

88-49-126

Students learn about careers in the medical field through satellite

Jeff Kennedy, moderator

Series: Potlatch series

1977

Song by Carol King

Jeff Kennedy said on Tuesday September 20, 1977 nineteen students from Anchorage, Dillingham and Fairbanks areas assembled in a television studio to discuss opportunities in health careers with medical school officials from the University of Washington in Seattle. The students listened to a video tape presentation by medical school officials from the University of Washington. Then the students talked via a satellite with many of the officials who produced the video tape. After this the students responded to questionnaires designed to test whether the tape and satellite interactions changed their attitudes and helped them to learn. The director of the Alaska Native health careers program, Kathy Johnson, explains how AFN became involved in the satellite project. Kathy Johnson said they have been involved in health careers for about three years under a federal grant and a federal contract. They have been interested in identifying minority students who are interested in pursuing in medical fields. They developed a relationship with the University of Washington. There are four other productions similar to this one. In one of them they want the participation of parents who are pursuing this type of career. They would like to draw students from other areas. Jeff Kennedy asked where the students came from for this production. Kathy Johnson said they drew from university level students who were here in the state. She said a lot of their students at the university level are attending school Outside. They also included high school students. They worked with Native corporations to get Native students to attend the program. Most of them were from the Anchorage and Dillingham area. They would like to include the southeastern area next time. There would like to see more participation from the Bethel area. There were people interested in the program in Nome. She encouraged people to contact her.

Peter LaFarge song

Paul Harmon one of the participants in the satellite project talks with Jeff Kennedy. Harmon said he was from Nome and received his B.S. from Sacramento State University. He is now working as a medical technologist. He said the project was exciting. He said this project brings more awareness to the health careers and stimulates interest. It give some students confidence to pursue a career in the health field. Kennedy asked him about his goals. Harmon said he has been a medical technologist and is looking for a change. Right now he is focusing his attention on a master's degree in public health.

Bobby Goldsboro song

Gly Sherada talked about his education back east and at the University of Alaska. He hopes to obtain two degrees. He is interested in a medical career and it was exciting to talk with the program people.

Calla Dolchik said she is a senior in high school in Anchorage. She said the satellite project was a bit scary to begin with but she got used to it after a while. She said she liked to see the reactions of the people when she asked them a question. They did a good job of answering her questions. She talked about her possible job careers.

Kathy Turner said she is a senior in high school. She thought the project people were open with them. She would like to work in mental health.

Susan Turner said she is from Anchorage and works at ANS. She isn't sure about what she is going to do. She explained what an EKG machine was.

Tom Bellinger said he is a student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He hopes to attend medical school. He would like to attend the University of Washington for medical school.

Debbie Liptokoff is from St. Paul Island. She is planning to attend the University of Alaska and then the University of Washington to study occupational therapy.

Ann Martin is on the parent committee. They are interested in seeing health education and other careers are emphasized with the Native students. The students just need to be made aware of opportunities.

Suzanne by Judy Collins