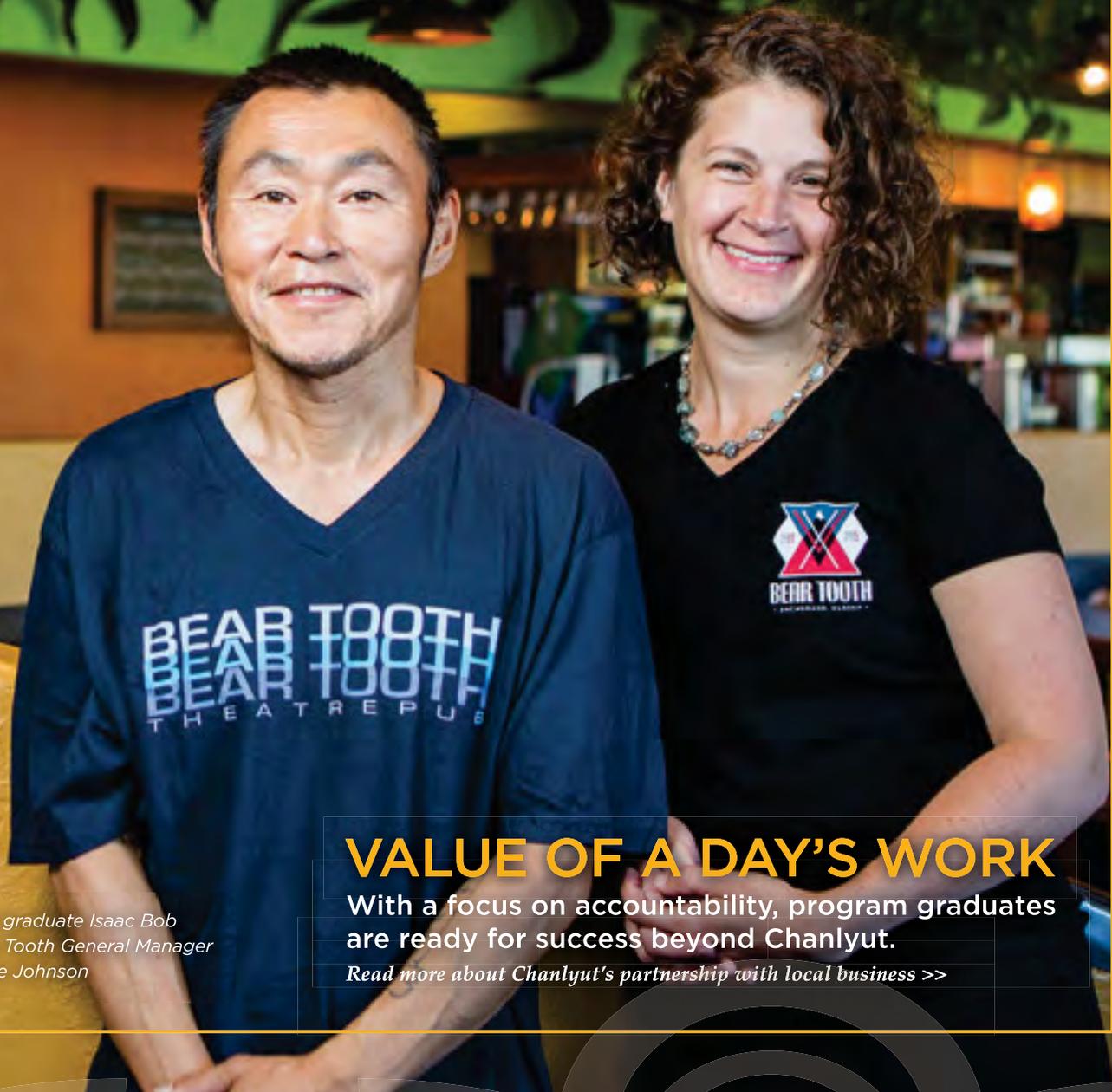




FY2015 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

New Beginnings



Chanlyut graduate Isaac Bob and Bear Tooth General Manager Stephanie Johnson

VALUE OF A DAY'S WORK

With a focus on accountability, program graduates are ready for success beyond Chanlyut.

Read more about Chanlyut's partnership with local business >>



Chanlyut is a two-year residential work-training and re-education program for men recovering from self-destructive patterns.

FY2015 IMPACT ■ citci.org/chanlyut

For more information about Chanlyut or its enterprises, please contact Program Director Bill Tsrnos at (907) 441-0181, or Assistant Program Director Kevin Riehl at (505) 670-8996.

Chanlyut graduate Isaac Bob is an example of the kind of transformation Chanlyut can provide if one is willing to invest in themselves. Isaac said he has seen through his own experience how stable work can lead to a meaningful life.

More than 210 men have used Chanlyut services since 2007.



*Bear Tooth Theater Pub
General Manager
Stephanie Johnson*

VOCATIONAL TRAINING COMBINED WITH WORK ETHIC IS **RECIPE FOR SUCCESS**

Chanlyut instills the life skills needed for long-term employment

Getting up each day and going to work: It's what shapes the lives of so many of us. It's what structures our days and gives us meaning. Sometimes, it's even what keeps us going.

That's especially true for the men at Chanlyut. "We teach our participants to trade one thing for the other—trade the drugs or alcohol for an honest day's work," said Program Director Bill Tsrnos. As a residential work-training and re-education program, Chanlyut operates on the idea that doing meaningful work equips its participants with the life skills and accountability that make it possible for them to succeed beyond the program.

By behaving as successful, positive, contributing members of society, participants learn to believe in their ability to truly become the men they strive to be. Several resident-run small businesses provide participants with vocational training and marketable job

skills that improve the likelihood of securing long-term employment after graduation.

Partnerships with local businesses, meanwhile, allow participants in the "work-out" phase of their training to transition to jobs outside Chanlyut while still receiving the program support they need. "When they come to Chanlyut, most of these men have no real vocational skills," Tsrnos explained. "By the time they leave two years later, they know how to be responsible, accountable and hard-working."

Isaac Bob was exactly the kind of man Tsrnos describes. Sent to prison as a teen and released 26 years later, Isaac had never been on a job interview, never cashed a paycheck, never opened a bank account.

Now he works at Bear Tooth Theater Pub and Grill as a dishwasher, where his positive attitude bolsters his coworkers, said Bear Tooth General Manager Stephanie Johnson.

"There's been a lot of transition in the dish pit, so it's been stressful on the crew, but Isaac comes in with a big smile on his face, and he always has such a great attitude," Johnson said.

RECIPE: continued on back panel

**WELLS
FARGO**

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES

Wells Fargo scholarship recipient is giving back through meaningful employment

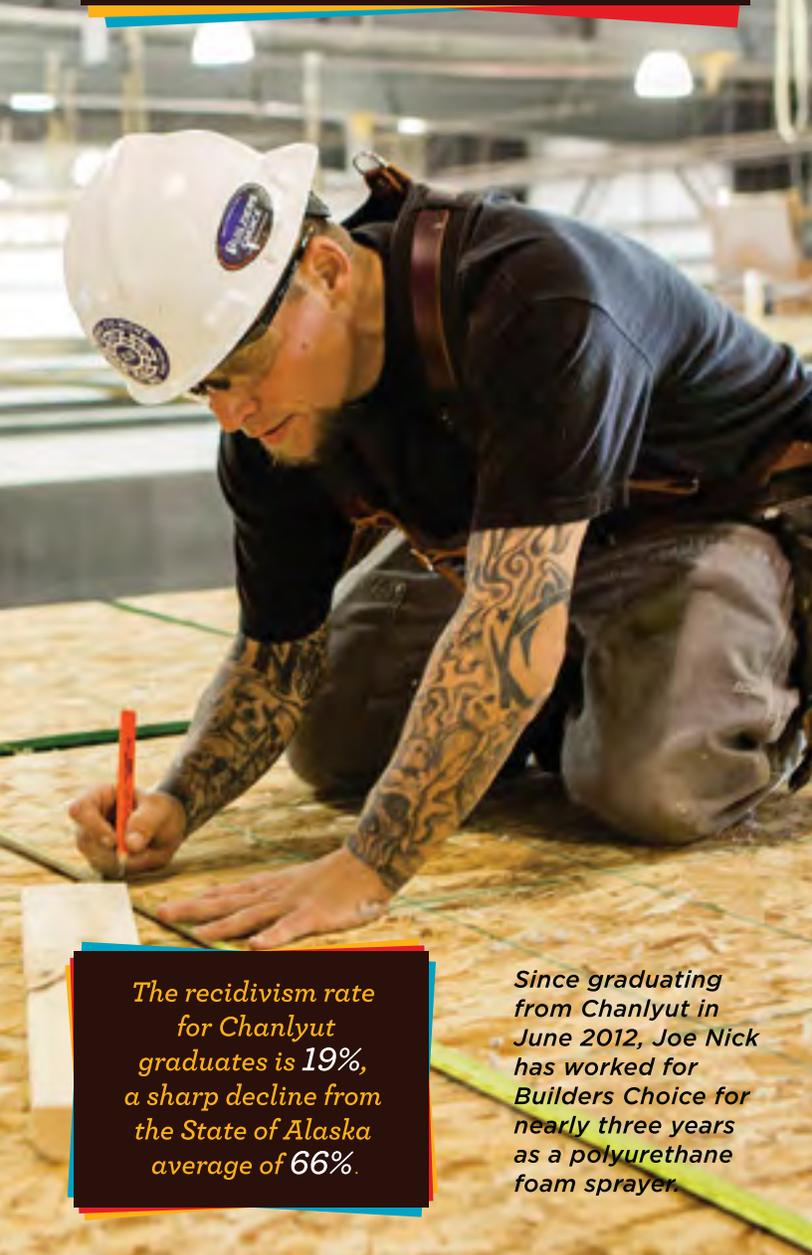
In 2013, Chanlyut graduate Jon Lofquist became the first recipient of a scholarship made possible by a partnership between Wells Fargo and Chanlyut.

The scholarship program was established through an investment of \$50,000 from Wells Fargo, helping Chanlyut residents achieve their career goals by providing funds for classes or exam fees. With his scholarship, Jon completed his CompTIA+ certification and initially gained employment with Partners for Progress as a program assistant. *WELLS FARGO: continued on back panel*



Former Chanlyut graduate Jon Lofquist says fulfilling employment is a key factor in his success since graduating from the program almost a year ago. Jon was the first recipient of a Chanlyut/Wells Fargo Workforce Development scholarship.

Participation in Chanlyut equates to a savings of nearly \$1 million per year (on average) to the Department of Corrections in equivalent days of incarceration.



The recidivism rate for Chanlyut graduates is 19%, a sharp decline from the State of Alaska average of 66%.

Since graduating from Chanlyut in June 2012, Joe Nick has worked for Builders Choice for nearly three years as a polyurethane foam sprayer.

THROUGH HARD WORK AND ACCOUNTABILITY, A GOOD JOB MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

BUILDERS CHOICE INVESTS IN CHANLYUT GRADS

By Giving People a Second Chance



If you want a reliable employee who's determined to do a good job, said Sam Alston of Builders Choice, you could do worse than hire someone from Chanlyut.

"The men who've gone through the program have made the decision to better their lives,

and they're focused on succeeding," he said. Some of the program participants who come to Builders Choice, a construction retailer and manufacturer in Anchorage, already have a background in construction, said Alston. But more importantly—thanks to Chanlyut—they all have the values that make them hardworking, responsible, accountable employees.

Finding work with places like Builders Choice can make all the difference in succeeding beyond the program, said Joe Nick, a polyurethane foam sprayer who has worked with the company for nearly three years. "If it wasn't for companies like Builders Choice, people like me that are trying to get back into the workforce would have a really hard time."

Builders Choice invests in men like Joe Nick because the company believes in giving people a second chance, added Alston. "I believe that everyone deserves to be looked at with grace and to have the opportunity to succeed on their own." ❄️



"I believe that everyone deserves to be looked at with grace and to have the opportunity to succeed on their own," said Sam Alston of Builders Choice. The Anchorage construction retailer supports Chanlyut by giving job opportunities to program graduates.

DOING THE JOB UNTIL IT'S DONE

Believing In Himself is the Key to Dale Seiser's Success

When Director Bill Tsumos offered Chanlyut participant Dale Seiser the opportunity to become the manager of the program's Wholesale Foods microenterprise, Dale's reaction was immediate: "I said no, no, I don't want that!" It was a crisis of self-esteem.

"I've never really been accountable to anything before," said Dale. "Now I'm accountable and responsible."

As a kid, Dale had been a good student, an athlete, and a loving son to his adoptive parents. But after he took his first drink of alcohol at the age of 14, he says, "The gates of hell opened up."

"When you get into an addiction, it really screws with your self-worth. Most of my life, I never really gave myself any credit." But Tsumos and Assistant Director Kevin Reihl saw more in Dale than he saw in himself. "We sat down with him," Reihl recalls, "and told him that while he may not know how to be the crew boss yet, he is capable of learning how. All he needs to do is believe in himself."



81% of Chanlyut graduates are gainfully employed, have stable housing, and have re-connected with their families.

After successfully completing the Chanlyut program, participant Israel Soto's plans include returning to the food service industry through hotel and restaurant management.

WITH PERSISTENCE AND SOBRIETY, Israel Soto is Rebuilding the Blocks of his Life

"Man, you're like a little kid playing with building blocks!" a friend once told Israel Soto. "It made sense," Israel says now. "I would build everything up—my family, my job, everything I wanted—then I'd just tear it down again." His method of destruction was alcohol.

Originally from New York, Israel joined the military at 22, where he became a cook. "You'd put in a good hard day's work, then everybody would meet up at the tavern. You'd drink all night, then get up the next day and do it all again," he recalls. Outside the military, he built himself a life—marriage, kids, a good job. Military life had equipped him with the skills and leadership to become a

kitchen manager and, later, a prep cook on the North Slope. But it had also saddled him with a bad habit.

"The drinking really intensified, and I couldn't balance it with work," Israel describes. "I'd wake up tired, hung over. I'd start calling in sick, lost a few jobs. It started affecting my health, too."

With his wife threatening divorce and his career in shambles, Israel made the decision that would turn his life around. He got sober, thanks to CITC's Ernie Turner Center residential in-patient program, then came to Chanlyut for help transitioning back into the workforce. Unlike many of the men at Chanlyut, Israel had ample work experience before entering the program.

PERSISTENCE: continued on back panel

Chanlyut social enterprises are expected to generate \$746,000 in earned income and provide a projected \$183,000 in net income—covering 43% of the program costs for FY2015.



Through the guidance of Chanlyut, program participant Dale Seiser has transformed his life, is staying sober and has rebuilt his relationship with his family.

A week later, Dale relented. Today, it's not uncommon for the 36-year-old native of Brazil to put in a 14-hour day doing inventory, placing orders, and overseeing the crew of men who make and package food for clients like Kaladi Brothers, Providence Medical Center, The Alaska Club and Chevron stations.

The responsibility of supervising others and working with clients has not only boosted Dale's self-esteem; it's transformed him into the kind of worker any employer would feel lucky to hire.

It's exactly the kind of transformation Chanlyut strives to generate in its participants. "When men come here, they think being mediocre is just fine," said Tturnos. "We teach them to hold themselves to a higher standard. We teach them to do an honest day's work for an honest day's pay."

DOING THE JOB: continued on back panel

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PERSISTENCE: continued

But he also had a chip on his shoulder, recalls Assistant Program Director Kevin Riehl. "Israel was very resistant to change when he first came to Chanlyut. He had a lot of ideas about the way he thought things should be."

After one year in the program, Israel has learned to stay focused, take on responsibility and lead others as the janitorial supervisor of a crew that cleans Credit Union 1 and Cook Inlet Tribal Council.

At 52, he says, he has finally learned to finish the things he starts. "I could never do that before. It's just the fact of being sober and going to work every day—that's what keeps me focused."

Requiring that participants show up for work—and life—every day is one of the ways Chanlyut prepares men for success beyond the program. It's one of the values that are helping Israel rebuild something he knows he won't tear down.

After Chanlyut, he hopes to go back into food service, perhaps earning a certificate in hotel and restaurant management.

Now Israel's relationship with his family is stronger than ever, and he's staying sober. "I know for a fact I can't go back and do what I was doing before, back to sitting in the rain with a fifth in my hand," Israel says. "That's not what I want anymore. And I just have this feeling that if I keep doing what I'm doing now, everything's going to be okay." ❖

RECIPE: continued

"If I wasn't in this program and didn't have this job, I'd probably be in jail right now," Isaac admitted. He's seen how meaningful work can lead to a meaningful life—so he decided to try and create more opportunities for men like himself.

He approached Johnson and told her about Chanlyut and the two years he'd spent in the program. "He thought I should meet Bill [Turnos] and find ways to do more with the program," Johnson recalled.

"I was blown away. It was such a simple, direct request. Now we're talking to see how we can foster a better relationship between Chanlyut and the Bear Tooth."

Isaac has become another example of the transformation Chanlyut can nurture within its participants—a change that's possible through the work he does.

"I think that's how you test people—put them somewhere and see how they work," Isaac said. "Now I've got a good work ethic. I work hard. I'm passing the test." ❖

WELLS FARGO: continued

"The Wells Fargo scholarship allowed me to gain technical skills that made me more desirable as an entry-level person," Lofquist explains. Today, he is a case manager for the Alaska Native Justice Center, where he helps connect people recently released from incarceration with the tools they need to reenter society successfully. "When I came to Chanlyut, I couldn't stay out of jail or draw a sober breath, so I know what it's like for the men I work with," Lofquist says.

Meaningful employment, he adds, is a key factor in his success since he graduated Chanlyut almost a year ago. "For me, there was no point in being sober unless I had something to be sober for. With this job, there's a point; I know I'm making a difference in other people's lives." ❖

DOING THE JOB: continued

The change that's taken place within Dale is what will help him stay sober and maintain the relationships with his family that he's rebuilt as he enters his workout phase of the program this fall. It will help him secure employment beyond Chanlyut, a key to a participant's success after leaving the program.

"I've never really been accountable to anything before," Dale explains. "Now I'm accountable and responsible. I get up and go to work, and I do the job until it's done." ❖