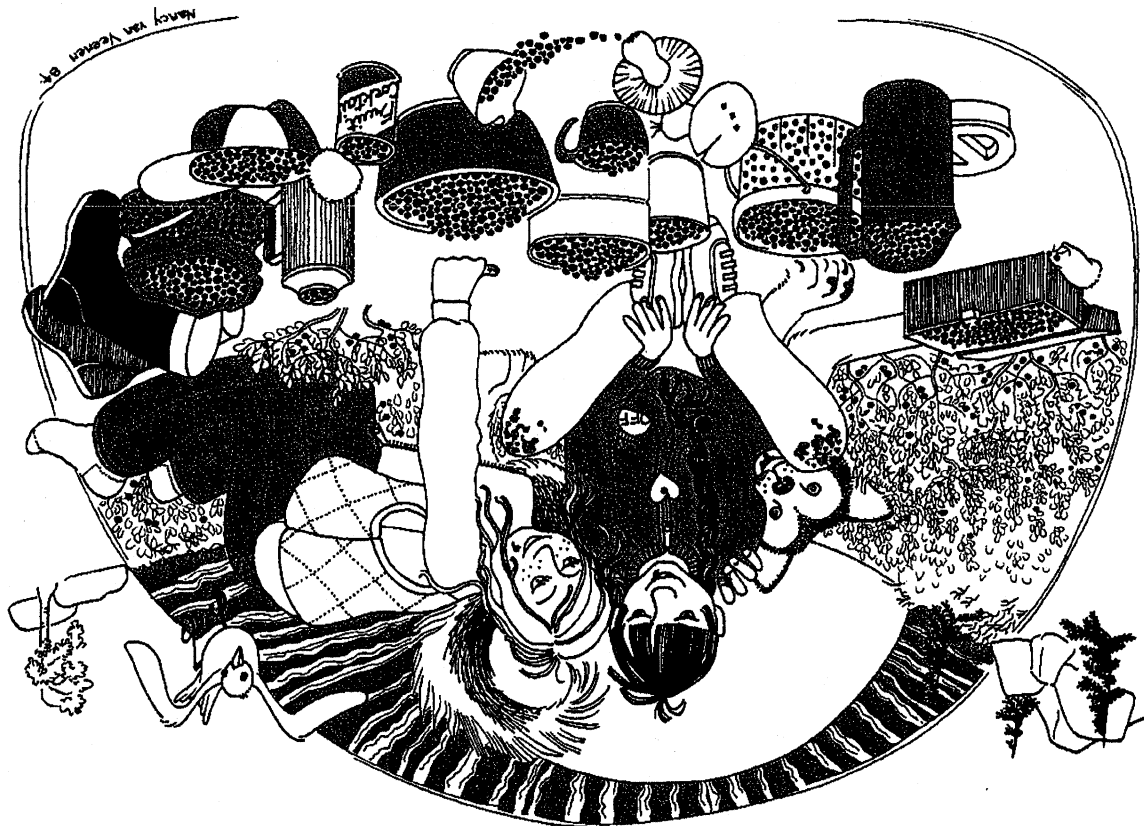


To Whom It May Concern,

I'm a former early-elementary teacher who is currently staying home with our 20-month-old son. My training as an early childhood educator emphasized the importance of early intervention programs and activities for very young children. We learned that all elements of development are critical for the well-being of a child, both health and intellectually. Programs like P.A.T. offer the opportunity for parents to be involved in a current, research-based program which helps their children develop in all these critical areas.

→



PAT is unique in that its focus is to enable parents to take an active role as a teacher early in life. These early years are critical in laying a foundation for future success.

Even though I've had years of experience teaching young learners, the PAT program has enriched **Enough for a Pie** my son's life

Nancy van Veenen

through weekly "Tot Time," an opportunity to interact with children his age. In addition, the strategies and learning activities presented by our local PAT Coordinator have been so helpful in making our son's playtimes intentional.



SR 30563 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Please seriously consider supporting the continuance of a great program like P.A.T. Sincerely, Sherri Scribner

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To: Sen. Donald Olsen
State Capitol, Rm 508
Juneau, AK 99801

To: Rep. Neal Foster
State Capitol, Rm 434
Juneau, AK 99801

From: Terese Teganlakla
PO Box 281
Emmonak, AK 99581

2.18.11

Re: PAT Program

I've been participating in PAT Program since I was pregnant in 2004 with my daughter & I'm still in it with my son Rylan. He just turned 2 on the 14th of this month. This program helped me out as a 1st time parent & I get a lot of information about being a parent & about my children's development. Right now I'm learning about my son's muscles & how to help him stop drooling or to control his drooling. This program is helping me and their dad to be a better parent. Summer time we get a lot of fun activities also with safety like a 1st aide kit. PAT Program is GREAT. I'm also encouraging new parents & other parents with 0-3 y/o kids. If I didn't have this program I think I'd be not so good of a parent now.
Thank you PAT Program!

Terese Teganlakla

Ronald and Bertina Trader
Box 243
Emmonak AK 99581

February 18, 2011

Senator Don Olson
State Capital Room 508
Juneau AK 99801

Dear Senator Olson,

My name is Ronald Trader. I am happily married to my wife, Bertina. We have a 9 month old son, William. He is a happy child, who is starting to discover books. He is also enrolled in the Parent as Teachers Program.

I am writing this letter to support the PAT Program. As we all know the child's first teachers are parents! This is a vital tool for families and it is much needed out here in rural Alaska! PAT Program works! How?

My wife and I learned about our son's cognitive stages and what to expect on development abilities at certain ages. We went through a vision and hearing tests. We got invited to social gatherings with others parents and babies. We received tips on keeping healthy during the flu season! We also received books that were appropriate for his age! He's attention span is growing when we read to him! He likes certain books! I enjoy seeing him get excited when we read books like, Twinkle twinkle little star and what's under the tree for me.

We need PAT programs to inspire kids AND parents education. It works! Education starts at home! The more education we give to our children, the less problems we have in our schools and social lives!

I applaud Senator Kawasaki for pushing Early Childhood Education! Early education for our children is investing in our future!

I support the Parent as Teacher Program because I see it working in my son, not only in him but as well with my wife and I!

Sincerely,


Ronald Trader

Feb 17, 2011

To: Whom it may concern
From: Christine Iegamlakla
PAT program parent

Dear Sir or mam,

I am writing this letter in support of requesting funding Rural Cap for the Parents As Teachers program. In the past I was the family visitor for this PAT program station at Emmonak. Due to Child care & health issues I resigned my position. I also registered my baby into this program for FY 2010-2011.

This program helps parents understand how their Child overall development is. I support this program especially for young parents who are just starting to care for their babies. Its also good for experienced parents like my self. Even I'm an experienced parents I learn something new at each visit about how to help my child for his age level. With this program available, it helps us to realize how vital what we do with our babies at young age is. We learn and there for help our babies grow to their full potential which also helps them as they get older.

Please provide another funding for this most important program parents can recieve.

Working with families and Children I can see the difference in them compared to those who are not enrolled into this program... Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine Iegamlakla

Emmonak AK 99581

949-6047

100 School Road
Emmonak, AK 99581
February 22, 2011

Senator Donald Olsen
State Capitol, Room 508
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Olson:

My name is Cassandra Peterson. I am a special education teacher in Emmonak, a small, remote village in Western Alaska. I am writing to you in support of RurAL CAP Parents as Teachers program. I feel compelled to write to share the importance of early childhood programs and their bearing on their readiness for school. It has been my personal experience that children who have participated in early childhood programs are more ready and successful when they begin kindergarten. Not only are early childhood programs important for academic and social readiness, these programs are also vital in helping to identify children who have potential delays or disabilities, and the sooner interventions begin, the greater chance for success. The RurAL CAP program has been an invaluable support for the families with young children in Emmonak. Your continued support of this and other early childhood programs would be a great service to the children of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Cassandra Peterson

Feb 22, 2011

To Whom it may Concern;

Parents as Teachers has been a wonderful support for me to have, even though I am not a first time parent. It has helped to enrich the experiences that I give my daughter, and her older siblings. My daughter Olivia enjoys the special playtime, and showing off her advanced skills in almost every activity she encounters. It is also great for me to have a knowledgeable adult sounding board for my fears & concerns. Please continue the funding so that many more families get this wonderful family support.

Angela Wilde
Haines

February 22, 2011

Haines

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Alaska's Parents As Teachers Program. I have two children enrolled here in Haines and am thrilled by the positive impact our PAT visitor, Kim Phillips, has on my kids and my family. The information she brings to our house on a bi-weekly basis about child development, nutrition, growth, play, sleep, safety, to name only a few, has proven incredibly useful and helpful to us as well as to many other families we know whose children are blessed to have Kim in their lives.

We deeply appreciate Kim's dedication, her decades of experience in Early Childhood Education and development, and her constant encouragement and support as we raise our kids. She is very resourceful; any time we've needed extra information, she is quick to provide it, or to direct us to someone who can help us more specifically. (She helped us to arrange for our daughter to get her hearing tested since hearing loss runs in our family. She also provided extra information about vaccines when we asked - these are only a couple of dozens of examples I could give.)

Page 2 Haines

I understand that the grant money that supports Kim's job is running out. I implore you to do whatever necessary to keep PAT going, especially in rural areas where this type of family support is so crucial.

As my kids grow I see so many wonderful changes that are the direct result of Mrs. Phillips' work. Please allow her work to continue by giving financial assistance to her program. By doing so you are not only employing a phenomenal woman, but you're changing the lives of young Alaskans in such positive ways.

If you want to keep the children in this great state as happy and healthy as possible, keep the Parents As Teachers Program alive.

And if there's anything left over, give Kim Phillips a raise. Of all the working people I know, she deserves it! She does her job because she loves kids and is a passionate advocate; not because she just wants a paycheck - she'd do this kind of work without a paycheck, I think. She's the perfect model of someone who has found their true calling in life.

Thanks and I look forward to seeing the children of the Chitkat Valley enjoy a PAT visitor for years and years to come.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Calmon

2/22/11

Haines

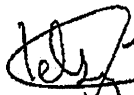
To Whom it may concern,

My family and I love the Parents AS Teachers program. Joseph our three and a half year old was enrolled in the program from the time he was six months old. He loved every visit, the packages he got during the summer and the playgroups. When I was pregnant I got enrolled in the program and received information about our developing baby. Now that Baby (Hunter) is 10 months old and is enrolled in the PAT program! He loves^{it} when Kim comes over, loves looking at the books and playing with her just like Joseph did.

I love to receive the developmental information and take my kids to the playgroups. I get to meet other parents with kids my age.

The Parents AS Teachers program is greatly appreciated by our family and other families in our community. Please continue to provide funding for it!

Sincerely,



Keren Albeck of Haines

To whom it may Concern, Bill Thomas.
Haines

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the Parents As Teachers program, as well as those that make funding this wonderful program possible. Families are a fundamental unit of society. Programs such as Parents As Teachers promote good parenting which in return, can strengthen families. If we want a better society, we need to turn to the families. The Parents As Teachers program has enabled us to more fully appreciate the teaching involved with parenthood. What a noble calling! We hope you are as willing to keep this great program available, as we are. Parenting is more than providing food and shelter. As a parent we are responsible for teaching our children. we cannot and should not rely on others to do this for us. We wish there were more programs out there with these values!

Sincerely,
Susanna & Kevin Kennedy (and Sariah age 2 1/2 and Kayla age 6 months)

Holly Davis
P.O. Box 451
Haines AK 99827
907-766-3756

February 22, 2011

Dear Bill,

Thank you so much for your support of The Parents as Teachers program! Kim Phillips, the P.A.T. person in Haines, is such an amazing resource for all of our families. John Caleb (age 3 now!) really looks forward to her visits, and I learn from her every time we get together. Please keep supporting P.A.T.

Thank you for all you do!
Sincerely,
Holly Davis

Feb 22, 2011

Dear Representative Kookah,

I am writing this letter in support of the Parents as Teachers program. The program has been very helpful to our family since the arrival of our daughter in 2007.

It has taught us as parents that we are the first teacher of our daughter.

The program has given us the tools/info we need to encourage our daughter through the early years. We would not have had this information available to us if it were not provided by our Local NAT agent

Thank You
Jeslin Katt
Leslie Kattenhorn

Dear Rep. Thomas,

2/22/11

Haines

I am writing you to ask for your support in the PPT (Parents as Teachers) program here in Haines.

I have been fortunate enough to be a part of this great program with two of my children. I strongly believe it is important for parents to be educated about the early stages of their children's lives and the development of their brains from 0-3 years specifically.

It is so nice to have the opportunity to have someone make home-visits to our home, plan activities with our child, educate us on the stages our child is at at that time, answer questions we have as parents, etc.

I know so many families in Haines have greatly benefited from this program, so I strongly urge you to help with the funding to allow it to continue.

Thanks in advance!

Melissa Ganev

Haines
2-21-11

Parent as Teachers program is a great program here in Haines. We feel pleased to have Kim more than fully qualified for the position. We receive encouragement for age appropriate activities for our children. Our kids are excited to have Kim visit our house and love her playgroups. Not being around kids before I had my own kids, its great to have someone to ask questions and know she is monitoring their development. We are encouraged to become great parents and enjoy the moments when our kids are infants. I would recommend this program to others!

Mark + Aissa Koverdan

Ania 5, Arik 3, Andy 6 months

Bill Thomas,

Haines

I can not stress enough how wonderful this program has been for my family. Growing up in Haines we didn't have a lot of programs to choose from and help us learn about raising children and child development. I was lucky to have family around me and always be around children growing up so I had an understanding. But others are not so lucky and aware of what kinds of things we can do to make sure our children are getting the attention and are developing the skills they need to succeed in life. I can say having a child at the young age I was was, was the scariest thing I had ever experienced. I understood the basics of caring for a child and making sure they were healthy but was always afraid he wasn't developing motor skills and other skills that are very important at the young stages in life. Having Kim there for meetings every few weeks was amazing. She played with my son and showed me things that as a parent sometimes you overlook. This program made me realize how important teaching children is when they are so young. If you don't take the time to work with them when they are infants and toddlers they may not get in to reading or writing or other important skills you need in life later on when they start school. PAT has really shown me how to teach my son so he can go on to school in a few years and do well. Kids are the future and we ~~need~~ need more programs like this one to help them become the best they can be in life.

Kaitlin Pozsiki

TO:

Representative William Thomas, Jr.

Page 1

02-22-11

To whom it may concern,
My name is Francely Turpin
and I am writing this letter
on behalf of the program we have
in Lynchburg. I have one child
in the program this year and
one who was in the program
last year and is now in
kindergarten. Not only is my
4 yr old benefiting from the
program but my 5 yr old
child as well. I also have
a two yr old and a one yr old
who are enrolled, they enjoy
and learn a lot during the
home visits that are provided
for us. We also go in and
volunteer, we take part in class
and appreciate it, the time
we are in class I myself
as a mother get a lot out of
the program not only the home
visits or the time in class
but the one on one attention
from teachers. I really appreciate
the information to improve
my parenting and home
teaching of my family. I am
never ceasing the building
without learning something
new and improving to make
not only my child's life better
but also my own. Thank you

TT

Page 2

for this program and I would
hope to see the programs
we are given succeed and go
further on for more education
because we are very fortunate
to be given the opportunity to
better our childrens lives through
the education that is available
to us.

Thank you for the chance
to be able to thank you
and tell you how much
these programs not only
benefit us, but also mean
to the families.

Thank you

Frank D. Jorgin

Hydaburg, AK

February 23, 2011

Senator Al Kookesh

State Capitol, Room 11

Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Kookesh,

I am writing this letter in support of the Parents As Teachers Program in Hydaburg, Alaska.

I have two children, age 2 and 5 months enrolled in the program. I enjoy the home visits that are provided that help guide me to be my children's best and first teacher. I have learned about how my child develops and learns. They also provide health screenings. Because of the Parents As Teachers Program, I was able to get referred for services for my son's speech delay with the Early Learning Program. The Hydaburg program also provides monthly playgroups for our children that I really enjoy. The parents get to sound out to each other experiences of their children, and the Family Visitor is knowledgeable about what is happening. I never leave a group without learning something.

In addition to the program for my young children, Hydaburg P.A.T. also has a preschool for the 3 – 5 year olds that my children will be attending when they reach that age. This is very important to keep funded as there is no other early childhood education programs in Hydaburg.

Sincerely,



Terra Adams

Hydaburg, AK

Dear Senator Al Kookesh

2/24/11

State Capitol Room 11
Juneau, AK 99801

My name is Judy Lee Guthrie. I'm writing this letter on behalf of the Parents As Teachers Program (PAT). The PAT program is a very helpful program to this Community. Many Children are enrolled into the program including my 19 month son. He has been enrolled since he was 6 months. For being a New parent and getting the one on one help with learning for my child and my self. I also help a child in the school. He very much enjoys going to school and learning. As a helper, an Aunt and a Mother to the kids at the school. Our days are based on the PAT Program for schooling. The PAT program has been here for years and hopefully for more years to come. I'm hoping for my son to be enrolled for going to school as soon as he can.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read my letter

Judy Lee Guthrie - Hydaburg, AK

Dear Senator Al Kookesh +
Representative Alan Dick -

February 15, 2010

I am writing to both of you to express my concerns about the state wanting to cut the Parents As Teachers program. I can tell you from first hand experience that this is a bad idea especially in our rural area! I have a 4 yr. old daughter who has been in the PAT program for 3 years and she made exceptional progress primarily due to the resources our family receives from PAT. The nearest head start is 40 miles roundtrip and that is too far for myself and others to benefit from that. If that had been my only option for early education for my daughter, I wouldn't have been able to take her and her learning opportunities would have been severely reduced. Also, I own the local store in Kenny Lake and am very involved with the community and can honestly name a numerous amount of families that have or will benefit from PAT. Please do not take away our only valuable, exceptional learning program that is educating our children of tomorrow.

lisalynnboone@yahoo.com
907-877-3313

Lisalynn Boone
Concerned parent
Local Business Owner

I think from a dad's input that having Jan go once a week with my little girls is a great learning experience for my girls. Jan is very good with the kids and my girls are so excited for tot's time every Wednesday. ~~Jan~~ Jan is great with the kids.

Thank
Andy Rosen



2/16/2011

Dear Senator Al Koo Kesh and Representative Alan Dick,

I am a mom of three young boys, one of whom is still at home. Jan Carlson has been visiting our home for eight years, when our firstborn was an infant. We live in a very rural, isolated community and there are no resources for parents of pre-school children. The Parents as Teachers program has been a great resource for us and has given us so much to look forward to in our long winter months. Jan has been a tremendous asset to me as a parent. I have learned so much about the different stages of my boys' development and how to be a better mom. Her visits to our home are such a highlight for my toddler. As there is no local pre-school, Jan's guidance has also helped me prepare my boys for school. They have excelled in school from the very beginning.

and I think Jan's visits through the Parent
as Teachers program have aided in that. I
think it would be a tremendous loss for
our community if we were to lose this valuable
program. There is literally nothing else.

Please continue this program for our
community. We are so grateful for it.
Thank you for your consideration of our needs.

Sincerely,

Sarah Dodge
Kenny Lake mom

PO Box 1871
Seward, AK 9964

February 15, 2011

Representative Paul Seaton
345 W. Sterling Hwy. Suite 102B
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Representative Seaton;

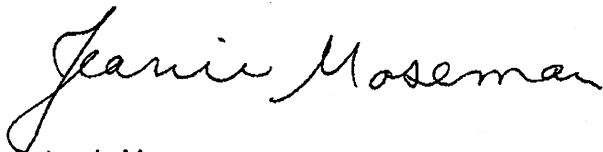
My name is Jeanie Moseman and my husband and I live in Seward with our son Jonas, who is eighteen months old.

I am writing to offer my support for the Parents as Teachers (PAT) program here in Seward. We have been signed up with the program since my son was born in 2009. We have found it to be a valuable resource for information on Jonas' development and expected milestones, as well as a source for suggestions of fun and interactive games and activities.

Our family always looks forward to our biweekly visits with Christina Pichotta, our PAT representative. Jonas enjoys learning new rhymes and games, and it has been reassuring to have someone evaluating his progress, especially as a first time parent. At Jonas' one year well child checkup, we were troubled to hear the doctors had some concerns about his head growth. Ms. Pichotta was able to supply us with documentation regarding his normal development to show his pediatrician, which was immensely helpful.

Please consider supporting the continued funding of this effective and valuable program. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanie Moseman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jeanie Moseman

February 16, 2011

Representative Paul Seaton
345 W. Sterling Hwy. Suite 102 B
Homer, Alaska

Dear Representative Seaton:

This letter is in support of RurAL CAP's Parents as Teachers (PAT) program to provide home-based services for families with children aged prenatal to five years old. There is a critical need in our community for an early childhood program that helps to build school readiness skills for our children and provides support for families. We believe that the PAT program is an ideal model to meet this need.

Bi-weekly home visits and monthly group socializations offer an opportunity for parents to understand the growth and development of their children and to learn age-appropriate activities that they can do with their children to foster optimal development. The program also provides health and developmental screenings of children, identifying children who may need additional support at an early age. We firmly believe that RurAL CAP's PAT program will provide families with crucial, scientifically based information that will be presented in a way that is appropriate for our culture.

We offer our full support of this valuable program, both in our community and statewide.

Sincerely,

Lidia T Petersen
11694 Seward Hwy
Seward, AK 99664
lidia.t.petersen@gmail.com

February 16, 2011

Representative Paul Seaton
345 W. Sterling Hwy. Suite 102 B
Homer, Alaska

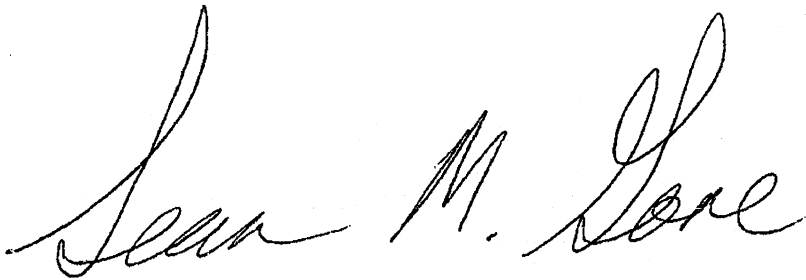
Dear Representative Seaton:

This letter is in support of RurAL CAP's Parents as Teachers (PAT) program to provide home-based services for families with children aged prenatal to five years old. There is a critical need in our community for an early childhood program that helps to build school readiness skills for our children and provides support for families. We believe that the PAT program is an ideal model to meet this need.

Bi-weekly home visits and monthly group socializations offer an opportunity for parents to understand the growth and development of their children and to learn age-appropriate activities that they can do with their children to foster optimal development. The program also provides health and developmental screenings of children, identifying children who may need additional support at an early age. We firmly believe that RurAL CAP's PAT program will provide families with crucial, scientifically based information that will be presented in a way that is appropriate for our culture.

We offer our full support of this valuable program, both in our community and statewide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sean M. Lone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sean" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Lone".

Honorable Paul Seaton
State Capitol Room 102
Juneau AK, 99801

February 16, 2011

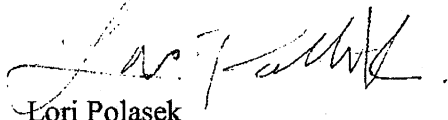
Dear Representative Seaton,

I would like to provide my support for the Parents as Teachers (PAT) program offered in the city of Seward. The PAT program has been beneficial for both my daughter and me. The program has given me some structured ideas on how to educate my daughter while we play together. The activities are great during our sessions with Chris Pichotta, our PAT coordinator, and the packets we can keep after each session are filled with ideas of things we can do for the rest of month. This is important especially over the long cold winter when outdoor play is not possible and we need things to do besides watching TV.

In a remote town like Seward, that does not offer pre-school, it is invaluable to have programs such as PAT that can prepare our children for elementary school. The PAT program has been most beneficial for me because it provides me some bench marks on what my daughter should be capable of doing at her age and what I should be teaching her. One example is teaching her how to use scissors. I have not done this with her because I was not sure it was safe. The PAT program provided a nice instructional list on how to get your child started with scissors and had a list of activities on how to practice.

Please help us support this program.

Sincerely,



Lori Polasek
Seward Resident
lori_polasek@alaskasealife.org
(907) 224-6893

February 16, 2011

Dear, Mr. Paul Seaton,

I am writing to tell you what a wonderful program that Seward has to offer for children 5 and under which is call the Parents As Teachers program. I have enrolled my daughter when she was 10 months old and she loves it. It is great to have a program to have an instructor come to your home and help you teach your child and give her the one on one experience as I believe she is learning more at a young age and developing skills faster with this program. She amazes me with the new stuff she does and how eager she is to learn. And with the program they do once a month group socials which gives the children an opportunity to meet and play with each other and get to know the other parents that are enrolled. I am very grateful to have this program in our community as our community doesn't have much to offer for children 5 and under in programs.

Sincerely,

Amber Reese and Family

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amber Reese". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Amber Reese and Family".

Representative Paul Seaton
State Capitol, Room #102
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Mr. Seaton,

2/18/2011

I am writing today in support of the Rural Alaska Community Action Program - more specifically the Seward Parents As Teachers program (P.A.T.)

I have two children - a son 3 yrs old and a daughter 11 months; My son has been enrolled in the program since he was approx 4 months old. My daughter has been enrolled from birth as I participated in the prenatal program that Seward PAT. also offers.

The PAT. program has given me the tools that I need to provide my children w/ an atmosphere to learn & grow in. The facilitators are always kind and encouraging to me and my family. The home visit program has given my son and daughter the opportunity to learn and grow in ways that I could not have done on my own.

We ask that you continue to support the program with financial funding in the next fiscal year and thank you for supporting rural Alaskan families like ours!

Regards, Jena Petersen - Seward Alaska
Lane Petersen - 3y
Anigun Peters - 11 mths



Thank you for your continued
support of our rural alaskan
family!

- Jena & Cole Petersen
and - Lane & Atigun Petersen
3yrs 11 mths

The Honorable Albert M Kookesh
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, Ak 88901-1182

At this point in time, the Parents as Teachers Program in Hoonah is funded by a federal grant. As the Federal Legislature votes to fund fewer and fewer of these types of projects it will become imperative that the State pick up these programs that are crucial to assuring a positive and bright future for our children.

These photos are from the Hoonah Parents as Teachers TOTS' Clinic that is held annually. At this clinic every child in Hoonah, birth to kindergarten has the opportunity to have screenings for:

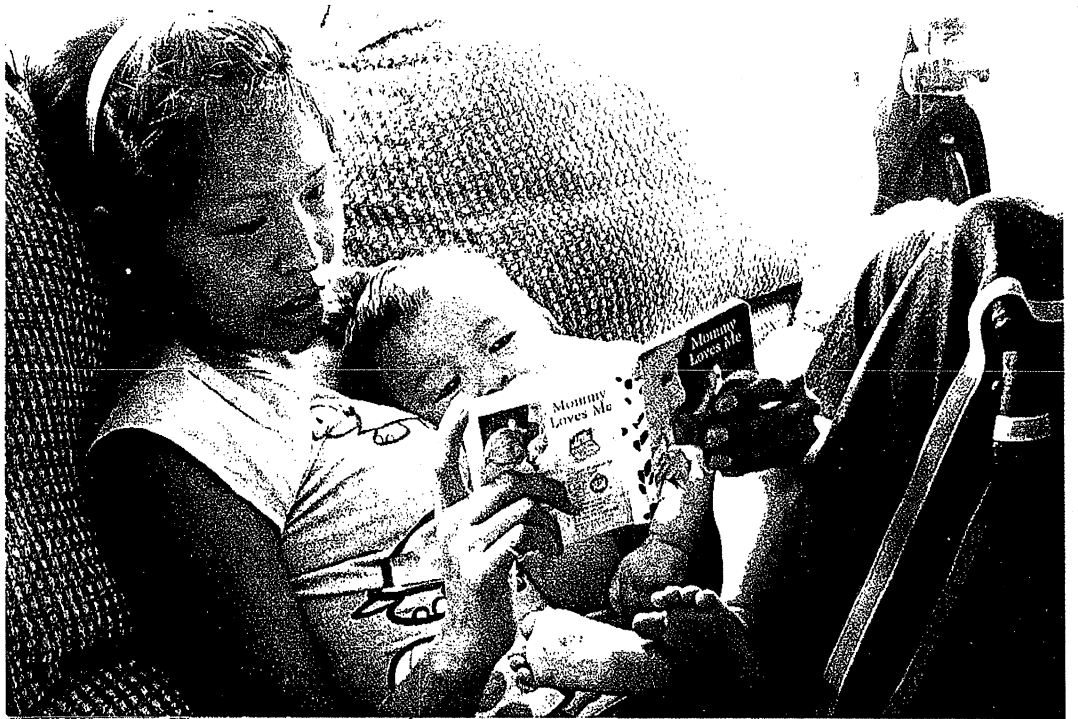
Hearing	PAT Parent Educators, SESA equipment
Vision	PAT Parent Educators & Head Start Staff with the support of the Juneau Lions Club & their state of the art equipment
Medical	Dr. Amy Dressel, Pediatrician
Developmental	Jackie Bell, ILP
Motor	Bev Ingram, ILP
Speech/Language	Julie Peters, ILP
Social/Emotional	Bill Sallenbach, PhD

The U.S. Forest Service donates the use of their bunk house for this week long activity.

All of the children are weighed & measured and each parent is given a growth chart to help them track their child's height and weight percentiles. In addition to getting a book in the mail monthly from the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, each child who attends the TOTS Clinic gets an age appropriate book.

Parents are given any help and support they might request as they follow up on any referrals made as a result of this clinic.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynne Osheim, Director
Parents of Teachers
Hoonah City Schools



Tammy Aguchak
PO Box 32284
Mountain Village, AK 99632
E-mail: taguchak@yahoo.com

February 15, 2011

Senator Donald Olson
State Capitol, Room 508
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Parents As Teachers Program

Dear Honorable Olson:

This letter is in support of the Parents as Teachers (PAT) Program in Mountain Village, Alaska. I have had three of my four children enrolled in the PAT program and the impact left a permanent mark on my children. They still recognize their "first" teacher and are very fond of her.

Trysten, my second child who was first enrolled in the PAT program had his first social when he was four months old. Although he slept through the class, it was important for me to bring him to learn what milestones he should be reaching for his age. All other socials he was awake and participated in the hand/eye coordination and motor skill exercises.

Tyler, my second child enrolled in the PAT program had a speech impediment and through the program, we were able to get speech therapy for him. Before the end of the year, his speech improved ten fold and we were finally able to understand what he was saying. His older brother by a year and a half, Trysten, no longer needed to translate for him.

My youngest child, Ana, excelled in the PAT program and through all the hand outs we knew exactly what to expect of her by age. By the time she entered head start, she knew her name, age, parents, where she was from, colors and shapes. All learned in the PAT program.

I continue to support the PAT Program and would love to see it continue on our small community of Mountain Village. I know it has helped a lot of first time parents on what to expect of their children and by what age. I hope you feel the same after reading this and support this vital program.

Respectfully,


Tammy Aguchak
Former PAT parent

John M. Joe
PO Box 32284
Mtn. Village, AK 99632
(907) 591-2035 (P)

.....

February 18, 2011

To Whom It May Concern

RE: Parent as Teachers Program

To Whom It May Concern:

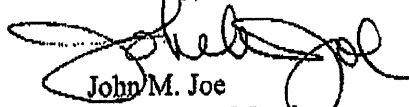
I fully support the Parents as Teachers Program. All three of my children participated in this program in the past. I have realized the huge impact this program had on my children. By the time they reached Kindergarten, the Kindergarten teachers shared that they were well ahead of the curve compared to children who did not participate in the program.

I noticed my kids were always pleased to actively participate in the program with the local director. My children learned the basic developmental skills essential to their growth. It was reassuring and gratifying to see the development of my children as they progress throughout the program from birth to the entrance to Headstart and then to Kindergarten. The program also assisted in teaching young parents, as myself, on how to get the full benefits of parenthood and life skills.

I feel this is an essential program for the community since the program prepares our "most valuable people" the essentials to an improved lifestyle. I entirely agree with the saying that "It takes a community to raise a child." I feel this program is an essential building block in the development of our most valuable children.

If you have any questions or comment, please feel free to contact me at the numbers and address above. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


John M. Joe
Community Member

Lloyd And Beverly Alexie
P.O. Box 32077
Mountain Village, AK 99632
(907) 591-2077

February 17, 2011

Senator Donald Olson
State Capitol, Room 508
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Parents as Teachers Program

Dear Senator Olson;

My Name is Beverly Alexie from Mountain Village. My daughter, Traclynn is in the PAT program this year with Agnes L. Brown and she really enjoys her visits.

I have noticed many changes in my daughter's learning stages, from when she was just a year old to now, age three. Traclynn has learned a lot from the teaching materials Agnes brings to the home visits. We together show her how to do beading, building blocks, cutting with scissors, pasting objects and shapes on to paper, reading books and remembering animals names, etc. (to much to name).

I really enjoy this program myself because I am informed about what Traclynn should be learning by how many months she is. It's interesting to know exactly where she needs to be at during this important developing stage. I can see that she does things a little early then the stages say. Filling out the questionnaire Agnes brings every three months or so also shows how far Traclynn is coming along and if there are parts we really need to work on before then next home visit. I am also offered safety tips and even given fire extinguishers and fire alarms if we don't have them.

I believe this program is very helpful because I see at the group socials the children have a lot of confidence and great motor skills. They are able to do crafts and play well with each others. I also see all the children that attend the group social to love to read books with their parents, too. Every time we have these group socials they interact with each others and then the next time they meet, we see an improvement in their social skills by remembering to taking turns and stand in line to wash their hands and even talking with each others. Seeing these actions, I know it will lead to respect.

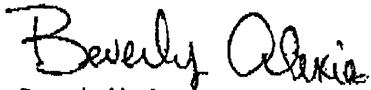
This awesome program has a great impact on our children here in Mountain Village. Before the PAT Program, we (young parents) really didn't know what our children's learning stages were, so we were practically raising them on how we thought was right and not knowing if our children have learning difficulties. Having the PAT Program now is very helpful and it gives us knowledge about the growing stages of our children and if we need to enroll them in special programs like FIT (Family Infant Toddlers) Program for speech delay or hearing problems.

If we loose the Parents As Teachers Program, I think we will see a huge difference in our children. This program benefits parents who don't know that they need to teach their children different skills their child should know at certain ages. Especially, with their large and small motor skills it could cause them

to have a delay in their growth that affects the use of their social and motor skills, which most parents are not aware of until their child reaches Head Start. It is best to keep this program so that we can catch these delays early.

With respect and love of our future leaders, I Beverly Alexie, a proud parent of Traciynn Alexie would like you, Senator Donald Olson, to continue to support this excellent program. You are our voice for our future children and we thank you for the hard work you do and the pride you have in your people!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beverly Alexie". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Beverly Alexie
Mountain Village

Beverly Alexie
P.O. Box 32077
Mountain Village, AK 99632
(907) 591-2077

February 17, 2011

Representative Neal Foster
State Capitol, Room 434
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Parents as Teachers Program

Dear Representative Foster;

My Name is Beverly Alexie from Mountain Village. My daughter, Traciynn is in the PAT program this year with Agnes L. Brown and she really enjoys her visits.

I have noticed many changes in my daughter's learning stages, from when she was just a year old to now, age three. Traciynn has learned a lot from the teaching materials Agnes brings to the home visits. We together show her how to do beading, building blocks, cutting with scissors, pasting objects and shapes on to paper, reading books and remembering animals names, etc. (to much to name).

I really enjoy this program myself because I am informed about what Traciynn should be learning by how many months she is. It's interesting to know exactly where she needs to be at during this important developing stage. I can see that she does things a little early then the stages say. Filling out the questionnaire Agnes brings every three months or so also shows how far Traciynn is coming along and if there are parts we really need to work on before then next home visit. I am also offered safety tips and even given fire extinguishers and fire alarms if we don't have them.

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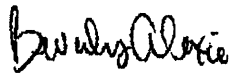
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child should know at certain ages. Especially, with their large and small motor skills it could cause them to have a delay in their growth that affects the use of their social and motor skills, which most parents are not aware of until their child reaches Head Start. It is best to keep this program so that we can catch these delays early.

With respect and love of our future leaders, I Beverly Alexie, a proud parent of Traciynn Alexie would like you, Representative Neal Foster, to continue to support this excellent program. You are our voice for our future children and we thank you for the hard work you do and the pride you have in your people!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beverly Alexie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'B' and 'A'.

Beverly Alexie
Mountain Village

2-20-11

To: Senate
from: P.A.T. parent

Hello, my baby Loves P.A.T Program
she Loves the different toys, objects, shapes
& colors. She got used of Janice visiting
because she is interested in the toys.
& speech learning slowly.

Lola Jagan'akla

PAGE 02/02

PAT letter of support

From: **Jillian Britton** (jillianbritton@yahoo.com)
Sent: Sun 2/27/11 11:47 PM
To: Mimi Eddy (mimi_eddy@msn.com)

Hey Mimi, I made a few more changes to the letter I sent to the chick in ANC. Below is a copy, let me know what you think. I hope its good and hopefully will help. Write back and tell me what you think of it.

~Jill

To Whom it May Concern,

I have been with the Parents As Teachers program going on three years now and would like to express my appreciation for being able to be a part of such a great program. It has been such a wonderful opportunity to have Mimi, our home visitor, visit us in our home. As a stay at home mom, it is great to have a professional come for scheduled visits that allow me to completely focus on my daughter and also be shown so many new ways to broaden her creativity using items we have here in our home. Through Mimi's PAT training, she is able to share many different ways to expand ideas for fun learning activities that we are able to do and enjoy in our home and even at friends or families homes. It has given me more confidence as a parent to help and encourage my daughter to learn using the activities that Mimi has introduced to us through the PAT program.

She also brings many different books on colors, shapes, numbers, etc that have helped my daughter's love for books increase. I am so proud to see how much Rowan enjoys the books and activities that our PAT representative brings for her. Rowan is so excited to learn how to read.

I would also like to add that it has been such an honor to work with Mimi, our PAT home visitor. My daughter gets so excited every time she hears that Mimi is on her way to our house. I only wish she were able to visit more often. I would also like to add that I am now a more confident parent -thanks to working with Mimi. I can only hope that the Parents as Teachers program will continue and hopefully become a year round program. I firmly believe that it is important for young children to consistently be exposed to new skills through different and creative projects that encourage them to learn and it would be so beneficial to both Rowan and me to have the opportunity to work with PAT year round. The Parents as Teachers program is such an amazing program that has so many benefits for children as well as parents and it would certainly be more beneficial if it were year round. Rowan and I are so lucky to be able to be a part of it and to have Mimi as our home visitor. She has been such a pleasure to work with.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or if I can help in any way to ensure that this wonderful program continues, hopefully year round.

Sincerely,

Jillian Britton

PAT-K

9072477497

03/01/2011 03:36

Dear Donny Olson,

I like the Pat program, there doing a really good job for all the kids here in Stebbins. My 3 year old daughter always looks forward to her home visits with her teacher. And she's very excited about going to school at the head start next year. Thank you for all your support for the Pat Program and we all hope to continue with your help for the program and the kids attending school and home visits.

Stebbins, Alaska

Angela M. Mervels

Dear Donnie Olson,

2.10.11

I think you should continue the PAT program because it helps the young children learn new stuff and skills. Also the young children enjoy home visits with the teacher.

Jamara Alth - S. Figgins, Ak

2.17.11

Dear Dony

We would like to keep our PAT program to help our children develop their skills and mind.

Tinisha Snowball
Stebbins

To whom it may concern:

We are learning how our children are growing and learning from the past program and to watch them learn a little more before they get into grade school.

James L. Schumel Sr.

Stebbins Ak. 99671

Letter to Legislator

Your Name

Francis Dalton

Address

P.O. Box 693

City, State, Zip

Hoonah AK 99829

Date

Feb. 24, 2011

The Honorable William Thomas Jr.
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 501
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Representative Thomas,

I strongly believe that
P.A.T should continue. I love
taking my son to P.A.T and I don't
think I could have raised him
by myself. I like that if I have
questions, they answer them. If they
don't know the answers, they will
find the answers one way or
another.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Francis Dalton

Letter to Legislator

Your Name Harold William Dick
Address P.O. Box 476
City, State, Zip Hoonah AK 99829
Date 2/24/11

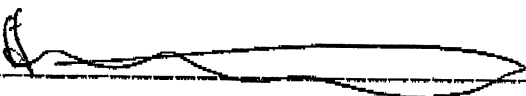
The Honorable William Thomas Jr.
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 501
Juneau, AK 99901-1182

Dear Representative Thomas,

I wanted to let you know what a
great job you are doing to support the
Hoonah AK PAT. Our family is learning
so much under this program.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Letter to Legislator

Your Name

Casey Budke

Address

P.O. BOX 418

City, State, Zip

Hoonah, AK, 99829

Date

2/23/11

The Honorable William Thomas Jr.
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 501
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Representative Thomas,

I am a parent of three going on
four. I just wanted to thank you
for supporting early development
programs like PAT and other
programs like it. Thanks again

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Casey Budke

Letter to Legislator

Your Name William DALTON SR.Address PO Box 693City, State, Zip Hoonah AK 99829Date 24 Feb 2011

The Honorable William Thomas Jr.
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 501
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Representative Thomas,

me and my wife take our son who is
21 months now, to Pat. we also had my
wife go to Pat while she was carrying our
son. we (I) couldn't have ^{raised our} ~~done this~~
son with out Pat.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Wm D. Dalton

Letter to Legislator

Your Name

Faus L. Gallagher

Address

P.O. BOX 394

City, State, Zip

Hoonah, AK 99829

Date

2-24-11

The Honorable William Thomas Jr.

120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 501

Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Representative Thomas,

As a full-time grandmother
I support early childhood education.
My grandchildren are involved with
the Parent As Teachers program ^{and it} brings
parents and children closer, providing
the tools for learning as they grow, interactive
and spending time with your children. These
programs are very beneficial and rewarding.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Faus L. Gallagher

Letter to Legislator

Your Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Date

Auther E Kum ^{Lindoff} Campbell
PO BOX 22
HOONAH AK 99879
February 24, 2011

The Honorable William Thomas Jr.
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 501
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Representative Thomas,

I would hope for near future
you guys keep the Early Childhood
going. This has been a great program
for our new born child. Something
going before Headstart so the
can interact right before can be
ready so again thank you

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Yori Campbell
Auther E Kum

Letter to Legislator

Your Name

Judy Bitz

Address

Box 627

City, State, Zip

Hoonah, AK 99829

Date

2-25-11

The Honorable William Thomas Jr.
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 501
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Representative Thomas,

I am a parent educator at the Hoonah PAT.
I work with birth-age 5 children. The PAT
program helps parents be the best parent they can
be by educating parents in literacy, child
development, and parenting tips. This is a
valuable and worthwhile program for the families
in Hoonah. Please continue your support for PAT.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Letter to Legislator

Your Name

Faig Gallagher

Address

PO BOX 394

City, State, Zip

Hoonah, AK 99829

Date

2-24-11

The Honorable Albert M Kookesh
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Senator Kookesh,

Early child hood development is very
important in our community. My
grandchildren have benefited from
the PAT program for the past 5 years.
Being able to socialize with other children
and families in play groups, home visits
activities that fit their age group. These
programs bring families closer to their children
Thank you for your time and consideration.
I support these programs 100%.

Sincerely,

Faig J Gallagher

Letter to Legislator

Your Name

Christina B. Dick

Address

P.O. Box 476

City, State, Zip

Hoonah, Alaska 99829

Date

2/24/2011

The Honorable Albert M Kookesh
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

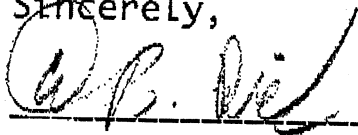
Dear Senator Kookesh,

My name is Christina B. Dick. I have two children one is five and the other is twelve.

They love coming to PAT and participating in the groups especially family days. I especially love the fact that they offer a family culture night where I have finally got a chance to

begin to do what I've been wanting to do. Please vote to continue any funding you can for these programs. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Letter to Legislator

Your Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Date

Amy Cook
PO Box 527
Hoonah, AK
99829
Feb 24, 2011

The Honorable Albert M Kookesh
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Senator Kookesh,

Supporting early childhood bills is critical to the future of our children, families, and community. Providing rich, safe, developmentally appropriate education through 0-3 home visits, Parents As Teachers play groups, parent education through family nights, and every opportunity for diverse early experiences ensures us success and productive, happy futures.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Amy Cook, CCIS, M.Ed. ISL BBEB, Ed. ECE
Kinderg

Letter to Legislator

Your Name Auther & Kim Campbell
Address PO BOX 221
City, State, Zip HONAH AK 99829
Date February 24, 2011

The Honorable Albert M Kookesh
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Senator Kookesh,

Our family would like to
personally thank you for the
early childhood care to have
this before Headstart is good
for my first child to learn an
to be ready for future schooling
We hope that you keep this going

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim Campbell
Auther Campbell

Letter to Legislator

Your Name Judy Bitz
Address Box 1627
City, State, Zip Hoonah AK 99829
Date 2-25-11

The Honorable Albert M Kookesh
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, AK 88901-1182

Dear Senator Kookesh,

I am a parent educator at the Hoonah
PAT. I work with birth-age 5 children.
The PAT Program helps parents be the best
parent they can be by educating parents in
literacy, child development, and parenting tips.
This is a valuable and worthwhile program for
the families in Hoonah. Please continue your
support for PAT.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Judy Bitz

Letter to Legislator

Your Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Date

The Honorable Albert M Kookesh
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Kookesh,

As the director of the Parents as Teachers Program in Hoonah, I get to witness 1st hand the impact of the program. Language development is one of the most important components for success in school. The children/parents in Hoonah are being helped to improve this area of development through the efforts of PAT Parent Educators. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

