



# Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Administration | 4000 Ambassador Drive | Anchorage, Alaska 99508 | Phone (907) 729-1900 | Fax (907) 729-1907 | [www.anthc.org](http://www.anthc.org)

October 26, 2009

Media Contact: Bob Terrazas, Director of Marketing and Communications  
[rterrazas@anthc.org](mailto:rterrazas@anthc.org)  
(907) 729-3270

## **ANTHC wins highly competitive \$1 million stimulus grant Funds to involve rural teens in ground-breaking air quality project**

Anchorage, AK — The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, in partnership with the University of Montana, was awarded a \$1 million Challenge Grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. More than 18,000 scientists were involved in the peer review process of 20,000 applications; only 200 were selected.

The innovative project teaches high school students from seven rural Alaska communities about the importance of good air quality and health problems associated with indoor air pollution. Students will conduct air sampling in their homes and the homes of their friends and families. Project staff will work with the students to analyze data, design solutions and carry out interventions to improve air quality in their communities.

While the primary goal is better air quality, the project will provide students with marketable environmental health skills, which are in high demand in Alaska. Additionally, seven environmental health jobs will be created in Alaska's rural villages.

Project communities have yet to be selected. Interested communities should contact ANTHC's Principal Investigator, Senior Environmental Health Consultant Troy Ritter, at [tlritter@anthc.org](mailto:tlritter@anthc.org).

# # #

### **About the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium**

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium is a non-profit health organization owned and managed by Alaska Native tribal governments and their regional health organizations. For more information, please visit [www.anthc.org](http://www.anthc.org).