



## MEDIA RELEASE

Jobs are Alaska's Future



Feb. 24, 2006

No. 06-38

### For Immediate Release

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### Alaska Job Centers Put 9,264 More Alaskans to Work in 2005

(Juneau) – Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner Greg O’Claray announced today that of the Alaskans who used one of the Department’s 24 Job Centers to help them find a job during 2005, 30 percent more of them gained employment as a result, compared to the previous year.

The Alaska Job Centers provided “significant staff assistance” to 66,725 people from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2005, and of those, 40,485 entered employment, according to a quarterly report released this month by the U.S. Department of Labor. During the same period in 2004, the Job Centers served 63,260 people and 31,221 found work. For federal reporting purposes, significant staff assistance is differentiated from the self-service resources also available at the Job Centers.

“This is a good report card on my Alaska Hire program and the top-notch services being offered by the Alaska Job Centers,” said Governor Frank H. Murkowski. “We’ve focused on good jobs for Alaskans and it’s working.”

“Our mission is putting Alaskans to work,” said Commissioner O’Claray. “The professionals in the Alaska Job Centers know how to match job seekers with employers and good jobs.”

“All walks of life come through our doors, each with unique needs and circumstances,” said Laura Lynn Wells, Community Development Specialist at the YK Delta Job Center in Bethel. “It feels really good at the end of the day to know that you helped someone get a job and be able to support themselves or their families.”

More information about Alaska’s Job Centers and the services they provide can be found at [www.jobs.state.ak.us](http://www.jobs.state.ak.us).

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