

# Nome Community Center, Inc

## Executive Director's Report

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*Quote*

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*"It certainly makes sense to shippers that cutting a thousand or so miles or a couple of thousand miles off is cheaper. Right. But it doesn't mean that it's less risky. You're still going to the Arctic. It's still going to be cold," A.Ahmasuk-KNBA.org*

By 2050, ships traveling through the Arctic's Northwest Passage may not need an icebreaker to escort them for the journey. In Nome, residents are wondering whether a new port will help or hinder efforts to address a myriad of chronic social problems. Some are also concerned that an onslaught of industrial marine traffic may impact people of Bering Straits, who have thrived along the coastline here for generations. This Arctic traffic transition cannot be stopped. But there is also an emerging transition that is hard to confront besides homelessness that is breaching our social walls here, a creeping *silent food insecurity*. Not only in Nome but also its surrounding 17 villages of the region are having difficulty of providing adequate table food for the families specially those who are under Federal and State SNAP/ EBT program.



A cruise ship docked at Nome Port summer of 2022

Last May 25, 2023; Feeding America has chosen Nome Community Center as one of the Hunger Action Champions for Alaska after endorsement from Food Bank of Alaska. NCC Food Bank has noted a surge of number of households from 60 at end of 2022 to 232 households by June 2023. Currently, NCC extends food lifeline service support to City of Teller through the SAFE-D Food Shipment program as part of it's outreach initiative to address food insecurity.

Join us to stop food insecurity in this region. <https://www.nomecc.org/donate.html>

## Community Service Programs

### **XYZ Senior Center** (*Patt Ward; Melanie, Denise and Wally*)

The XYZ Senior Center offers much-needed services to our community elders. These services include congregate meals, transportation, meal deliveries, and laundry facilities. Elders have the opportunity to socialize in the dining area, exercise in the activity room and maintain social media connectivity in the computer lab. There are 117 active consumers in these 3 grant programs and 30 community volunteers that served the Senior and Elderly programs. (Grants) *USDA, Nutrition, Transportation & Services, Adult Day Services, Health Promotion/ Disease Prevention.*

Breakfast Served: 731	Congregate Meals: 4,146	Meals Delivered: 4,369
Guest Meals: 160	Transport Rides: 4,090	Laundry Loads: 660
Clients (M-51) (F-66)	ADS Consumers: 8	Volunteer Hrs: 1,348

### **Milestones:**

Alaska Center for the Blind- low vision clinic  
 Marty Lange with Alaska Commission on Aging here to survey elders  
 Alaska Business Development Center- Free Tax Preparation for Community  
 Healing through music with The Harmonica Man, Mike Stevens  
 Agnew Beck Consulting-digital Equity Community Listening Session  
 RurALCap - recruiting Elder Mentors  
 CAMP Department- screening for blood pressure and chemistry. Flu Shot Clinic  
 Replaced carpet and painted XYZ Dining Room, New Fire alarm system installed  
 XYZ Refrigerator repair, Preventative maintenance on XYZ Senior Bus x2  
 START and PASS vehicle safety trainings completed by Wally and Melanie  
 Extended 5-week cycle menu to 8 week cycle menu  
 Gift knitting slippers for residents of Quyanna Care  
 Participants attend UAF Northwest Campus for basic machine maintenance and sewing  
 Procurement of 2 Muskoxen hides and a qiviut processing class  
 Participants make salve from tundra herbs  
 King Island Drummers and Dancers perform  
 Community garden participation  
 Christmas Concert by piano students  
 Manager attended Leadership Summit and Staff Trainings completed

### **Food Bank** (*Doris Angusuc with Kathy McKibben and other volunteers*)

The Nome Food Bank is supported by Food Bank of Alaska with USDA commodities and by various community and statewide donors. It opens Tuesdays and Thursdays offering fresh, frozen, and canned food for those who need extra support to feed their families, and many consider it a crucial lifeline. We depend on volunteers to assist with food distribution (total of 312 volunteer hours). AC and Hansons/ Safeway provide daily produce support.

**Nome Food Bank also provide satellite support to City of Teller for SAFE-D food shipment operations.**

*Community Initiative Matching Grant-AK*

# of New Applications	Households: 257	Individuals: 787
# Households/ Individuals served	Households: 1335	Individuals: 4030
Commodities Room: 903 clients	Community Room: 352 clients	SNAP/EBT clients: 59
Villagers Assisted: 14 households	Donated Goods: 3,425 lbs	Donated Cash: \$9,440.00
# of Thanksgiving Boxes Distributed: 35 families	# of Christmas Boxes Distributed: 38 families	
# of New Year Boxes Distributed: 42 families	# of (\$50) Food Gift Card Distributed: 44 households	

**(NEST) Nome Emergency Shelter Team, Inc** (*Shoni Evans and 9 Client Advocates*)

NEST began in response to several freezing deaths on the streets of Nome. Creating a shelter was a community grassroots effort to prevent exposure-related death by providing a warm, safe place to sleep for anyone in need. NEST opened for the season on November 1, 2022. There are 183 participants that were served under the program.

*Community Initiative Matching Grant, Basic Homeless Assistance Program, NEST Core Support and USDA*

# of Bed Nights: 5,481 Annual Total	Meals Served: 6,979 Annual Total	New Registrations: 166 Annual Total
# of Safety Calls: 53 Annual Total	# of EMS Calls: 14 Annual Total	Average Bed Nights: 783 per month

**Permanent Supportive Housing** (*Liz Johnson and Janice Mixsooke*)

Homeless prevention efforts support families struggling to pay rent and utilities due to crisis, unemployment, or life-altering events to keep individuals and families housed. Participants are currently housed, some have gained employment, some are on a path to sobriety and others are getting the behavioral health services they need. *Continuum of Care- HUD; Supportive Housing Match, Special Needs Housing Grant- Alaska Housing Finance Corp;*

Morse Apartment:	#1: 25	#3: 18
Ponderosa #5: 12	#7: 15	#12: 12
KingsWay # A: 10	# B: 12	# C: 10

*Single Unit Housing (Shoemaker): 41; Number of Graduate: 1 (all numbers are living units multiplied by months)*

**Housing & Homeless Prevention** (*Shoni Evans and Janice Mixsooke*)

Permanent Supportive Housing is a proven solution to homelessness for the most vulnerable chronically unhoused community members. It pairs housing with case management and supportive services.

*Special Needs Housing Grant- AHFC*

BoS Prioritization: 59 Average	# Chronic Homeless: 25 Average	Comp/Assessments: 27
# of Referral to NEST: 59 Average	Street Outreach: 4 Average	DomViolenceVics: 13 Average
Veterans: 10 Average	Village Returnees: 6 total	Assist/Out of State Return: 1
Transport Assistance: 105 total	# of Families Assisted: 21 total	Persons W/ Disability: 14 total

**Family Services** (*Shoni Evans*)

Family Services is an agency referral program that assists parents and families. The Coordinator work directly with the Alaska Office of Children's Services to assist families who are at risk of separation from their children. Parenting support groups are a major focus of our work in identifying what is strong, not wrong. We believe that we all have within us the wisdom and cultural competency to manage even the most difficult challenges that confronts families.

*AK- Circle of Support; Community Family Education; AK Children's Trust*

Total Number of Families Served: 6	Total Number of Caregivers Served: 8
Total Number of New Children Impacted: 17	Total Number of Classes Offered: 10

**Youth Camp CRAVE** (*Kimberly Bishop and Shoni Evans*)

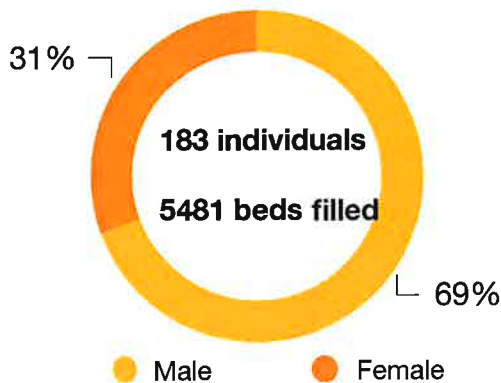
Youth camp was originally started as a tobacco prevention camp and evolved into CRAVE (Culture, Recreation, Active, Values and Education) in 2013. It is a 4-day summer camp that focuses on healthy living. Some of the activities include: tobacco prevention, campfire activities, alcohol awareness, hiking, paddle boarding, social/emotional learning, swimming, fishing, nutrition education, group games, archery, cultural activities, and more!

Schedules (2023) July 18-20 (20 Foxes) July 27-30 (20 Wolves) and August. 3-6 (20 Bears)

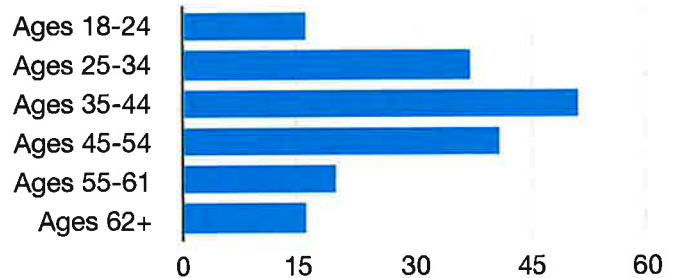
*Youth Program Funds- City of Nome*



# NEST 2022-2023 Season Statistics

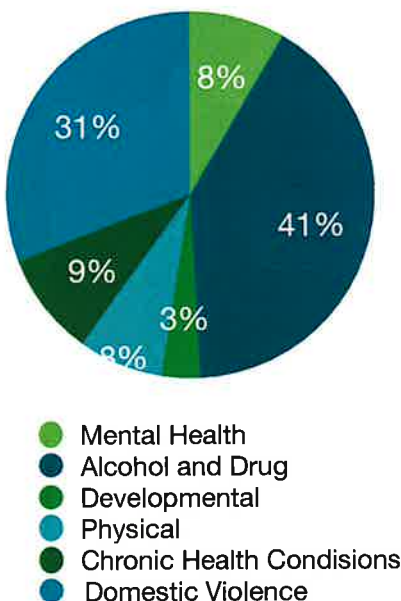


**Ages of Guests**

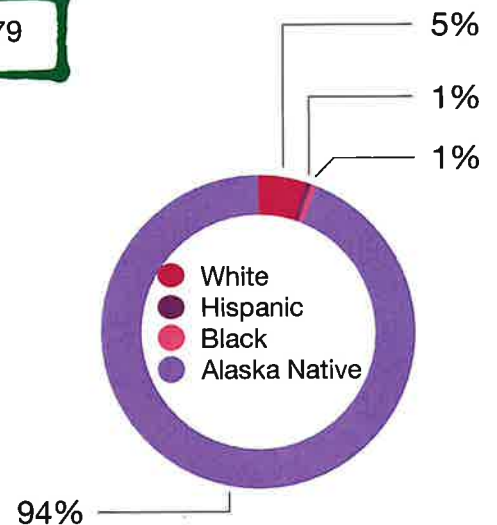
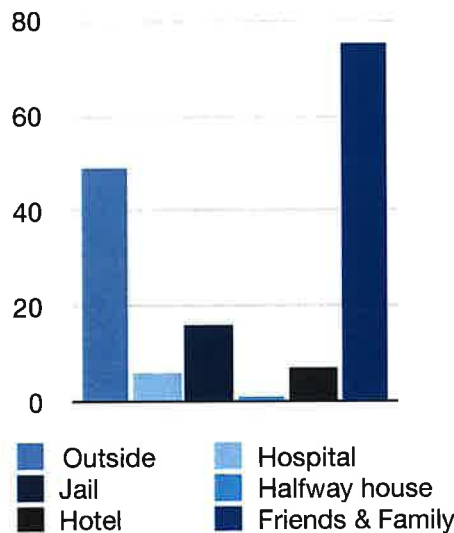


**Meals served: 6,979**

**Reported Disabilities**



**Where there stayed before NEST**



**Police: 53 calls for back up help**

**EMS: 14 calls for Medical help**

This NEST season was a great success. Our number of police calls and EMS calls were significantly decreased this year. I believe that part of the decreased calls was because of staff training and most of our staff has worked at NEST more then two seasons.

Last summer we took the staff through a training called Homeless core training by Ryan Dowd. The training is an empathy driven approach to solving problems, preventing conflict and serving the homeless around us. This course helps us understand trauma response, ways to easily lower aggression and prevent conflict and other great technics that gave our staff the skills to do the hard work we asked them to do every day.

With out the support both financially and physically of the community of Nome we would not be able to do the work we do. Thank you so much to everyone that assisted in our mission this year.

### **Nome Children Home** (*Liz Kugzruk and 13 Child Advocates*)

Our Nome Children's Home is a 10-bed emergency housing facility for children who have been removed from their parents' homes by the Office of Children's Services due to reports of harm or unsafe conditions in their home. For many children, those unsafe conditions include neglect and abuse. The Nome Children's Home seeks to keep the children in the region, minimize the effect of trauma, and support the success of families.

*USDA, ACT, AK Residential Care for Children and Youth*

Number of Bed Nights: 2,808	Number of Placement: 21	Total Number of Kids: 31
Number of OCS Meetings: 13	Number of TDMs: 12	Number of BHS visits: 77
Number of Incident Reports: 10	# of Med/ Dental/ Vision visits: 44	Self-Harm/ Injuries: 0

### **Boys & Girls Club** (*Ryan VandeVere, Josiah Goslin*)

Nome Boys and Girls Club (B&GC) of Nome is a safe place that provides snacks, after-school care, tutoring, and valuable educational and emotional support for youth. The B&GC serves anywhere from 20 to 30 youth each weeknights. The youth of Nome benefit from building healthy social connections. B&GC is open Monday through Friday for youth ages seven to 18 years of age. Regular activities include Power Hour (homework tutoring), S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), arts and crafts, field trips, Triple Play, cultural activities, Native Youth Olympics, reading improvement programs, and more! The Nome Clubhouse Facebook page features regular updates and reminders.

Total Yearly Attendance: 2,090	Total Snacks Served- Year: 1,837
Total "Other Youth" Served: 16	Total Number of Volunteers- Year: 31 (1,240 hrs)

### **Nome Youth Court** (*Ian Blackwelder and Meghan Topkok*)

The Nome Youth Court gives first-time juvenile offenders the opportunity to keep their crime off the record by agreeing to go on trial before their peers. This Alaskan juvenile justice system is a restorative approach in which sentences focus on rehabilitation and on repairing the damage their mistakes cause to the community. Sentences promote responsibility much more than solely serving punishment. The recidivism rate for those who complete their sentences is much lower than those who are at the mercy of the traditional court system. *State of Alaska Youth Courts & Community Panels*

Number of Youth Court Decisions (cases decided): 7	Number of Cases Pending: 4
Number of Cases Referred by the Villages: 11	Number of Youth Court Conference: 1

### **Home Plate Nome, LLC** (*Shoni Evans, Liz Johnson, Rhonda Schneider and Terra Development LLC*)

HomePlate Nome, LLC is a Housing First project designed to provide a path toward housing permanency for Nome's most vulnerable chronically homeless population. HomePlate Nome will provide 15 studio apartment units for single occupancy with an on-site property manager's unit. The design includes an onsite medical and mental health clinic with space for individual counseling. Construction of the HomePlate Apartments is expected to be completed by November of 2023 with a projected move in date of December 2023. Ground breaking was held in early September 2022. The location provides tenants with easy access to public safety services, the Wellness Center and the hospital.

*Grants from Federal, State, City, Alaska Native Corporations and Private Foundations.*

Total Budget	\$ 9,871,978.00
Total Pledged Amount	\$ 9,411,610.00

### **People and Culture**

# Full Time Staff July 2022: 16	# Full Time Staff June 2023: 14
# Part Time Staff July 2022: 26	# Part Time Staff June 2023: 23
# of Separations/ Withdrawals/ Terminations	2 Full Times; 14 Part Times; 10 Seasonal
# of Volunteer Hours : 4,812	# of Staff Grievances received: 0
# of Online Trainings Completed by Staff: 54	# of Training/ Workshops/ Conferences Attended: 23

## Administration

**David Sobie:** Network Data & Administration Support  
**Doris Angusuc:** Nome Food Security  
**Ian Blackwelder:** Youth Court & Juvenile Justice  
**Janice Mixsooke:** Permanent Supportive Housing  
**Josiah Goslin:** Boys & Girls Club  
**Melanie Johnson:** Senior Program Support  
**Ryan Breuker:** Property Management  
**Emilie Zabel:** Office Coordination  
**Nate Hobbs:** ICT Admin  
**Patt Ward:** XYZ Senior Center  
**Shoni Evans:** Community Support (NEST/ Family Services)  
**Elizabeth Kugzruk:** Nome Childrens Home  
**Kimberly Bishop:** People & Culture  
**Liz Johnson:** Finance & Operations

## Volunteer Service Program (Total Hours: 4,812 hrs)

1. Number of Volunteers that served XYZ Senior Program: 30 (1,348 Hour)
2. Number of Volunteers that served in Food Bank: 4 (312 Hours)
3. Number of Volunteers that served Community Support programs: 45 (1,926 Hours)
4. Number of Volunteers Coordinated by Rhonda Schneider; 15 (1,226 Hours)

\* Platinum Status of Transparency was received from GuideStar last January 2, 2023

\* Commission of Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities: Status: Gold Certification

\* Bamboo HR a People Data and Analytics Human Resources/ Payroll software was subscribed and activated.

\*Staff ID System implemented

\*(ICT) Information Communications Technology: Synology NAS server network system implemented.

\* Number of Active Vehicles in Fleet: 11      \*Number of Owned Properties: 6 Buildings

\*Banks with Active Accounts: Wells Fargo and Northrim Bank of Alaska

## Governance

### Board of Directors 2023 Roster

<b>Margaret Thomas: President</b>	<b>Veronica Alviso: Vice President</b>
<b>Raeshawndra Jett: Secretary</b>	<b>Melissa Ford: Treasurer</b>
<b>Bridie Trainor</b>	<b>Garrick Fuller</b>
<b>Joy Morgan</b>	<b>Jessica Lemaire</b>
<b>Linda Heim (Ex Officio)</b>	<b>Debbie Pintsch (Ex-Officio)</b>
<b>Jenn Miller(Ex-Officio)</b>	<b>Vacant:</b>

\* Number of Active Board of Directors: 11 (vacant :1); Number of Board Meetings: 11

Nome Community Center Inc, (NEST) Nome Emergency Shelter Team Inc, and HomePlate Nome LLC are all fully registered in Alaska Department of Law as Charitable Organization for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024.