



## 2017-2018 FACT SHEET

### MISSION STATEMENT

Nordic Journeys' mission is to foster the health, recreation and competitive benefits of cross country skiing and biathlon through sustainable programs across Alaska.

### VISION STATEMENT

We envision healthy and active families enjoying Alaska's vast and beautiful landscape on skis.

### TARGET POPULATION

We partner with school districts, corporate and community organizations, and volunteer coaches from the broader ski community to serve Alaska Native youth and their families. Annually, we reach 36 communities, 40 schools, and over 5,800 youth.

### GEOGRAPHIC REACH

Nordic Journeys serves the state of Alaska. NANANordic covers the 11 villages of the Northwest Arctic Borough, known as the NANA Region. Across the rest of Alaska, we call our skiing program Skiku, which served 28 communities in 2017. Our SkikuBiathlon program is a statewide effort focusing on teaching the sport of biathlon.

### 2018 SCHEDULE\*

#### SKIKU

- Feb 25 - Mar 3: Aniak, Chuathbaluk, Crooked Creek, Sleetmute, Stony River, Upper Kalskag, Lower Kalskag
- March 4-10: Nome, Brevig Mission, Koyuk, Elim, Chevak
- March 11-17: Unalakleet, Bethel, Mountain Village, Galena
- March 18-24: Savoonga, Pilot Station, Shishmaref, St. Michael
- March 25-31: Gambell, White Mountain
- April 1-7: Utqiaġvik, Point Hope, Wainwright, Kaktovik
- April 8-14: Anaktuvuk Pass, Point Lay, Nuiqsut, Atqasuk
- April 15-21: Arctic Village

#### NANANORDIC

- April 1-7: Kiana, Noorvik, Ambler, Kotzebue, Deering
- April 8-14: Selawik, Noatak, Buckland, Shungnak, Kobuk, Kivalina

### ❄️ SKIING ACROSS ALASKA ❄️

\* Changes may occur due to snow conditions and scheduling variables.



## SERVICES

- ✦ **Nordic Journeys provides annual Nordic ski and biathlon instruction.** Coaches deliver instruction at local schools, supplementing regularly scheduled physical education classes, and also provide after-school Nordic ski and biathlon clinics to both adults and children. In total, each rural community receives four to five full days of instruction. An Anchorage program delivers Nordic ski instruction and loaned skis for special needs groups. The Nordic Journeys coaching team is comprised of volunteers, including Olympians, World Cup skiers, elite high school skiers, and community coaches. The professional quality of instruction delivered is grounded in experience and personal commitment to the sport. Additionally, coaches serve as positive, physically active and self-motivated role models.
- ✦ **Nordic Journeys provides participating communities with ski equipment.** In partnership with school districts, cross country ski equipment is housed at the local schools or community centers. Equipment includes skis, boots, poles, bindings and wax kits. Children and community members are taught how to utilize and maintain equipment properly.
- ✦ **Biathlon program provides gun safety and biathlon training.** Nordic Journeys' biathlon program includes engagement with existing biathlon team programs in rural Alaska, with the goal of expanding the sport, encouraging competition between regions in rural Alaska, and including rural athletes in state and national biathlon events. Biathlon is a combination of two activities; cross-country skate skiing and precision target shooting. Students receive lessons in basic gun safety and hands-on instruction using our state-of-the-art infrared rifles. Often, children lack opportunities to learn about gun safety. Our visits are the first time that many, especially girls, gain experience shooting.
- ✦ **Nordic Journeys identifies and develops community leaders who can promote a sustainable Nordic ski program.** By partnering with local schools and community organizations, Nordic Journeys identifies a leader in each community who is able to pioneer, or expand, a Nordic ski program for the village.

## ADDRESSING THE NEED

The cultures, tradition and landscape of Alaska is conducive to a thriving Nordic ski program and Nordic Journeys promotes a healthy and active lifestyle, a vital need for regions characterized by high rates of tobacco use, diabetes, suicide, depression and substance abuse. Nordic Journeys has strong support from village leaders and school officials, who recognize that the program imparts practical skills and equips children with the means to participate in a sport that has life-changing potential.

## CONTACT

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