

# NATIVE TRIBE OF KANATAK

KANATAK OFFICE  
907-357-5991

NOVEMBER 2015



*This newsletter contains valuable information on the programs available to our members for 2016. Keep it for future reference.*

*You can always find information about our programs on our website at [Kanatak.com](http://Kanatak.com)*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2 NEWLY ELECTED TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

On October 18, 2015, the Native Tribe of Kanatak held the Annual Tribal Council Election at our office in Wasilla, AK. The two vacated seats had been held by Kathryn Lakoduk of AK and Ranae Booher of PA. Both completed their 3 year term and the two seats have been filled by two newly elected members; Augustine (Gus) Yovino of Alaska with 30 votes and Council member Shawn Shanigan of Alaska with 28 votes.

The results of the Tribal Council Election are as follows:

**Gus Yovino of AK – 30 votes**

**Shawn Shanigan of AK – 28 votes**

Ranae Booher of PA – 17 votes

Anthony Forshey Jr. of PA – 16 votes

Evelyn Hayes of PA – 7 votes

Nicole Breneman of PA – 7 votes

**Thank you to all who voted!**

The Council voted for officers immediately following the election and the officers for FY2016 are as follows:

President Henry F. Forshey

Vice President Shawn Shanigan

Secretary/Treasurer Gus Yovino

Council member Sophia Rane

Council member TJ Forshey

### **SAVE-THE-DATE:**

Tribal Council Meeting  
Sunday December 13, 2015  
3pm AKST/7pm EST

Call-in number: 1-866-895-5510  
Passcode: 868521#  
Hope you can attend!

## INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST PROGRAM !

# ELDER CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Elder Care Assistance Program is designed for ALL elder members of the Native Tribe of Kanatak who are **age 60 and over** and who apply for the program. The purpose of the Elder Care Assistance Program is to assist with monthly prescription drug expenses and/or monthly food bill. The Council decided to create this program because there has never been a program in place to meet the specific needs of our elder members. It is the hope of the Council that this program can assist with alleviating some of the financial burden of our elder members incur on a monthly basis.

### PROGRAM DESIGN:

\* Assist eligible elder members, who apply for the program, by providing a monthly \$25 Wal-Mart Assistance Card to reduce burden of monthly prescription drug costs and/or monthly food expenses.

### HOW IT WORKS:

\*\*\* Any member who fits the age criteria may apply for the Elder Care Assistance Program using an easy to read 1 page application.

\*\*\* Once approved, the member will begin receiving a \$25 Wal-Mart Assistance card on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

\*\*\* The program will run from January to December of each calendar year

\*\*\* Members must reapply each year

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*Applications will be available in December 2015 and can be found on our website at Kanatak.com on the "Applications" page. If you do not have access to the Internet, you can call the office at 907-357-5991 and request to have one mailed to you.*

# BBHA HEATING & RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Heating & Rental Assistance Program is available to all members through the Bristol Bay Housing Authority (BBHA). The funds are provided by Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and approved applicants must meet their own home state's low income guideline for eligibility. Once approved, the applicant can receive up to \$1,200 annually for heating assistance and/or a maximum rental assistance of 2 months. Any assistance received cannot exceed \$1,200 per year. Members may apply each year. After maximum annual assistance has been received, a member must wait until 12 months have passed before assistance can be provided again. This is the **only** program where members must submit their application to BBHA and application approval is determined by BBHA. Once approved, members must contact the Kanatak office to provide instruction on the disbursement of funds.

## PROGRAM DESIGN:

- \* Assist eligible members, who apply for the program and meet the income requirement, with up to \$1,200 per household for heating and/or rental expenses that are not already paid through other HUD programs.

## HOW IT WORKS:

- \* Apply using the BBHA Heating and Rental Assistance Program application found on our website at Kanatak.com on the "Applications" tab. Applicants must submit with their application their most recent tax return and a copy of their current tribal ID card.
- \* If applying for rental assistance, a copy of the rental agreement must be provided before funds can be issued.
- \* Once approved, the member will need to contact the Kanatak office to provide information on disbursing the assistance.
- \* The maximum benefit is \$1,200 per rolling year per household.
- \* Members must reapply each year

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*If you have questions about the application, or do not have access to the Internet, you can call the office at 907-357-5991 for assistance.*

# HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Higher Education Program can provide our members with needed financial assistance in achieving their life goals and dreams. Assisting our members in obtaining a higher level of learning and job training will provide more opportunity, higher paying jobs and personal growth. When we know better, we do better.

## PROGRAM DESIGN:

\* Assist eligible members, who apply for the program and meet the application requirements, with up to \$5,000 per school year for higher education or vocational/technical education.

## HOW IT WORKS:

- \* Apply using the Higher Education Assistance Program application found on our website at Kanatak.com on the “Applications” tab. Applicants must complete ALL sections of the application.
- \* Applicants must complete a FASFA application and also include 3 recommendation letters.
- \* Once approved, applicants must attend classes regularly and maintain a G.P.A. of 2.5.
- \* The maximum benefit is \$5,000 per school year.
- \* Funds may be applied to tuition, required text books, school supplies, uniforms, and expenses related to attending a college, vocational/technical school that are not covered by financial aid. Transportation is not eligible. Separate funding is available for room & board.

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”*

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*If you have questions about the application, or do not have access to the Internet, you can call the office at 907-357-5991 for assistance.*

# YOUTH ACTIVITY PROGRAM

The Youth Activity Program is available to all young members ages kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The Purpose of this program is to encourage our Tribal Youth to participate in organized fun and learning activities that will enrich their lives. The Youth Activity Program can pay for or assist with paying youth activities such as, but not limited to:

- Cultural Dance/Performance Groups
- Sports Programs
- Summer Camps/Weekend Camps
- Boy/Girl Scouts
- Music Lessons
- Purchase/Rental of Musical Instrument for Band
- Boys/Girls Clubs Activities
- After School Activity Programs/Clubs
- Church Activities
- Other Kanatak Tribal Council approved organized activities

## PROGRAM DESIGN:

\* Assist currently enrolled eligible members, who apply for the program, with up to \$750 per calendar year to help cover the cost of participating in organized youth activities.

***\*School tuition is not an eligible activity***

## HOW IT WORKS:

\* Apply using the Youth Activity Program application found on our website at Kanatak.com on the "Applications" tab.

\* Applicants **must** include a copy of the organization's application along with the Youth Activity Program application.

\* Once approved, applicants must attend the activity regularly.

\* The maximum benefit is \$750 per calendar year.

\* There is a maximum benefit of \$75 toward equipment for each activity. This cost is included with the \$750 annual maximum. Exception is made for music instrument rental that includes instrument lessons or school band.

\* Applicants must be currently enrolled in the Native Tribe of Kanatak and enrolled in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

\* Applicants must reapply with each activity

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*If you have questions about the application, or do not have access to the Internet, you can call the office at 907-357-5991 for assistance.*

# EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Emergency Assistance Program is available to enrolled members and provides funds for urgent situations that threaten you or your family's basic needs and quality of life. Some examples of emergency situations are but not limited to:

- job loss
- serious illness
- major income loss
- unexpected life crisis, etc.

There are many emergencies that may be considered. If you are experiencing a serious emergency, please call the office. We are here to assist you.

## PROGRAM DESIGN:

\* Provide eligible members, who are in an emergent situation and apply for the program, with up to \$300 in grocery assistance. This assistance is available to eligible applicants every other calendar year.

## HOW IT WORKS:

- \* Apply using the Emergency Assistance application found on our website at Kanatak.com on the "Applications" tab. Applicants must complete ALL sections of the application.
- \* Once approved, applicants may receive up to \$300 grocery assistance card that can be redeemed at their local Wal-Mart. Exceptions may be made depending on store availability.
- \* Once approved, the maximum benefit is \$300 per household **every other** calendar year.
- \* Funds may not be applied to rent or utilities.

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## BACK-TO-SCHOOL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

### PROGRAM DESIGN:

\* The Back-to-School Assistance Program is available to enrolled children, who are enrolled in elementary through high school and apply for the program. This program provides a \$100 assistance card to a local department store in order to assist with the cost preparing for the upcoming school year.

\*If you would like to enroll your child with the Native Tribe of Kanatak, please complete a Membership Application (also found on our website). Call the office for details.

### HOW IT WORKS:

\* Apply during the months of July – September each year using the Back-To-School Assistance application found on our website at Kanatak.com on the “Applications” tab.

\* Once approved, applicants will receive a \$100 assistance card.

\*One application is required for each child.

\* Must apply each year before the deadline.

\* Child MUST be enrolled in the tribe

## **WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU**

Do you want to get in touch with your Council members? You can call or email them at any time. Your input is always welcome. Please **kindly** share your thoughts, ideas, support and suggestions.

*President Henry F. Forshey:* cell number: 610-704-8112 / email: hfforshey@yahoo.com

*Vice President Shawn Shanigan:* cell number: 907-315-3878 / email: kanatak@mtaonline.net

*Secretary/Treasurer Gus Yovino:* cell number: 907-529-8002 / email: coming soon!

*Council Member Sophia Rane:* cell number: 773-789-3528 / email: wisemonger@sbcglobal.net

*Council Member TJ Forshey:* cell number: 717-953-6932 / email: timothyforshey@yahoo.com