

"Jobs are Alaska's Future"

State Training & Employment Program (STEP)

Spotlight On Success

Alaska Piledriver's and Divers
Local 2520



January 2005

Alaska Piledrivers and Divers Local 2520 Apprenticeship Training Program in Anchorage is accepting applications for 10 apprentice slots - until March 1, 2005. If you are interested in the apprentice program call Kevin Hanley, Training Coordinator, at 907-272-7577.

"Our STEP grant allows this program to give rural Alaskans training in welding, rigging and carpentry that we could otherwise

never afford to provide," said Kevin Hanley, Coordinator.

Kevin went on to say, "These guys will have more work than they can handle when they're done. They will be crewing on the road, bridges and other infrastructure projects Alaska will need. I wish I could train more apprentices' faster, especially underwater welders, but this is a long, expensive, and difficult 4-year program. Welders and piledrivers make good money. Today union scale for welders is \$30.90 an hour and a little more for piledrivers, but it is hard work and it takes a special kind of person to succeed in this trade."

Profiles of Success



*Chris Rasmussen, Soldotna
3rd Year Apprentice*

"I enjoy welding the most, it is isolated work that demands total concentration. Piledriving, Crane and Vibro Hammer operating is extremely stimulating work. I intend to work full time on a dive boat eventually." *Chris*



*Morgan Rooney, Wrangell
3rd Year Apprentice*

"I'm glad there is funding for this type of training because it made this challenge a lot easier for me. I love to work outdoors and with this trade I will be able to do so. When we finish a job, I love to stand back and say I was part of it. When I'm done here, I will be building bridges around the state of Alaska."
Morgan



*Danny Willard, Haines
3rd Year Apprentice*

"This program is really helpful! I like learning new skills every year." Danny



*Christopher Provost, King Salmon
3rd Year Apprentice*

"I enjoy welding the most. Making ends meet is hard as an apprentice, but the STEP program has helped me out a lot in that area. I hope it continues in the future for others. When I'm done here, I intend to be one of the top welder's on any piledriving job I'm on in Alaska. This training is very good." *Chris*



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

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