

RurAL CAP

2010 RURAL HOUSING & PLANNING DIVISION FACT SHEET



The Rural Housing and Planning Division assists rural communities and low-income people by increasing affordable housing opportunities, preserving and improving existing housing, facilitating community-based planning, and building the capacity of rural communities to participate effectively in the development of housing and related infrastructure.

RurAL CAP is one of the many organizations responsible for weatherizing homes in parts of rural Alaska and Juneau. Weatherization makes homes more energy efficient by lowering the cost of home heating and thus making more household income available for other basic necessities that keep local economies alive.



Weatherization protects a home's exterior and interior from the elements, particularly from rain, snow and especially strong winds from the Bering Sea in Nome. Weatherizing homes helps to reduce energy consumption and optimizes energy efficiency. RurAL CAP partnered with the Nome Eskimo Community to weatherize 15 homes in Nome.

Photos courtesy of the Nome Eskimo Community

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Weatherization and Rehabilitation:

- ❖ 343 homes weatherized in 12 communities (Alakanuk, Emmonak, Kiana, Kipnuk, Kivalina, Kwethluk, Juneau, Nightmute, Nome, Nunam Iqua, St. Michael & Tununak)
- ❖ 1,319 total family members in weatherized homes

Self-Help Owner-Built Homes:

- ❖ 10 homes completed in Kenai
- ❖ Launched a statewide housing counseling/legal assistance project

Community Planning:

- ❖ Creation of a partnership with the Foraker Group and Alaska Community Foundation to use ARRA Sustainable Communities funds to help build the administrative capacity of 10 rural communities through grant making and technical assistance
- ❖ Partnered with the Nelson Island Consortium and the Department of Environmental Conservation to help Toksook Bay obtain an environmental site assessment from the Environmental Protection Agency

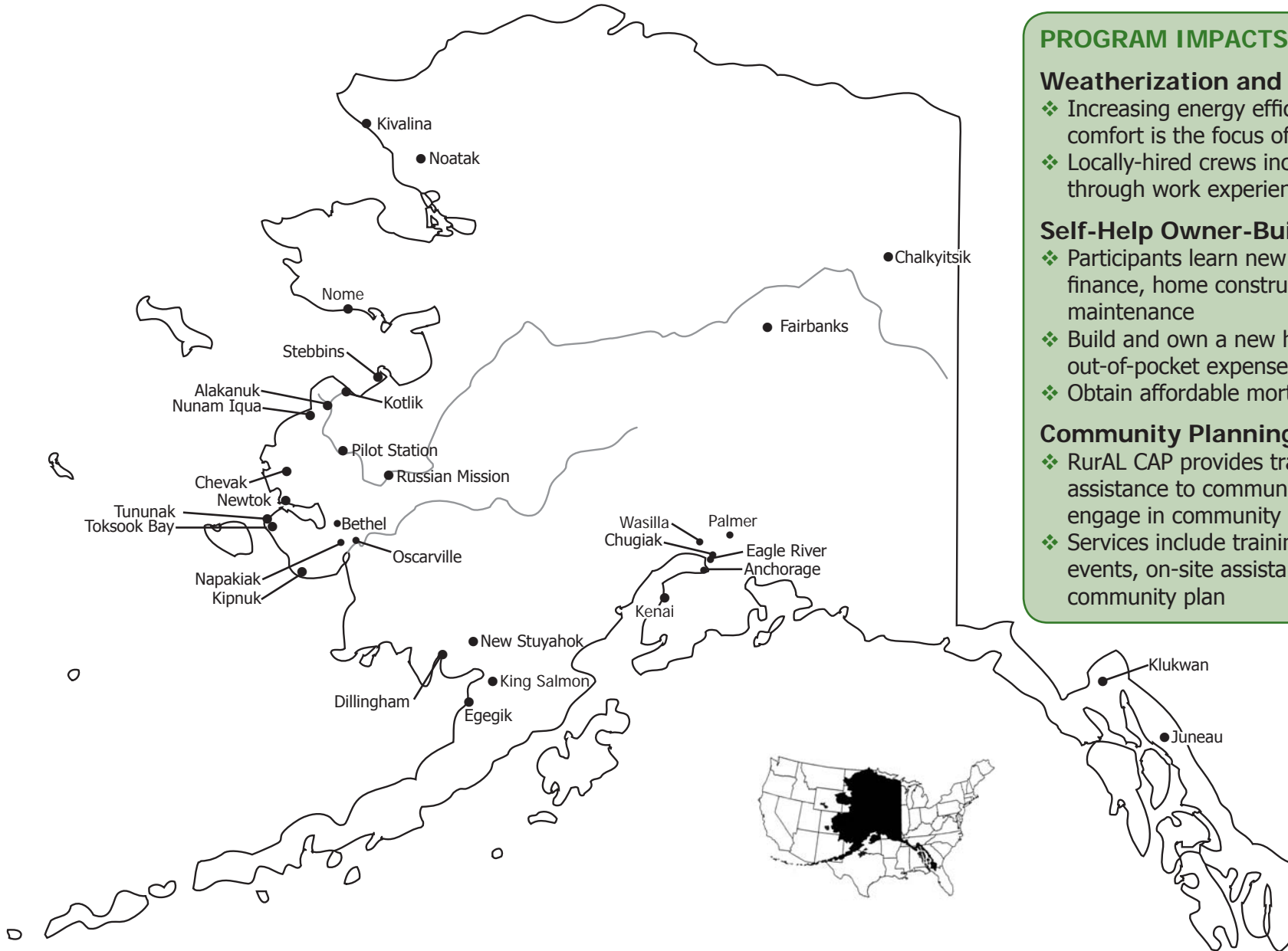
Highlight: Village Planning and Development Initiative (VDPI)

RurAL CAP's VDPI partnered with 10 tribes and municipalities to develop, update and implement community plans. These communities include: Chalkyitsik, Chevak, Kotlik, Klukwan, Napakiak, New Stuyahok, Newtok, Russian Mission, Pilot Station and Toksook Bay. Hiring a community planning consultant can cost up to \$70,000. With a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, RurAL CAP has been able to provide this service at no cost to the communities.

RurAL CAP Vision: Healthy People, Sustainable Communities, Vibrant Cultures

RurAL CAP Rural Housing and Planning Division

2010 SITE MAP



PROGRAM IMPACTS AND BENEFITS

Weatherization and Rehabilitation:

- ❖ Increasing energy efficiency, safety and comfort is the focus of the program
- ❖ Locally-hired crews increase job skills through work experience and trainings

Self-Help Owner-Built Homes:

- ❖ Participants learn new skills: personal finance, home construction, and home maintenance
- ❖ Build and own a new home with very little out-of-pocket expenses
- ❖ Obtain affordable mortgage loans

Community Planning:

- ❖ RurAL CAP provides training and technical assistance to communities that wish to engage in community planning activities
- ❖ Services include training conferences and events, on-site assistance in developing a community plan