

Advancing God's Work Through IAM



Intergenerational Arctic Ministries (IAM) Listening Way program is excited to kick off our new season of helping others. We're very thankful to our funders for enabling us to rehire our Listening Leaders that have been trained previously. Lillian Lane from Point Hope, Madeline Hickman from Wainwright, Flossie Kanayurak and Veronica Neakok from Atqasuk, Olivia Cabinboy from Nuiqsat, and Rebecca Brower are ready to engage in Listening to others, praying with others and encouraging those who need encouraging. We will use this to make ourselves available to those who may need to talk to someone about what they are going through during this pandemic.

We are grateful that we get to be a part of the healing within our region here in the NSB. We have also trained Zilma Gologergen and Geraldine Slwooko from Gambell and Shana Noongwook and Christopher Noongwook from Savoonga as our Listener Leaders who are ready and willing to help their communities. Quyanaqpak to all our Listening Way Leaders for stepping up and stepping out to help the IAM corporation reach out to help others. Lord bless you all abundantly and use you to show God's Love in action.

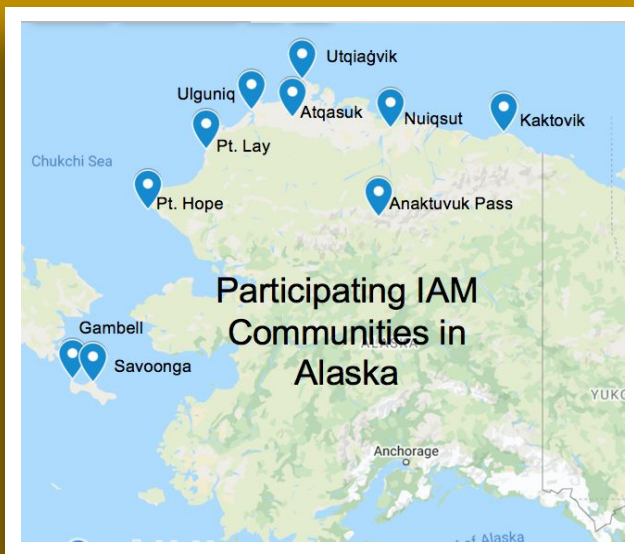
***Pastor David Matthews,
Listening Way Supervisor***



Listening Way: We have begun the process of training two people in each community (4 in Utqiagvik) on how to be effective allies who support people who are hurting within their communities. Listening Way Listeners come alongside people in crisis, serving as prayer partners, as *soul friends*, and as connections to other helping agencies as people begin to reach out to God to experience God's healing processes.

Please join us in welcoming our new “Listening Way Leaders”. We are very excited to have them come aboard:

1. Gail Gallahorn- Point Hope
2. Mary Ann Bordeaux- Atqasuk
3. Sophie Tracey- Point Lay
4. Gwendolyn Janice Pikok- Point Lay
5. Brentlyn Reich, LWYouth Leader



12-Step Facilitation. We provide a faith-based version of the 12-step approach for dealing with crises. Although the system was first used for addressing the abuse of alcohol and other substances, this approach is also very effective in dealing with different crises and issues in people's lives. We are currently testing a custom-designed approach to the 12-Steps, incorporating local indigenous values designed especially for people of Alaska's Arctic. We hope to have it ready to use very soon.

Healing and Renewal Events: We are reaching out to the faith leaders in each community to help their churches to become the places of support and healing for people in crisis that all Christians want their churches to be. We invite the churches to provide regular prayer services, focusing on healing and support. We can also occasionally offer speakers from outside the community to provide training and other events that build on the churches' and the people's abilities to help in healing wounded souls.



Outlook for 2022- The Year of the Steering Committee, the "Voice of the Village"

Over the past 2 years we have formalized the IAM Listener Leader program to have a process for hearing the needs of the village. Now the Listening Leaders are reaching out to representatives of their village's supportive agencies (e.g. health, school) and other stakeholder groups (e.g. youth, elders), and strong natural leaders to form a steering committee in each village. Each of these members will bring their own information and related needs (data). The committee is conceived to collect this data and then cooperate to draft a recommended solution.

By presenting these recommendations on behalf of the village to the backbone organizations and other official organizations with the resources to implement the recommendation, the steering committee will be acting as the Voice of the Village.

During the 1st qtr of 2022, we hope to conduct at least one "virtual" steering committee meeting in each village, with whomever we can assemble in each village as the "Acting" village steering committee. With technical assistance we will capture and stream meetings (perhaps facebook live) using our IAM Zoom account. By the 3rd qtr we hope to begin some limited in-person village steering committee meetings in our IAM Technology enabled meeting spaces. IAM leadership will prepare presentation materials for each meeting and a readout of the meetings could be provided to the board at least quarterly.

2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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As you read the articles in this newsletter, you will get more details on our progress in each of these areas of our work. For specifics on events we have scheduled or what is coming next for each program, check out our website at <http://www.iam.gives/>.

Also as you read these articles, *notice that it is God who makes all this possible*. We are grateful to God for this opportunity to participate in God's work across the region.

We are also thankful that God has given us partners who have been generous to provide the grants we need to get all this started. However, we want you to know that your support is still very much needed. To donate once or to become a regular contributor to our work, please go directly to [our Donations Page, here](#), or check out our website at <http://www.iam.gives/>.

-Pastor Curtis Karns

Upcoming Events

LWL training

February 22-26nd

Time: TBD Location: TBD

IAM Youth Outreach

March 3-11

(for Barrow, Nuiqsut, Atkasuk, and Wainwright)

Time: TBD Location: TBD

Pastors Meeting

January 24th

Time: TBD Location: TBD

Recruiting for 2 LWLs in Anaktuvuk Pass and Kaktovik and 1 more in Nuiqsut

February 22-26

Time: TBD Location: TBD

How to support people through grieving

March 2nd 1:30 pm (AST)

Time: TBD

Location: <https://zoom.us/j/94369420426>

Healing and Renewal

February 25th 6:00 - 8:00 pm (AST)

February 26th 10:00 am (AST)

Time: TBD Location: TBD

For more information about IAM please visit our website:

<http://www.iam.gives/>