



new beginnings

COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

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



FY2014 IMPACT

citci.org/chanlyut

THE POWER OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE: LIVING THE CHANLYUT LIFE

Workforce and life-skills training create foundation for independence

A safe home, a steady job: These are the earmarks of a stable life. For the men who participate in the two-year Chanlyut residential work-training program, they are the key to success.

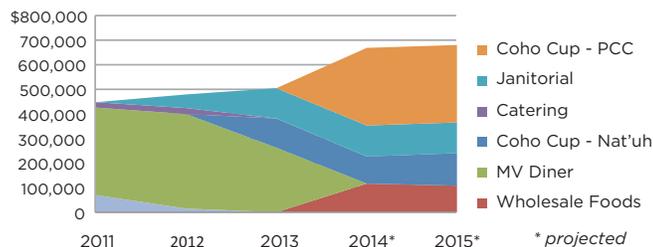
“About 60 percent of the men who come into this program have either never had a job or never had success at work,” says CITC Chief Operating Officer Kristin English. “Their job histories are a week or two here and there, with substance abuse or crime in between.”

Chanlyut’s four businesses—Coho Cup café, wholesale foods, janitorial services, and a landscaping and snow removal operation—provide reliable and quality services to Anchorage clients like Southcentral Foundation (SCF), home to one of two Coho Cup locations. Enterprises like these create opportunities for Chanlyut men to develop job skills crucial to their success beyond the program.



Chanlyut’s Social Enterprises provide invaluable workforce training and critical revenue for program sustainability. WAYDE CARROLL PHOTO

Chanlyut Enterprise Revenue Growth



“Chanlyut helps us reach our vision of a Native Community that enjoys physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellness, so we’re honored to be a Chanlyut partner,” says SCF Vice President of Executive and Tribal Services Ileen Sylvester. “We’re committed to the people impacted by Chanlyut.”

The men who become baristas at Coho Cup or work with wholesale clients gain job experience, but they’re also developing important social skills by interacting with the public. And that, says Chanlyut Assistant Director Kevin Riehl, takes time. “It’s one of the beautiful things about

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE: *Continued on back panel*

PROGRAM IMPACT

since 2007

Chanlyut is a two-year residential work-training and educational program providing a new beginning for men who want to become productive members of society and turn around self-destructive patterns in their lives. Learn more at citci.org/chanlyut:

- **More than 180 men** have used Chanlyut services, with a current residency of 18.
- Each Alaskan spends approximately \$495 per year to fund the prison system. Participation in Chanlyut equates to a savings of **more than \$7 million** to the Department of Corrections in equivalent days of incarceration.
- **74% of Chanlyut residents** have been to substance abuse treatment at least once and 59% have had little or no job history.
- At 64%, Alaska’s recidivism rates are among the highest in the nation. **70% of Chanlyut residents** participating for two months or more have not re-offended after leaving the program.
- Chanlyut businesses **are projected to earn more than \$680,000 in revenues**, and profits from the businesses pay nearly half of the program’s operating costs.

Thank you for making a difference in our community!

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE: *Continued from Page 1*

Chanlyut being a two-year program: The men have time to practice these skills and hone them.”

Placing such an emphasis on work ethic pays off, as Chanlyut participants have earned a reputation for being hard workers and are often recruited by local businesses upon graduation.

What’s more, the money made by these social enterprises goes back into Chanlyut. Chanlyut businesses are projected to earn more than \$680,000 in FY2015—contributing to nearly half of the program’s operating costs.

“The whole idea is for the men to become independent and self-supporting, so all the money goes to running the house,” says Riehl.

At the same time, Chanlyut residents contribute to the Mountain View community by helping with revitalization efforts, both through volunteerism and through contracts with local businesses like Credit Union 1, where residents take care of lawn maintenance and janitorial.

“People who have questionable backgrounds can change their lives—we’re a living example of that here at Chanlyut.”

This is transformation through social enterprise. Chanlyut teaches its residents to get up each day, go to work, contribute, come home, then start again the next day.

“The Chanlyut philosophy is that through positive repetition, you become a changed person,” says English. “All of us, who get up every morning and go to work, and have learned to take satisfaction from that—we’re all living the Chanlyut life.” ❖

❖ HIRE US! ❖

USE A CHANLYUT SERVICE TODAY

Support a CITC Social Enterprise and you’ll receive an outstanding service or product at a competitive rate, while providing valuable life-skills and job training for Chanlyut residents:

WHOLESALE FOODS

Wholesale food items for resale, such as our homemade baked goods, sandwiches, wraps, salads and other selections

JANITORIAL SERVICES

Chanlyut provides high-quality and reliable janitorial services to a variety of commercial customers

COHO CUP CAFE

In CITC’s Nat’uh Service Center and Southcentral Foundation’s Primary Care Center, Coho Cup serves a variety of espresso and coffee drinks, and lighter-fare menu items prepared by Chanlyut wholesale foods



LAWN MAINTENANCE AND SNOW REMOVAL

Chanlyut provides a variety of outdoor maintenance services, including spring and fall cleanup, and year-round lawn care for your home or business. Snow removal is limited to driveways, sidewalks, roofs and decks

For additional information on our Chanlyut program or businesses, please contact: chanlyut@citci.org

FOR THIS BARISTA, WORK IS ALL ABOUT THE PEOPLE

APPLYING HIS ABILITIES BY HELPING OTHERS,
LESTER SANCHEZ HAS LEARNED TO BE
HIS OWN BIGGEST SUPPORTER



WAYDE CARROLL PHOTO

FOR LESTER SANCHEZ, a barista for the Coho Cup café in CITC’s Nat’uh Service Center, the coffee—though delicious and expertly made—is secondary. People are the important part.

“I love hearing from people and seeing how their day is going,” described Lester, who recently celebrated his one-year anniversary working at the café. “It’s fun to listen, and sometimes I give advice. I’m a people person. I always have been.”

Between customers, though, Lester spends much of his workday ordering supplies and maintaining equipment—and reminding himself why he’s doing what he’s doing. “I do a lot of self-talking and self-teaching. Chanlyut is not an easy program, and I’ve gotten frustrated and been tempted to leave at times,” he said.

“I’m not court-ordered, so I’m not under any obligation—but I am. I gave my word, and I’ve never been a man of my word before. It’s important to me to finish because this program saved my life.”

Lester added, “The biggest tool, the biggest gift Chanlyut has given me is to show me the only person that can save me is myself.”

After four unsuccessful years spent trying to conquer a methamphetamine addiction, Lester came to Alaska from



Having earned his GED diploma, Lester addresses the audience during the graduation ceremony in April.

MICHAEL DINNEEN PHOTO

California specifically for Chanlyut. Just 90 days after his arrival, he earned a position as a barista at Coho Cup, one of Chanlyut’s social enterprise programs.

At the time, he was finishing his GED and found himself balancing school and his duties for the café, often starting his day at 3:45 a.m. and squeezing in study time when he could. “It was terrible!” he admitted, laughing. “But I’m so glad I did it. That’s what working at the Coho Cup taught me—how to work hard. I have endurance now.”

This winter, Lester will enter the work-out phase of the program. His role in the small coffee shop has equipped him with the skills needed to be successful in the job market, but Lester is also applying his abilities toward helping others: He’s interested in exploring opportunities in fundraising.

“I’ve met some incredible people at CITC; they’ve become my second family,” Lester said.

Working at the café, he added, “It’s been a wonderful outlet, a source of networking, and a learning opportunity. It’s been a great privilege.” ❖

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ME THE ONLY PERSON THAT CAN
SAVE ME IS MYSELF.”**

CREATING STABLE, SECURE HOUSING FOR RESIDENTS

Through a commitment to community, CIHA partnership helps Chanlyut transform lives

Forty years ago, Cook Inlet Housing Authority (CIHA) was founded with a vision of Alaskans gaining independence through housing and a mission of giving a hand to those



who aspire to move beyond the need for assistance. With a philosophy like that, it's no wonder CIHA got on board to become a key partner in supporting Chanlyut from day one.

"Chanlyut is a bridging step for men beating addiction, homelessness or incarceration," said CIHA President and CEO Carol Gore. "It's often very difficult for these men to find appropriate, permanent housing in the

"It's often very difficult for these men to find appropriate, permanent housing in the community. With Chanlyut, they find not only housing, but a new beginning."

—CAROL GORE, PRESIDENT & CEO, CIHA

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"Chanlyut fills a housing gap that CIHA doesn't offer," she added, "so it makes perfect sense for us to support the



program with a financial commitment to help them provide transitional housing and work training."

Chanlyut also

embodies the kind of change that transforms lives, and it's through this commonality that CIHA and Chanlyut share a mutual commitment to the Mountain View neighborhood.

"CIHA has been behind Chanlyut from the start; they've also been one of the major revitalization forces within Mountain View," said CITC Chief Operating Officer Kristin English. While CIHA has worked to renovate properties and improve the quality of the neighborhood's housing, Chanlyut residents participate in clean-up efforts and community gardens.

Supplementing revenue from Chanlyut social enterprises and community donations are critical in bridging the funding gap and ensuring Chanlyut services are available to all who need them.

Carol Gore encourages donations to Chanlyut as a means of investing in growth and renewal for an exceptional Anchorage neighborhood.

"Chanlyut is making a real difference in Mountain View," she said, "and we are proud to support their work."

To learn more about how you can join Chanlyut's supporters, please contact Kelly Hurd at (907) 793-3272, or khurd@citci.org. ❖

CHANLYUT: REPAIRING BRIDGES ONE FAMILY AT A TIME

Kenny Oder knows the power of family—family standing by you to support your hard work, and family stepping back when you're hurting yourself and others. "My family's always been there for me," he says. "They just wouldn't have anything to do with me when I was drinking and drugging. Which is good."

After being arrested in 2008, Kenny entered Chanlyut on his mother's advice. He and his wife Merri had been separated for almost a decade. His older sister, Kenaitze Tribal Court Judge Kim Sweet, finally said she couldn't come visit him in jail anymore. His brother-in-law, whose health was failing, asked Kenny when he would stop hurting himself.

The question stuck with Kenny. In January, 2011, he became Chanlyut's first graduate. Kim says it was later that same year his estranged wife came up for a family wedding. "He was the man she fell in love with again. He's healthy and active, he supports his family and his community. ... I have my brother back," Kim said.

"It was kind of a miracle," Merri Oder says of her



Kenny Oder became Chanlyut's first graduate in January, 2011, and attributes his family's support as a primary reason for his success. "My family's always been there for me," Kenny said.

WAYDE CARROLL PHOTO

husband's journey to recovery. "He chose to do it himself instead of being forced to." His sister agrees that the hard work and transformation were all his. "Chanlyut brought that out in Kenny, so he could believe in himself and move forward. It helped him look at the trauma that brought about all that hurting and self-anesthetization. Chanlyut gave him the tools."

Kim remembers how different things were after he started the program. "It was warm, it was more culturally appropriate, it wasn't anything like visiting him in jail. It promoted family." She shares information about Chanlyut with court participants from her office as a judge, always hoping more families will benefit the way hers has.

"We're so thankful for Bill and Chanlyut, because we have our whole family together," Merri says. "I never thought I'd be here. I tell people, I have the fairy tale ending most people never get."

Have a family member that could benefit from Chanlyut services? Learn more at citci.org/chanlyut. ❖

PASSION FOR HELPING OTHERS IS FOUNDATION FOR LEADERSHIP ROLE

New Chanlyut Asst. Dir. Kevin Riehl reconnects with Delancey Street friend and mentor

In the fall of 1997, Kevin Riehl took a Greyhound bus from Denver to Espanola, New Mexico. His great-aunt, a substance abuse counselor in Texas, had told him about a two-year residential program called Delancey Street, and Kevin kept calling until they gave him an interview. “Basically,” he said, “I begged.”

The structure and peer support of Delancey Street helped him gain the upper hand in long-term battles with substance abuse and homelessness.

For four years, he lived in the program and worked jobs in the warehouse, in door-to-door retail sales, in woodworking—learning the craft he’d develop into a career—and maintenance, where he connected strongly with his supervisor. That supervisor was also his roommate and, Kevin says, one of his first positive male role models: Bill Tsumos.



Chanlyut Program Director Bill Tsumos and new Chanlyut Assistant Program Director Kevin Riehl at Delancey Street - New Mexico nearly 16 years ago. COURTESY PHOTO

“Bill was that guy for me. Other people were present, but he really spent time with me. He helped me understand what it is to be a man, what honesty and integrity really look like.”

After graduating from Delancey Street in 2001, Kevin’s relationship with the program deepened. He returned every

Sunday for breakfast, joined holiday family dinners and taught woodworking classes. He began to see his talent for supporting others in their journeys to recovery, and took jobs with an intensive outpatient program for youth, then an inpatient treatment center in Taos.

“Seventeen years ago, I was homeless and strung out on methamphetamine. Delancey Street gave me a place to go, a job I basically could not get fired from, and as much time as I needed to re-learn the life skills I needed,” Kevin explained. “That’s a debt I could never possibly repay—that I could be the person I am today.”

This summer, 17 years after that bus ride to Delancey Street, Kevin moved to Alaska to support Bill in running Chanlyut, fulfilling a cherished ambition to work for one of the replication programs.

Setting the example through leadership, Kevin looks forward to applying what he has learned, while exploring new ways to better serve current and future Chanlyut residents. ❖



Chanlyut Assistant Director Kevin Riehl joined the program staff in July. WAYDE CARROLL PHOTO



Your support is vital to Chanlyut’s ongoing mission in our community.

Please consider supporting Chanlyut in one of the following ways—thank you, for your gift of a second chance!

MAKE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

Your personal or corporate financial contribution helps make Chanlyut’s mission possible. Please make an online donation at citci.org/chanlyut, or write a check to:

Cook Inlet Tribal Council (Chanlyut)
3600 San Jeronimo Drive, Anchorage AK 99508

PRESS FOR CHANGE!

Make a \$20 donation and receive a Chanlyut Press for Change coffee press!



DONATE A GOOD OR SERVICE

100% of Chanlyut residents’ clothing, residential furnishings, and the

majority of the items to operate our business-training schools come from community donations. Professional services such as teaching, dentistry and health care are needed as well.

IN-KIND NEEDS

CLOTHING

- men’s clothing (*casual, dress, and work clothing—all seasons*)
- footwear (*casual, dress, and work shoes—all seasons*)
- winter gear: especially Carhartt (*pants, coats, bibs, gloves, etc.*)
 - snow boots, rubber boots, winter gloves, hats, etc.

HOUSEHOLD

- food slicer
- ottoman
- residential furniture:
 - bunk beds
 - single or twin beds, box springs and mattresses

- blankets, sheets, pillows—single or twin beds
- large dining room tables & chairs (seating for 10-14)
- sheds and tarps

VEHICLES (*in good running order*)

- trucks (*with crew cabs, preferably*)
- cars

COMMERCIAL

- vacuum cleaners
- janitorial supplies
- floor polisher
- snow plow for truck
- snow shovels, mutt bars, flat shovels
- lawn mowers, leaf blower, weed eater
- electric hydraulic snake (*for cleaning drains*)
- plywood 5/8”x4’x8’ A/A (20 sheets)
- lumber 2”x4”x12’ (*pine*)

PROFESSIONAL

- dental services
- educational training
- office supplies
- office furniture
- haircutting
- auto repair
- veterinary services (*for Barney!*)

Entertainment:

- bowling
- concert tickets
- movie tickets



Thank You, Community Partners!

Cook Inlet Tribal Council and Chanlyut gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and corporations for their generous support of our mission:

(donations received during Fiscal Year 2014)

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