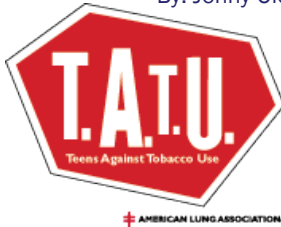




## Kenai/Soldotna Teens speak up for Smoke free Air

By: Jenny Olendorf, TCAP/Kenai



*Peninsula Smokefree Partnership's Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU) peer educator leadership group was privileged to work with Death To Life Films,*

out of Valdez, to produce a video on the dangers of tobacco use. After collecting 1,200 pairs of shoes from generous community donors over a period of six months, 12 of the TATU teens decided to include the shoe collection in a video that they wrote, choreographed and acted in. The 1,200 shoes were used in a unique way to represent the number of people that die each day in the United States from tobacco use. The video will be used in their presentations to elementary, middle and high school health classes and as in-theatre advertising in two local movie theatres. They have presented their video to the Soldotna and Kenai City Councils, the Kenai Peninsula Community Action Coalition and the Kenai Peninsula School District School Board, receiving high praises. Go to [www.youtube.com/user/PeninsulaTatu](http://www.youtube.com/user/PeninsulaTatu) to view their final product!

Join ATCA Today: <http://www.alaskatca.org>



Sept. 2009 ATCA Steering Committee meeting: Standing: Bill Bouwens, Marilynn Thorson, Brenda Holden, Suzanne Sands, Laura Muller, Melanie Brenner, Marti Pausback, Jennifer Adzima, Wilbur Brown, Andrea Thomas, Gail Schiemann, Pat Reynaga, Anna Sappah, Lakota Murray, Laura Revels, Aubie Gregg.  
Kneeling: Nick Gonzales, George Olanna, Sr., Eric Myers

## VOICE FROM THE CHAIR

BY: ANNA SAPPAH



Hi everyone!

This is an exciting time to be part of tobacco control in Alaska. It is more important than ever for our community of advocates to ramp up efforts. We need to continue to build capacity in our local communities in order for them to be successful in their efforts to enact either community wide or voluntary clean indoor air policies. I challenge each of you to engage one new member for your local coalition. As we support our local communities we also support our efforts towards a comprehensive statewide clean indoor air law. It will be important to be thoughtful and deliberate in our actions to ensure overall success.

The February steering committee meeting will be my last as chair. At the last meeting I announced I would leave the tobacco program in June; but, I will be continuing in my technical assistance capacity at the Smokefree Alaska Project at Akeela. It has been an honor to serve as your chair. We have had some challenges with people transitioning in and out of tobacco control, but as a group we have managed to continue along our strategic plan and maintain open communications among the steering committee and members.

I want to thank all of you for your support over the past year and encourage you to offer the same to whoever the new co-chairs will be. Together we can see our dreams of a smokefree Alaska come true, with determination, cooperation and communication.



### Got Air?

### Third Annual Tobacco Summit

Fairbanks, Wedgewood Manor

Award Ceremony: April 15, 2009

Summit: April 16-17, 2009

Featured Keynote speakers:

**Dr. Patricia Nez Henderson,  
Frank J. Chaloupka, and Cathy Callaway**

Featured breakout tracks:

**Tobacco 101, Tobacco Tax, Policy, Cessation,  
and Priority Populations**

Limited scholarships are available.

**CEU's are available**

Registration \$25. The first 100 people who register receive a t-shirt.

**For more information and registration go to:  
[www.alaskatca.org](http://www.alaskatca.org)**

## TOBACCO AND TRADITION DON'T MIX!



**"I quit tobacco with the support of family.  
Talk to your friends and family-help them  
keep our traditions alive."**

**If you are interested in quitting tobacco call:  
1.888.842.QUIT (7848)**



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Building Initiatives in Rural Community Health (BIRCH) AmeriCorps Program © 2008



## Small Communities make BIG changes in Alaska's Tobacco Prevention Efforts!

By: Dana Diehl, RurAL CAP

Every year the Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP) recruits 15 BIRCH AmeriCorps Members from small communities throughout the state to complete a one-year term of national service. During their year of service Building Initiatives in Rural Community Health (BIRCH) AmeriCorps Members work with youth, families, Elders and leaders to design and implement programs that address local health issues. Many BIRCH Members spend a portion of their time on tobacco prevention and cessation efforts.

In 2008 BIRCH AmeriCorps Members helped to refer 377 rural Alaskans to cessation services; helped 120 Alaskans attempt to quit tobacco and hosted 47 tobacco education events for their communities. For more information about RurAL CAP's tobacco prevention program contact Dana Diehl at 907.865.7359 or [ddiehl@ruralcap.com](mailto:ddiehl@ruralcap.com).

Join ATCA today by completing the membership application found at  
<http://www.alaskatca.org>.

**Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance**  
(ATCA) creates a statewide network of health advocates to develop, support and sustain comprehensive tobacco control programs.

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