



**2018 Community Health  
Aide Program  
Shining Star Awards  
Presentation**

# Shining Star History

The Shining Star awards started in 2006 as a way for CHAP Directors and others to recognize the excellent contribution and commitment of Community Health Aides and Community Health Aide Practitioners of Alaska. Mary Margaret Brower from Kaktovik was the first award recipient. The CHAP Directors now have four award categories and CHA/Ps are recognized In Memoriam throughout the year.



# Rising Star Nominees

- Heather Brink, CHA III  
Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation
- Dick Kugzruk, CHA III
- Morgan Lockwood, CHA III  
Norton Sound Health Corporation
- Toni Suko, CHP  
Copper River Native Association
- Bobbie Sue Thomas, CHA IV  
Maniilaq Association
- Makani Zaima, CHA II  
Eastern Aleutian Tribes

And the Rising Star of 2018 is ...

**Makani Zaima**



## Makani Zaima

This rising star as a CHA-I during her first two years of training has dealt not only with the usual patients we all see on a daily basis but also unusual stressful cases which many CHA/Ps may never see in their entire career. For example during her first summer as a CHA she was one of two providers who took care of victims from a multi-fatality vehicle accident; she has treated serious hypothermia from fishermen whose boat sank, and a cardiac arrest -all experiences which were attended to with composure and grace that far exceeded many providers with decades of experience. She serves on the emergency medical services squad which uses the back of a pick-up truck or Suburban to transport patients to the clinic. This requires her as an ETT to think out-of-the-box when trying to slide some of our larger patients on backboards in/out of vehicles which are not ambulances that have double doors and space for the both the provider and patient. This year she has completed FEMA incident command courses to be better prepared for disasters and has single-handedly prepared emergency management totes for her community which include triage tags, red-yellow-green-black tarps to help make sorting patients easier, clipboards, white-boards, dressings and incident command vests which we plan to use in all of our visit sites. In short this rising star has helped her people and potentially through her single-handed efforts will someday save countless lives because the clinic is prepared for disaster response. Her dedication attributes great credit to herself, Tribal Health and the Community Health Aide/Practitioner program.

# Shining Star Nominees

- John Bragg, CHP  
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation
- Daniel Clark, CHP
- Marsha Frederick, CHP
- Jacob Isaac, CHP
- Henrietta Ivanoff, CHP
- Annette Nick, CHA III
- Earline Wise, CHP
- Linda Wiseman, CHP  
Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation
- Minji Kim, CHP  
North Slope Borough
- Ron Loftfield, CHP  
Southcentral Foundation

And the Shining Star of 2018 is...  
**Henrietta Ivanoff**



# Henrietta Ivanoff

Henrietta has been a CHA since January 2006 and a CHA-P since 2011. Henrietta works very well with her peers. She possesses all of the qualities of a great provider. She is professional, polite, punctual, honest, a great team player, compassionate, productive, self-motivated. Henrietta is an excellent provider and she is able to communicate the needs of her patients very well. I have had the pleasure of working with Henrietta for the last three and a half years. I view her as a model health aide (every supervisors dream) and as much as I would not like to see her leave her position as a health aide, I've encouraged her to further her education. She has the potential to become an excellent Physicians Assistant or Physician. Henrietta is the oldest of six siblings, they lost their mother at a young age, I believe this loss, while very sad, built Henrietta into this kind, driven, independent individual. Henrietta is a single mother to four children and she still comes to work every day with a positive attitude. I can't say enough about her work ethic, she takes pride in her work. She makes sure that she completes her documentation at the end of each day, makes sure that all of her labs are labeled, keeps a clean and well stocked exam room. When she has extra time in between patients or has a no show, she occupies her time by organizing supply rooms, or the ER or cleans the ambulance or places med orders. Henrietta clearly takes pride in her work as a CHA-P and it is evident each day. She is clearly a shining star and is very deserving of this award.

# Outstanding Accomplishments Nominees

- Jordan Annogiyuk, CHA II
- Sheila Baker, CHP
- Brianne Gologergen, CHP
- Dorothy Kava, CHP
- Chantel Miklahook, CHP
- Jolene Okleasik, CHA III
- Danielle Reynolds, CHP
- MaryAnn “Abby” Seppilu, CHP
- Nicole Topkok, CHP
- Norton Sound Health Corporation
- Amanda Oldman-Tritt
- Tanana Chiefs Conference

And the Outstanding  
Accomplishments Award of 2018 is ...

**Amanda Oldman-Tritt**



# Amanda Oldman-Tritt

Amanda Oldman-Tritt, CHP is an extremely dedicated health aide. She not only has provided ongoing much-needed rural village clinic itinerant coverage often taking her away from family and home, but she has gone "above and beyond" the call of duty on so many occasions during her career as a community health aide. For example, Amanda eagerly jumped at the opportunity to assist one of CHAP coordinator instructors during the recent move-in/set-up of the new Circle Clinic. Setting up and organizing a new clinic is both a time-consuming and labor-intensive endeavor. She was instrumental in providing the much needed support leading to the ability to open the doors of new clinic in a timely fashion. Circle community had been without a provider for several weeks. Upon resuming patient care in the new clinic, Amanda remained on site for several more days to provide much-needed medical services to the community of Circle. Her extraordinary commitment to providing high quality and compassionate patient care serves as an exemplary model for all Community Health Aide Practitioners.

## North Star Nominees

- Martha Attie, CHP  
Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation
- Carolyn “Nora” David  
Mentasta
- Sheri Thomas, CHP  
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation

North Star Award of 2018

Martha Attie, CHP



# Martha Attie, CHP

Martha started her career for YKHC as a Health Aide for Kipnuk September 7, 1980. She just celebrated 30+ years of services with YKHC. Jessie Gunlik, CHP guided her to become a health aide until she could be on her own. She was eventually trained and began her journey on becoming a Community Health aide Practitioner.

Her SI career started in 1988. She's been here since the actual "Radio Medical Traffic", the big box with the VHF. Only a few people could say they've been here to see that. She's been through the Fax RMT, which only a few providers could say they used that, who misses that dial tone? Phone RMT and now the EMR that we call "RAVEN". If you ask her which way to RMT was the easiest, what do you think her answer would be?

In her years as a float health aide for YKHC, she traveled up and down the kuskokwim seeing many different patients, including her current supervisor Katherine Evon when she was just a baby! Martha doesn't remember much of the visit, but from what we were told, Katherine's mother said she saved Katherine's life. That is a WOW!

During many holidays Martha out of her caring heart made sure all children were well enough to attend the village church festivities. She made home visits for her patients to make sure they were cared for. She shows her compassion for her patients in all the work she does.

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# Martha Attie, CHP

Martha has been a Health Aide Supervisor for 29 years. She has made life-long friends within the CHAP program and outside of work with the villages she serves. She continuously strives for nothing but the best. She received the Health Aide of the Year award in 1983 which is an outstanding award given by YKHC during the tribal gathering for all villages.

Martha was and still is a life saver for the communities on the Kuskokwim. She provides excellent care and understanding of what the life of a health aide is. Martha is a gem for the CHAP department. We miss her when she is traveling, miss her when she is out on PTO. She has a great sense of humor, just what we need in our department. She is like the big sister who keeps us younger kids in line. Martha is a great leader and an exceptional supervisor for her health aides.

Thank you Martha for taking care of the communities of the Kuskokwim. Thank you for being part of our CHAP family!

North Star Award of 2018  
Carolyn “Nora” David



# North Star Award of 2018

## Carolyn “Nora” David

Nora David has been providing service to the village of Mentasta Lake Alaska for 33 years as a Community Health Practitioner. In her tenure, she has responded to all manner of emergencies, both day and night, and has often been the first responder making the difference, and saving lives. She has mentored many Community Health Aides in her career, sharing her wisdom and insights with others. Nora and has adapted to all of the many technological and operational changes that have been made in the clinical care delivery system. She has great instincts and discernment when it comes to providing care. Her work ethic is fantastic, and she shares grace with those she encounters. Nora is a relied upon resource in the community and is counted on by her neighbors and family members. She has many obligations to her tribe, her clinic and family and balances all of that with patience, and prayer. Nora is a person you can confide in, and she works to find solutions not only for the physical health of her patients, but also for their emotional wellbeing. She also helps find resources for people when there is a need. She has served for many years as a Tribal Council leader and has had the honor of First Chief on multiple occasions. She always said she wanted her clinic to be the best health care available, and she has helped facilitate this through her work in Tribal Health Organization and Tribe.

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# Carolyn “Nora” David

I have had the privilege of working with Nora David in Mentasta for 16 years. Nora is an excellent health aide with over 30 years of service in her village. Nora is kind and compassionate, she listens well to her patients, and she has a great amount of wisdom. Nora is reliable, efficient, self-motivated, and dedicated. I know that I can fully trust Nora’s exam and critical thinking skills. Working with Nora every week is a lot of fun and I have learned a lot from her about compassion, Native culture, and the needs of the people in her village. It’s been a joy to work with Nora and I’m so happy she is receiving the North Star award!

Dede Duntze, FNP

# North Star Award of 2018

## Sheri Thomas

Sheri Thomas CHP of Naknek has been a Health Aide for approximately 30 years. Patients in her community seek her out for her excellent care. She also contributes to the Community Health Aide Program by providing mentoring to new Health Aides. She has high expectations and expects the same for all that she mentors. Her excellence and expertise has made her an invaluable resource to BBAHC. Additionally, Sheri contributes historical knowledge to the program and provides much needed input regarding a multitude of issues with respect to the Health Aide Program and the processes that we put in place to ensure that the people of the region are receiving the most comprehensive care available. She is an advocate for all of the patients and she is a strong proponent of preventative health care. Sheri routinely reaches out to her community to provide immunizations and other health maintenance activities. She is an asset to BBAHC and should be viewed as a role model for all Health Aides.

# Setting Star

## Ella Agibinik, CHP



Ella was a strong woman of faith, with that faith came beautiful character, and a strong will to succeed in her work as a CHA. Ella was a caring and compassionate provider for nearly 30 years. In 2009 Ella became a CHP and continued to serve the people of Unalakleet and the Norton Sound region until she retired in 2014. When Ella retired she got to enjoy subsisting, knitting, spending time with her grandchildren, her kids and brothers, sisters and family full-time. Last year Ella died in a tragic accident, doing what she enjoyed the most, subsisting with family. Ella is missed by her family and numerous friends, but as a woman of faith, they take comfort in knowing she is resting in eternal peace.

Carol Charles  
Norton Sound Health Corporation

# Setting Star

## Mary Clark



Mary Clark, Family Nurse Practitioner, Village Midlevel, and Health Aide Trainer, passed away on February 22 in her home state of Washington. Mary was one of the first nurse practitioners and began her career by starting a rural clinic on Vashon Island in Puget Sound in Washington. She first came to the Norton Sound Region in the early 1980s to work at the Unalakleet clinic as one of the first NSHC village midlevels. Later in the early 2000s she returned to work off and on several years as a trainer at the NSHC Health Aide Training Center. She loved training Health Aides and traveling to villages all over the Norton Sound region to do preceptorships and re-entry evaluations. She was known to be an especially hard worker, typically putting in seven days a week and always looking for more to do. She continued to help out at the training center until 2016 when she finally retired in her mid eighties.

Dan Thomas  
Norton Sound Health Corporation

# Setting Star

## Helena Oxereok

Helena K. Oxereok was born to Veronica and Frank Oxereok Jr. of Wales, Alaska the youngest of 6 siblings. She attended and graduated from Wales Kingikmiut School May 2012. Before graduating high school she attended the Northwest Alaska Career Technical Academy ETT class in Nome, Alaska in March of 2010. She became a CHA trainee in November 2014 with Norton Sound Health Corporation in Wales, Alaska. She joined her older sisters Tanya Pelowook and Marissa Oxereok in working in the CHAP field, and both her parents are former CHAP's. She worked to support herself and her son Tristan who is now 6 years old. She was dedicated to helping the people in her community. Helena always had a smile, was very energetic, and charismatic. She was always willing to help with emergencies and patient care assistance even though she did not make it to Session training. She attended Pre-session in May 2015. After her short time as CHAT she carried the same qualities in her other work with the Native Village of Wales. Helena was always willing to volunteer in any community event. Entities knew she was always available to help in any capacity. She was an avid outdoorswoman enjoying taking her mother Veronica and son berry picking, driving on the coast by ATV, beach combing, camping. She is sorely missed by all who knew her. She was a positive and giving young woman who had so much potential in her life. She left this world in April 2017 in Wales, AK.



Setting Star  
**Alice Carroll,**  
Tanana Chiefs Conference



Setting Star  
**Jacob Askoak,**  
Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

May we have a moment of  
silence to remember loved  
ones who we have lost in the  
past year.



We would like to thank all of  
the Community Health Aides  
and Community Health  
Practitioners for their hard  
work and dedication.