



new beginnings

COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

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



FY2013 IMPACT

www.citci.org

A POSITIVE ALTERNATIVE TO RECIDIVISM

Barriers to work, education and housing keep Alaska rates high

For two out of every three convicted men in Alaska, the last day of incarceration begins a countdown to the next crime they commit.

“The whole point of rehabilitation is to keep people from going back down that road of crime,” said Alaska State Senator John Coghill. “But upon release, many men with criminal records face obstacles that make life outside prison walls nearly impossible.”

“People with certain convictions may be prohibited from volunteering and may be discriminated against by landlords,” explained State Senator Johnny Ellis. “Research show[s] these are the very things offenders need to get back on track.”

Roughly 25 percent of the prison population released in Anchorage find themselves with no resources of any kind. Denied access to jobs and housing, these men turn back to crime to survive—and, more often than not, soon find themselves back in jail.

CITC’s Chanlyut residential work-training and education program offers men released from prison a chance at beating the odds. Modeled on San Francisco’s Delancey Street organization, Chanlyut provides an opportunity for participants to overcome incarceration, as well as addiction and homelessness, by gaining job skills and living in a supportive environment that encourages positive change.

“Chanlyut gives men a solid opportunity not to return to prison,” said Program Director Bill Tornos, who adds that to successfully reenter society, former inmates need access to jobs, housing—and time. “Life on the outside is uncomfortable for these men. Chanlyut gives them the time they need to learn to be comfortable doing good,

CHANLYUT: *Continued on back panel*



Chanlyut is two-year residential work-training and educational program that stresses personal growth through hard work, commitment to change and taking personal responsibility for one’s actions.

CHANLYUT IMPACT

since 2007

- more than **175 men** have used Chanlyut services
- in terms of cost savings to tax payers—this is equivalent to approximately **28,550 man-days**, which equates to a savings of more than **\$4 million dollars** to the Department of Corrections in equivalent days of incarceration.
- **77% of Chanlyut graduates** are gainfully employed and have not re-offended after leaving the program
- Chanlyut businesses are projected to earn **\$493,755**, contributing to **35% of program expenses** for FY2014—an increase of 18% from FY2013

“Allowing those who want to improve their lives to do so with a self-governing structure ensures long-lasting results, and results in productive and important members of our community.”

—SEN. MARK BEGICH

NO MORE RUNNING: MATTHEW WYATT

*Through Chanlyut, creative cook
is ready to face the future*

Until October 2011, Matthew Wyatt was on the move. Growing up near Metlakatla, he'd started to drink regularly at the age of thirteen and quickly became known as "the bad kid." Matthew recalled, "I got in a lot of trouble which led to parents telling their kids that they didn't want them hanging out with me." So he eventually left, heading for Colorado, where he hoped to enroll in school.

But a series of unfortunate events—his transcripts were delayed; he got kicked out of his brother's house in the middle of winter—compounded his alcohol and drug problems, and he soon found himself back in Alaska, homeless, coming off a harsh drug experience. "You start hallucinating things, after doing drugs for so long," Matthew said. "I was running through the woods, running from something that wasn't chasing me."

He'd tried to turn things around before: Starting at the age of 13, Matthew had progressed through one treatment facility and the next. But nothing worked—until he found Chanlyut.

"I'd been through four or five different programs, and I always relapsed," explained Matthew. "I learned the know-how of recovery, but none of those programs taught you how to live what you learned. Once you graduated, they pushed you out the door and said, 'Good luck.'"

Chanlyut, according to Matthew, is different.

"That's why I love this place—they teach you how to live, day to day, in a sober environment, where people are positive and everyone looks out for each other and keeps you honest."

One way the men of Chanlyut address wrong behavior is by confronting it in group sessions. Matthew sees this as a tactic that encourages each resident to examine his own conduct.

"If one person came up and told you what you're doing



I WANT TO BE READY TO BE OUT THERE BEFORE I TAKE THAT STEP. I'M GETTING READY FOR THE WORLD, THANKS TO CHANLYUT."

wrong, you might just think they're out to get you. But if everybody explains why it's wrong, you start to take a look at your behavior and make a change."

He's inspired by the men who've graduated the program ahead of him, encouraged by them as he's moved from job to job, steadily gaining new skills and practicing how to live in the world.

While he's worked as a landscaper and a janitor, and

CHANLYUT GRADUATES: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



JEREMY COOPER

JANUARY, 2012

Now serving as Assistant Director of Chanlyut, Jeremy continues his path of "just helping people." Jeremy has an interest in continuing his education through Behavioral Health and Business classes, and he remains an avid fan of all New England-area sports—Patriots, Red Sox and Bruins (*it could be a long season, Jeremy!*) ❖



GREG DUNN

NOVEMBER, 2012

After graduating from Chanlyut, Greg put his skills as a carpenter to work with Builder's Choice in Anchorage. His personal interests include staying fit and lifting weights. Greg remains connected to the Chanlyut program as a strong advocate and role model. ❖

DENTAL SURGEON GIVES HEALTHY SMILES BACK TO CHANLYUT

As a child, when Gregory Grubba walked to church with his father in downtown Anchorage, he noticed the people in the street—many of them homeless or inebriated, or both. But his father never turned away when he saw someone down on his luck. “My dad would put them in his car, take them home,” Dr. Grubba recalled.

“Give them a shower, bring them to the dinner table with us. It was a clear sign to me that everybody is worth respect; everybody is worth helping.”

Today, Dr. Grubba is a dental surgeon who donates his skills to a number of churches and nonprofits, including CITC’s Chanlyut program.

“We are extremely grateful for Dr. Grubba’s generous partnership,” said Chanlyut program director Bill Tsrnos. “The majority of Chanlyut



Dental Surgeon and Chanlyut program partner Dr. Gregory Grubba provides his professional services to Chanlyut residents at no cost.

residents come to the program with dental needs, and most men simply wouldn’t have access to these services without our program partners, like Dr. Grubba.”

“Typically, these guys have had years of dental neglect,” said Dr. Grubba. “So they’ve lost a fair bit of their smile.”

While some Chanlyut residents simply require a remedy for a toothache, Dr. Grubba works with others over months, rebuilding their mouths at no charge.

He sees his work as a contribution to the new start many of the men at Chanlyut seek. “If you’re

interviewing someone for a job, you wouldn’t give them a second look if they’re missing several teeth,” he said.

But a healthy smile can do more than land a job; it can change how someone presents himself to the

world: “A lot of folks with missing teeth, they’ll smile, but cover their mouths with their hands. Or men will have big, burly beards to hide behind. A lot of the men at Chanlyut are clean-shaven now.”

“What Dr. Grubba gives our residents is immeasurable—it gives them self-confidence, self-esteem and makes them feel good about themselves,” said Tsrnos.

From time to time, Dr. Grubba will run into one of the Chanlyut men whose teeth he repaired. “You catch up with him and you find out he’s gainfully employed; he’s loving what he’s doing; and you see this positive glow. That’s what Chanlyut does for people,” said Dr. Grubba.

“If I had a small part in that, great,” he said. For a dentist, it’s really important to help someone be able to smile.”

In-kind donations of professional services such as medical, dental and educational are critical to the Chanlyut program. To learn more how you can help, please contact Kelly Hurd at khurd@citci.org or (907) 793-3272. ❖



mastered nearly every position at the former Mountain View Diner, his favorite job has been cooking for his fellow Chanlyut residents.

“It’s something I’ve always liked to do—cook,” he explained. “You get to experiment, create your own meals. I’ve always had a strong work ethic, but my problems always got in the way.”

After 23 months, with graduation just around the corner,

Matthew is still moving—no longer running, but taking one step at a time.

He’s got a job at Teddy’s Tasty Meats, has paid off most of his debts, and is making plans for the future.

But, he says, “I’m probably going to stick around Chanlyut for a while. I want to be ready to be out there before I take that step. I’m getting ready for the world, thanks to Chanlyut.” ❖



STANCER HALL
DECEMBER, 2011

Following graduation, Stan served as Assistant Director of Chanlyut before taking a job as delivery driver with Teddy’s Tasty Meats in Anchorage, fulfilling his personal mantra of success, “whatever it takes.” In his free time, Stan enjoys spending as much time as possible at his Eagle River home with his wife, Emily, and son, Tyler, now almost two years old. ❖



JOSEPH NICK III
JUNE, 2012

Joe works for Builder’s Choice in Anchorage as only one of two certified technicians qualified to handle spray foam installation and hazardous materials. When not working, Joe prefers to spend his time riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle, and serves as Treasurer of Second To None Motorcycle Club in Anchorage, a group founded on the Twelve Steps and dedicated to sober and clean riding enjoyment. ❖

\$50,000 WELLS FARGO INVESTMENT BOLSTERS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Becoming a self-sufficient, productive member of society is a core tenet of the Chanlyut program. However, many men who enter Chanlyut have under-developed skills or a sporadic work history, making full-time employment a difficult goal to reach.

Thanks to a partnership with Wells Fargo, Chanlyut residents have just received a boost in achieving their career goals through a \$50,000 investment in Chanlyut's workforce development program.

**WELLS
FARGO**



As the first recipient of the **Wells Fargo Workforce Development Scholarship**, Chanlyut resident John Lofquist received his A+ certification through scholarship funds.

The investment gives Alaskans fresh opportunities for success through a new educational and training scholarship program for qualifying Chanlyut participants.

"Investing in job creation and workforce development programs like Chanlyut is paramount to Wells Fargo," said Wells Fargo Alaska Region President Joe Everhart.

Chanlyut resident John Lofquist recently completed his CompTIAA+ certification through the Wells Fargo scholarship program and is now employed as a Program Assistant at Partners for Progress in Anchorage. The organization helps people recently released from

incarceration begin their journey toward recovery.

"One of the reasons I was chosen for this job was for my IT skills and having an A+ certification," said John. "I want to thank Wells Fargo and all who have helped me become competitive in today's job market, which is key to being a successful and productive member of society."

"Chanlyut is charting a new course for Alaska to reduce recidivism and foster a culture of honor and respect," said Wells Fargo's Everhart. "We are very proud of John and the rest of these brave men." ❖



ROYCE KENNY ODER

JANUARY, 2011

One of the program's earliest graduates, Kenny continues to be an inspiration for Chanlyut. After a summer of commercial fishing, Kenny works as lead carpenter for SBC contractors in Sterling. Kenny has little free time these days, but admits that he is "learning how to be bored," in positive ways when he does. Kenny is father of three grown children—Brock, 23; Angela, 19; and Alex, 18—and he enjoys working on home improvement projects, fishing and camping with his wife Merri. ❖



Your support is vital to Chanlyut's ongoing mission in our community. Please consider supporting Chanlyut in one of the following ways—together, we do make a difference!

BE A PART OF THE CHANGE

MAKE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

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

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

Make an investment in our community today.

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*)

HOUSEHOLD

- Kitchen and household supplies (*coffeemaker, utensils, serving ware*)
- Residential furniture:
 - bunk beds
 - single or twin beds, box springs and mattresses
 - blankets, sheets, pillows—single or twin beds

- book cases
- large dining room tables & chairs (seating for 10-14)
- coffee table
- rugs
- lamps
- radio (*detachable speakers*)
- counter phone
- sheds and tarps

VEHICLES (*in good running order*)

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

COMMERCIAL

- vacuum cleaners
- janitorial supplies
- floor stripper
- floor polisher
- snow plow for truck
- snow shovels, mutt bars, flat shovels
- lawn mowers, leaf blower, weed eater
- electric hydraulic snake (*for cleaning drains*)
- table saw, circular saw, scroll saw, etc.
- plywood 5/8"x4'x8' A/A (20 sheets)
- lumber 2"x4"x12' (*pine*)

PROFESSIONAL

- dental services
- educational training
- computers
- office supplies
- office furniture
- computers
- commercial restaurant supplies

*Thank you for making a
difference in our community!*

CHANLYUT: *Continued from Page 1*

comfortable with getting up each day and going to work, comfortable with being trusted.”

More than 130 men have used Chanlyut services since its inception, and since 2009, 70 percent of Chanlyut’s residents have not reoffended after leaving the program. In only four years, the program’s reputation for helping men become productive and skilled members of the community has attracted the attention of local businesses.

“We have companies who now call Chanlyut looking for men who need jobs,” said Tsurнос, “because they know those men will show up on time, prepared to do good work.”

While prisons are an important part of rehabilitation, some lawmakers recognize the benefits of programs like Chanlyut that offer an alternative to incarceration, especially for those whose crimes are nonviolent. In 2011, the number of imprisoned nonviolent offenders in Alaska was 62%, up from 42% in 2002—a figure that puts significant strain on prisons and their staff, and which burdens taxpayers.

With its resident-run small businesses, though, Chanlyut generates revenues that go directly back into the operational costs of the program, a model that has saved Alaskan taxpayers about \$4 million.

As Senator Mark Begich recognized, “Allowing those who want to improve their lives to do so with a self-governing structure ensures long-lasting results, and results in productive and important members of our community.”

At Chanlyut, men who might otherwise return to a life of crime have the opportunity to overcome the obstacles they face and discover a new beginning. ❖

❖ 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:



CHANLYUT WHOLESALE FOODS

Wholesale food items for resale, such as our homemade baked goods, sandwiches, wraps, salads and breakfast burritos.

Service Center, Coho Cup serves Café D’arte coffee through a variety of espresso and coffee drinks, and lighter-fare menu items prepared by Chanlyut Wholesale Foods.

CHANLYUT JANITORIAL SERVICES

Chanlyut provides reliable janitorial services to residential and small commercial customers.

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.

COHO CUP CAFE

Operating in CITC’s Nat’uh

For additional information on our Chanlyut program or businesses, please contact: Program Director Bill Tsurнос at 907.441.0181 or wtsurnos@hotmail.com.



Thank You, Community Partners!

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

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