



ANCHORAGE PARK FOUNDATION MEDIA RELEASE

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WELLS FARGO PARTNERS WITH YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN PARKS ***Wells Fargo's Investment Supports Youth Employment & Financial Literacy***

On Tuesday, August 10 at 2:10 p.m. at Russian Jack Springs Park, Wells Fargo will present a \$7,500 check to the Anchorage Park Foundation celebrating Wells Fargo's investment in the Youth Employment in Parks (YEP) program. Also on Tuesday, members of the media are invited to observe Wells Fargo staff members Molly Just and Dave Valdez conducting financial literacy training sessions with YEP teens. The hour-long lessons will focus on prudent personal credit management and saving for the future.

The Youth Employment in Parks program is a program of the Anchorage Park Foundation, the Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department and Alaska Youth for Environmental Action, a program of the National Wildlife Federation. Each summer, the YEP program hires diverse Anchorage teens to complete park improvement projects and offer free recreation programs in our community. Through YEP, teens learn valuable job skills while earning money and having fun outdoors.

"Wells Fargo is thrilled to support the YEP program and the outstanding work they are doing to help Anchorage's youth discover their potential while learning important job and life skills," said Judith Crotty, Wells Fargo Alaska community development manager. "Our \$7,500 investment includes corporate funds from our environmental grant matching program, part of Wells Fargo's commitment to environmental stewardship."

At the end of each work season, YEP crews participate in a Mentorship & Career Week, including resume-writing workshops, mock interviews, job shadowing opportunities and the financial literacy training conducted by Wells Fargo. This culminating experience enables the teen crews to connect their "first job" experience with the next steps in their careers.

"We are extremely grateful to Wells Fargo for their financial and educational investment in the YEP program," said Anchorage Park Foundation board member David Wight. "We rely on partners like Wells Fargo to connect our teens with the education, mentorship and skills development opportunities they need for successful futures."

YEP is made possible by generous support from more than 100 community partners. In addition to Wells Fargo, major funders include the Rasmuson Foundation, the Municipality of Anchorage, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the Atwood Foundation, the Alaska State Legislature and the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

For more information about Youth Employment in Parks, please visit the Anchorage Park Foundation website at www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org.

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