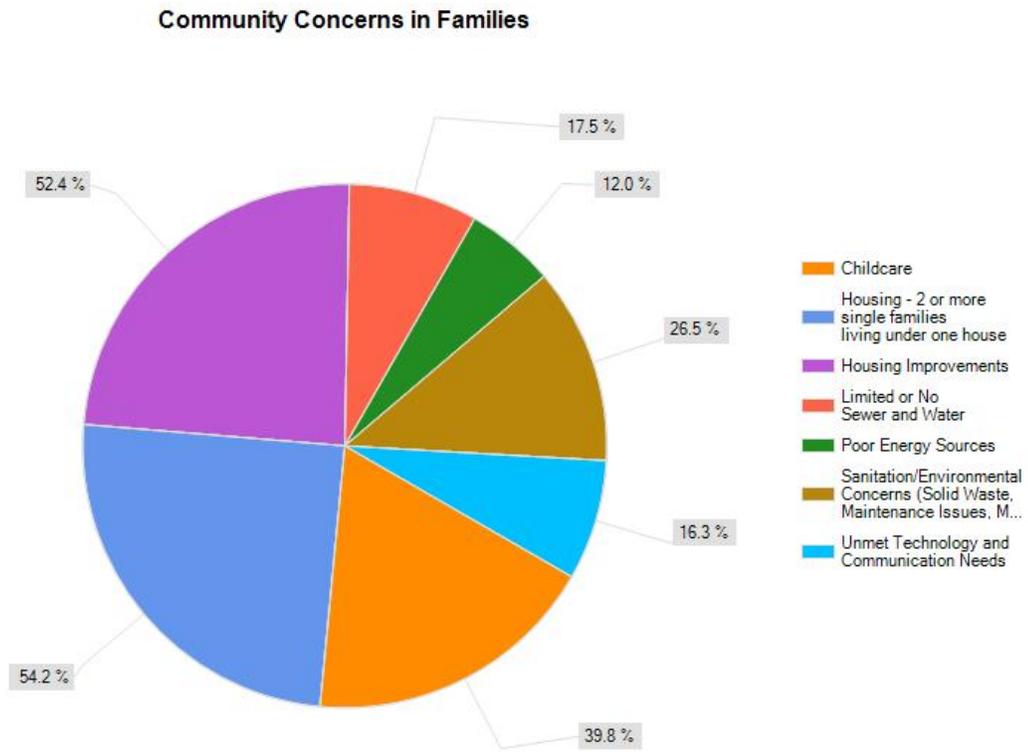
Health Issues in Communities



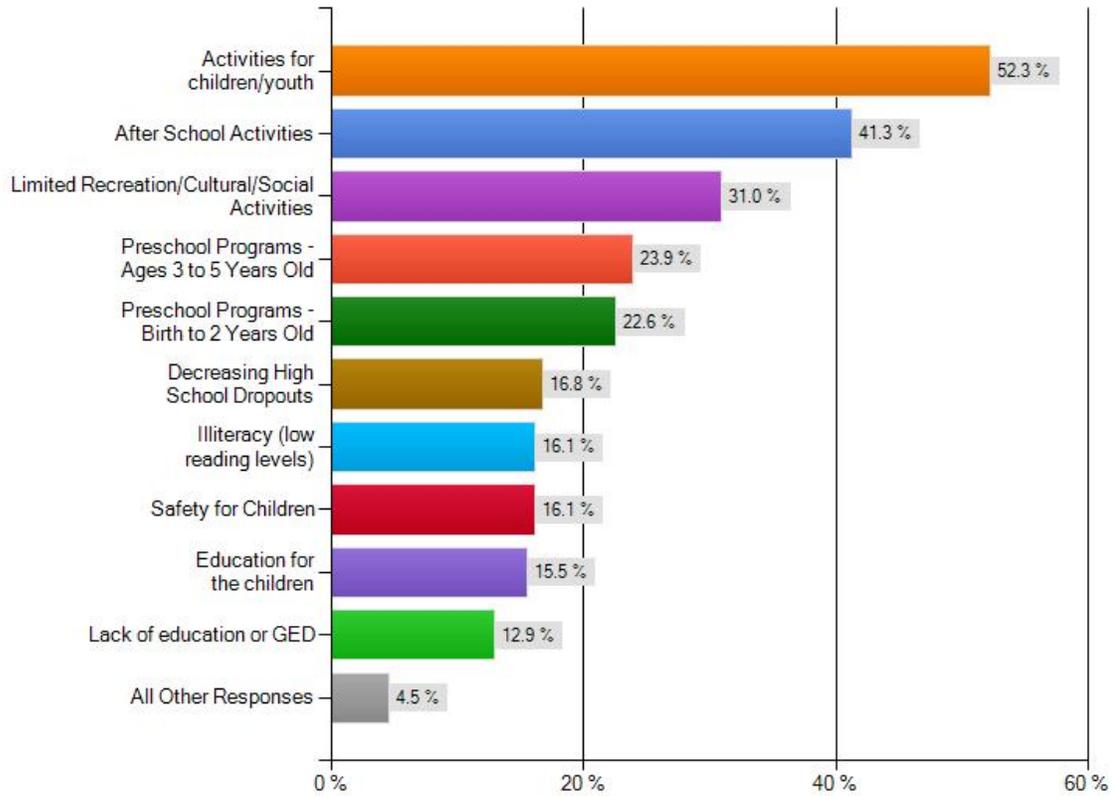
Pressing Issues in Communities



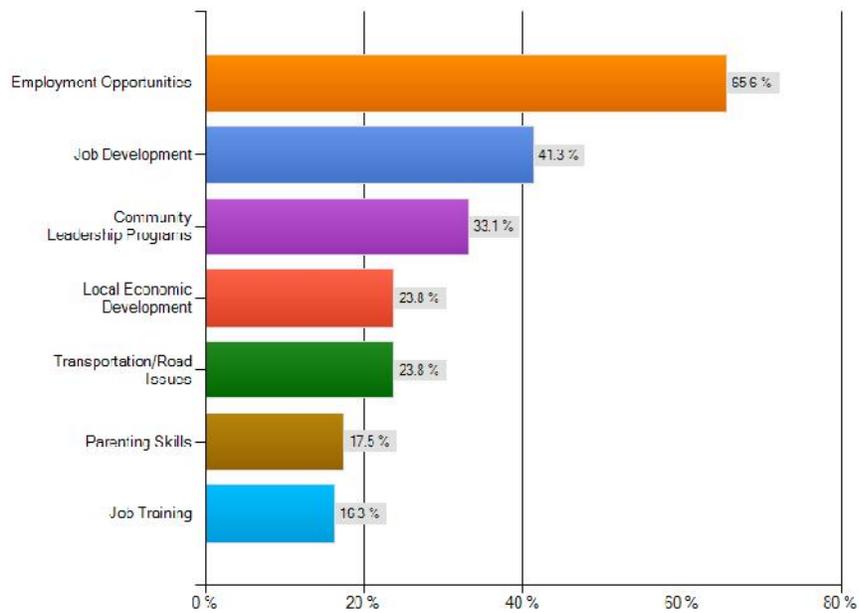
Utilizing the data from the 2013 Community Needs Assessment Survey the following graphs shows the top concerns for the Bering Strait Region in their families.



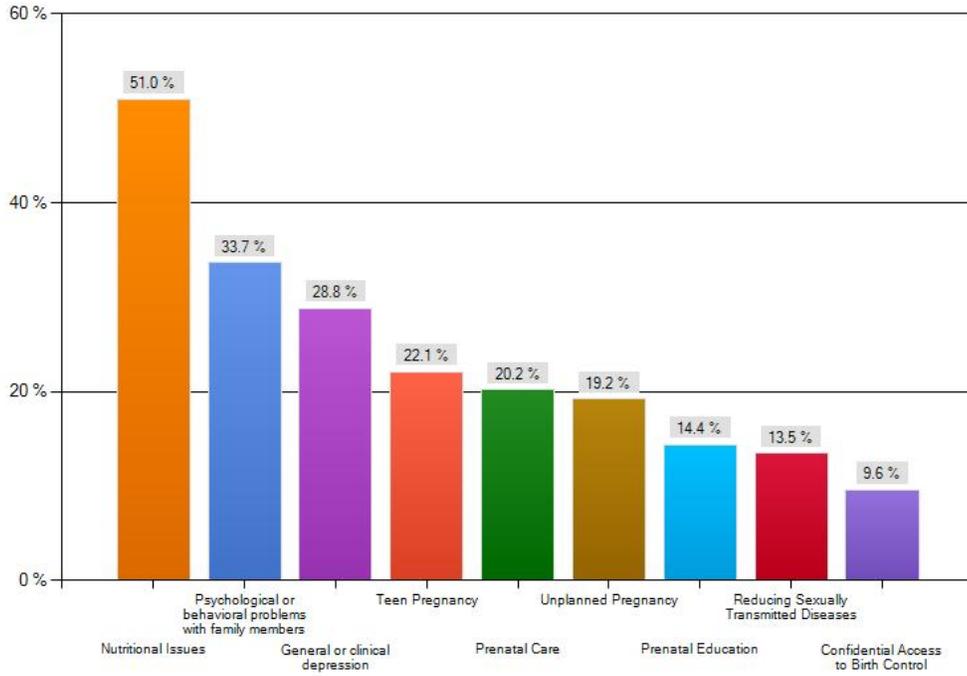
Education Concerns in Families



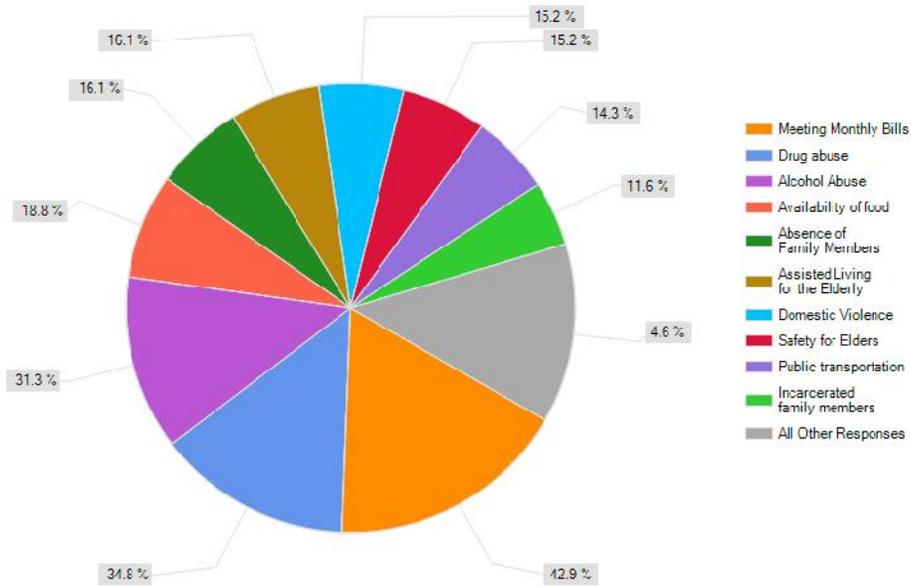
Education and Training Concerns in Families



Health Concerns in Families



Pressing Issues in Families



Data Analysis of AIAN Specific information:

Due to the size of the communities in our region averaging a population of 300 people (that Head Start serves not including Nome) some of our projected numbers of children are not large but all children of age are eligible and typically attend Head Start. In the school year of 2012/2013 we were federally funded for 164 children. Nome most commonly has a waitlist due to the vast difference in population numbers and employment opportunity resulting in over income applicants. Starting in February 2013 we conducted a child find in all villages that we serve, announced open enrollment on the radio and television, and posted signs in the communities to recruit the new children for the 2013/2014 school year.

Site	Projected # of Children in communities	Site	Projected # of Children in communities
Brevig Mission	23	Nome Early Head Start	26
Brevig Mission Early Head Start	17	St. Michael	29
Elim	20	Shaktolik	20
Elim Early Head Start	8	Shishmaref	36
Gambell	25	Teller	10
Golovin	7	White Mountain	9
Koyuk	24		
Nome	70	TOTAL	324

Among the top most pressing problems for families are housing issues, paying bills, nutritional issues, employment opportunities and activities for youth and children. Among the top pressing problems for communities are activities for youth and children, housing issues, alcohol and drug abuse, psychological or behavioral problems with family members and employment opportunities.

Drug and alcohol abuse was reported as another critical issue in many of our communities. Nome is the only communities where alcohol may be purchased in our region. White Mountain, Unalakleet and

Teller have banned the sale of alcohol while the remaining 12 communities have banned the sale and importation of alcohol, meaning in these 12 communities it is illegal for someone to sell or even bring alcohol into their city limits. The Nome Catholic Church offers Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings as well as Narcotics Anonymous (NA). It would be and is highly recommended that a drug and alcohol treatment facility be located in Nome and the AA and NA meetings be extended to churches in all communities

Works Cited:

Internet Sources:

“Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs.” Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. August 12, 2013.

<http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm>

“Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.” Alaska Districts and Public School Information. August 12, 2013 http://www.eed.state.ak.us/DOE_Rolodex/schools/Search.cfm

“Geographic Description.” Kawerak Community and Economic Development Department. June 20, 2001. <http://www.kawerak.org/csd/geographic.html>

“Alaska Department of Public Safety.” Alaska Local Option. July 28, 2008.

<http://www.dps.state.ak.us/ABC/restrictions.aspx>