



# RurAL CAP

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.

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## Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc., transfers Tok Head Start management to Tanana Chiefs Conference

**Tok, Alaska** – After 15 years of managing the 19-year-old Tok Head Start site, the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc., (RurAL CAP) will transfer site management to Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), effective June 3.

The management transfer comes as a result of 2019 State of Alaska budget cuts to RurAL CAP's allocation of Head Start funding. Through strategic collaborations and strong partnerships, the agency was able to establish a continuation of services with TCC beginning in the 2022-2023 program year.

"We are so grateful for TCC's ability and willingness to assume the operations of this vital community resource," said Tiel Smith, RurAL CAP CEO. "We certainly cannot thank the community, families, and staff enough for their support and dedication over the years."



*RurAL CAP's Tok Head Start participated in the community's 2019 Independence Day Parade.*

After nearly 20 years in the Tok community, the site maintains the primary focus of securing children's safety and well-being. Parents are empowered to build their skills and confidence for

successful education and life outcomes with staff who serve as Family Advocates, according to Andrea Sitton, Tok Head Start Teacher Director.



*RurAL CAP's Tok Head Start class has fun while learning during the 2022 Program Year.*

"To be the voice and the support for the families and children is the most rewarding thing," Sitton said. "The bigger picture has always been the children. Being able to serve children and families in this community is our heart. They are all that matters."

RurAL CAP, driven by their mission to empower low-income Alaskans, continues to engage in advocacy opportunities for early childhood development and education statewide.

Founded in 1965, RurAL CAP is a private, statewide, nonprofit organization with a mission to empower low-income Alaskans

through advocacy, education, affordable housing and direct services that respect our unique values and cultures. RurAL CAP is one of the largest and most diversified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations in Alaska.



*Andrea Sitton, Teacher Director, and Tonya Omta, Teacher Aid serve children and families at Tok Head Start.*



*A Tok Head Start family poses in the classroom.*