

VOL. 4 OCTOBER 2022

# AS WE GATHER

Official Newsletter of Intergenerational Arctic Ministries



## 12-Step Facilitation Groups Beginning

Welcome to Billy Kenton and Lucinda Elliott, our new program supervisors for IAM's 12-Step Crisis Recovery program for the North Slope region of our work. And Welcome to Susan Apassingok, program supervisor for the St. Lawrence Island Region. Billy and Lucinda are both long-time Utqiagvik residents, and Susan is a life-long resident of Gambell. All are excited about the potential to help people with this faith-based approach to help.

This summer, Billy, Lucinda and Susan worked with Internal Family Systems, an agency that has been working with a number of tribes in the United States and Alaska. Their work has been to develop an approach that blends Christian faith with 12-Step wisdom and Alaska Native values.



Lucinda Elliott



Billy Kenton



Susan Apassingok

## This issue:

12-Step Facilitation Groups  
Beginning  
PAGE 01

Joining the Zoom Meeting  
PAGE 02

Gathering Together in North  
Slope  
PAGE 03

Collective Voice- Your  
Voice, Your Data  
PAGE 05

Celebrations!!!  
PAGE 06

Elijah House Training  
PAGE 06

Traveling North Slope  
Borough Health Department  
PAGE 06

Healing and Renewal Worship  
PAGE 07



## Join Zoom Meeting

The IAM 12-Step Group will meet on Thursdays, and the first meeting will be on November 10 at 7 p.m. People can attend the meeting in two ways. People from across the region can join online, using the following codes:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85359560356>

Meeting ID: 853 5956 0356

One tap mobile

+17193594580,,85359560356# US

+12532158782,,85359560356# US  
(Tacoma)

Dial up Attendance

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 360 209 5623 US

833 548 0276 US Toll-free

833 548 0282 US Toll-free

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

This approach allows people facing crisis, whether that be addiction, grief, or any other crisis, to find an approach, and a supportive group, for dealing with that crisis

People in Utqiagvik can attend in-person at the Utqiagvik Presbyterian church. Note that the group may split into a men's group and a women's group most of the time.

All who are committed to recovery from addiction, trauma, or crisis are welcome.







## Gathering Together in North Slope

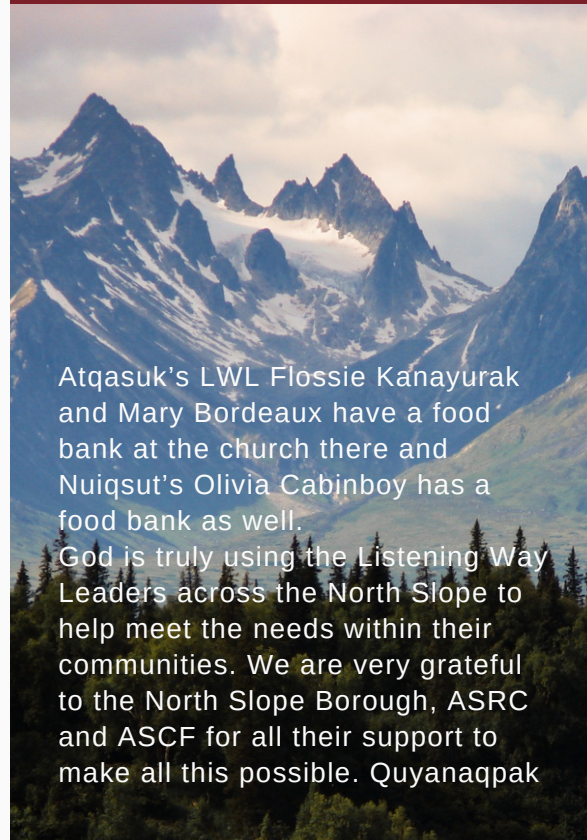
What a privilege to travel with the NSB Health Department to the villages throughout the North Slope. IAM was invited to be a part and we are so grateful for the opportunity. We're hoping this is the beginning of a rich lasting partnership to help our people here on the North Slope. It was a great success as we launched out in faith in Who our God is and what He can do. The picture below is a picture of our gathering in Point Lay.



We met at the community building there in Point Lay and there was a wonderful turn out. God's Word was preached by Brandon Mayo and Pastor David Matthews Jr and God's Presence touched all our lives in a very special way. Many came to the front for prayer as God's Love drew them to come. Toward the end of the service the children were called to come up front and we prayed over them. Spontaneous worship followed as the people yielded to God's Presence. Most continued to stay and didn't want to leave. God's Presence was so wonderful there and we're forever grateful. So thankful for our Point Lay Listening Way Leaders Gwendolyn "Apple" Pikok and Sophie Tracey and Muriel Brower and her staff Esther Evikana and Katrina Watson for being there and for helping pray with people. Anaktuvuk Pass LWL Bernice Bifelt has started a Sunday School class that's been a blessing to the children there.

Therefore  
encourage one  
another and  
build one  
another up,  
just as you are  
doing.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:1



Atqasuk's LWL Flossie Kanayurak and Mary Bordeaux have a food bank at the church there and Nuiqsut's Olivia Cabinboy has a food bank as well.

God is truly using the Listening Way Leaders across the North Slope to help meet the needs within their communities. We are very grateful to the North Slope Borough, ASRC and ASCF for all their support to make all this possible. Quyanapqak



And they  
devoted  
themselves to  
the apostles'  
teaching and  
the fellowship,  
to the breaking  
of bread and  
the prayers.

ACTS 2:42

## Collective Voice- Your Voice, Your Data

The steering committee serves as the core partnership entity working together to review needs and data collected by the Listening Way Leaders within each Community. The data serves as the guideline for addressing and finding solutions to alleviating social ills and problems experienced by individuals within each community, and is uniquely representative of that community.

Over the past quarter, we have established steering committees in several villages and hope to establish committees in all villages by year end. The Listening Way Leaders have been quite effective this quarter with over 200% increase in listening activity. We have reports available upon request for all of your community meetings to highlight the issues noticed in the villages in a summary report. We now have enough data for village specific data for 8 of the 10 villages supported by IAM. Summary and village reports can be requested of your village listening way leader.







## Celebrations!!!

The high expense of internet on St. Lawrence Island has restricted IAM's work, but all of that is about to change. In October, IAM entered into an agreement with the Presbytery of Yukon to share the cost of internet through the Presbyterian Churches of Gambell and Savoonga. The Gambell Presbyterian Church leadership has already approved the plan, and work is beginning to get internet installed. The Savoonga church will likely be ready to move forward soon.



As Jesus and  
his disciples  
were on their  
way, he came  
to a village  
where a  
woman  
named  
Martha  
opened her  
home to him.

LUKE 10:38



## Elijah House Training

IAM is grateful that we have been able to enroll five people in Elijah House Ministries, training people from both the North Slope Region and the St. Lawrence Island Region. Elijah House trains people to work for inner healing through interactive learning, supportive fellowship, and healing prayer. Once trained, IAM personnel will be able to train others, with the goal of sharing this capability across the villages of both regions. Churches or individuals interested in receiving Elijah House training right now can find them on the web at [www.elijahhouse.org](http://www.elijahhouse.org).



For where  
two or three  
are gathered  
together in  
my name,  
there am I in  
the midst of  
them.

MATTHEW 18:19–20

## Traveling North Slope Borough Health Department

IAM is also grateful to have been invited to travel to the North Slope villages with the North Slope Borough Health Department, on a space available basis. Although this has not meant that we have been able to visit every village, our partnership with the NSB Health Department has allowed us more visits to more villages, and we are grateful.





If you wish to be a  
part of  
this work, or to  
help provide  
financial support  
this work, you can  
find us at  
<http://www.iam.gives/>  
or email to  
[admin@iam.gives](mailto:admin@iam.gives).

## Healing and Renewal Worship

IAM is planning to visit certain villages that lack pastors at least quarterly. Villages that fit this category include Kaktovik, Anaktuvuk Pass, Pt. Lay, and Savoonga. Supporting and building the local churches is a part of IAM's goals for healthy communities.

In addition, IAM has been invited to visit Gambell in November. This visit will allow checking in with staff and steering committees, Healing and Renewal Worship, and support for the churches in the area. IAM is always happy to visit villages when invited.

