



Dear Tok, Tanacross, Northway and Nenana,

My name is Cynthia Erickson, I am from the village of Tanana. I am the founder of, My Grandma's House~Setsoo Yeh.' I am working with Tanana Chiefs Conference, on a Highway Healing Journey this summer, June 7-14th, 2019.

We plan on bringing youth from all over Alaska into Fairbanks. On Friday, June 7th, 5:00 pm, we will gather at the Tribal Hall for a child abuse walk/awareness presentation, tables (for anything with children) vendors and an Indian Taco dinner/Silent Auction fundraiser. We will have an honor wall honoring our past and present Grandmothers. We will gather them up and they will come on our Journey with us.

On June 8th, our plan is to leave Fairbanks, drive to Tok (combined community gathering Tok, Dot Lake, Healy Lake & Tetlin) June 9th in Tanacross, our final Eastern Alaska gathering in Northway, on the 10th. We return Fairbanks the 11th and then go to Nenana on the 12th.

I will need all the help, I can get. Tanana Chiefs, has always been a wonderful support and I appreciate everything they have done, to support My Grandma's House. I would love to hear from all the tribes, city, corporations, schools, and youth. Your ideas and support is much appreciated.

Last summer, we held an Interior Healing Journey that started in Fairbanks. We went to Minto, Manley Hot Springs, Tanana, Ruby and Galena. Assisted with Doctor John Deruyter, Tanana Chiefs Behavioral Health Aide, Bernice Hetherington, Alaska State Troopers and our TCC Village Public Safety Officer. It was beyond amazing, words cannot describe all of our experience, definitely a first step to talking, sharing and above all healing. It was a life changing experience for all of us.

We addressed many issues, we all struggle with. The kids stood and spoke strong words. Each community welcomed us and have given so much encouragement to us and our mission to talk, share and heal. On this highway journey we will address some issues and most of all going forth with solutions and how to continue the dialogue.

Everyone knows we have addressed many child abuse issues. We don't want to continue with the bad and negative, but how do we all help, educate and embrace our youth in our communities. All of our youth will also have Suicide Prevention QPR training, along with a Grief workshop.

We plan on addressing issues about technology, social media(occurring issues with cell phone)sensationalizing suicide, loss of family, educating our children on protecting themselves, the influx of drugs/alcohol, giving resources to the youth, i.e. Sex registry, The Door (The youth home in Fairbanks),Interior Center for Non-Violent Living, Presbyterian Hospitality House, Garden of Roses, Graf Rheeneerhaanjii (Graf) , TCC resources, etc. Our youth are all doing their own presentations. If there is a problem or issue in your area and would like us to address or meet with the youth, please let us know. We are planning on having a youth talking circle.

We have a lot to plan and pull off. We would love your support. We will need funds for air fare, housing, food, vehicles, fuel, etc. We also need volunteers, monetary and in-kind donations, silent auction donations, if you would like to donate a basket in honor of your Grandmother, let us know. Anything is appreciated.

We would love to have your community join us in the walk, the gathering and helping host us. We appreciate any support and assistance. Please free to call or text me with ideas and any help. For your donation, we will advertise for you on our walk, our website and of course a tax deductible receipt. Our website is www.mygrandmashouseak.org, our Yukon Journey is on the website and YouTube.

Thank you and we appreciate you supporting the children of Alaska.

Sincerely,

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