

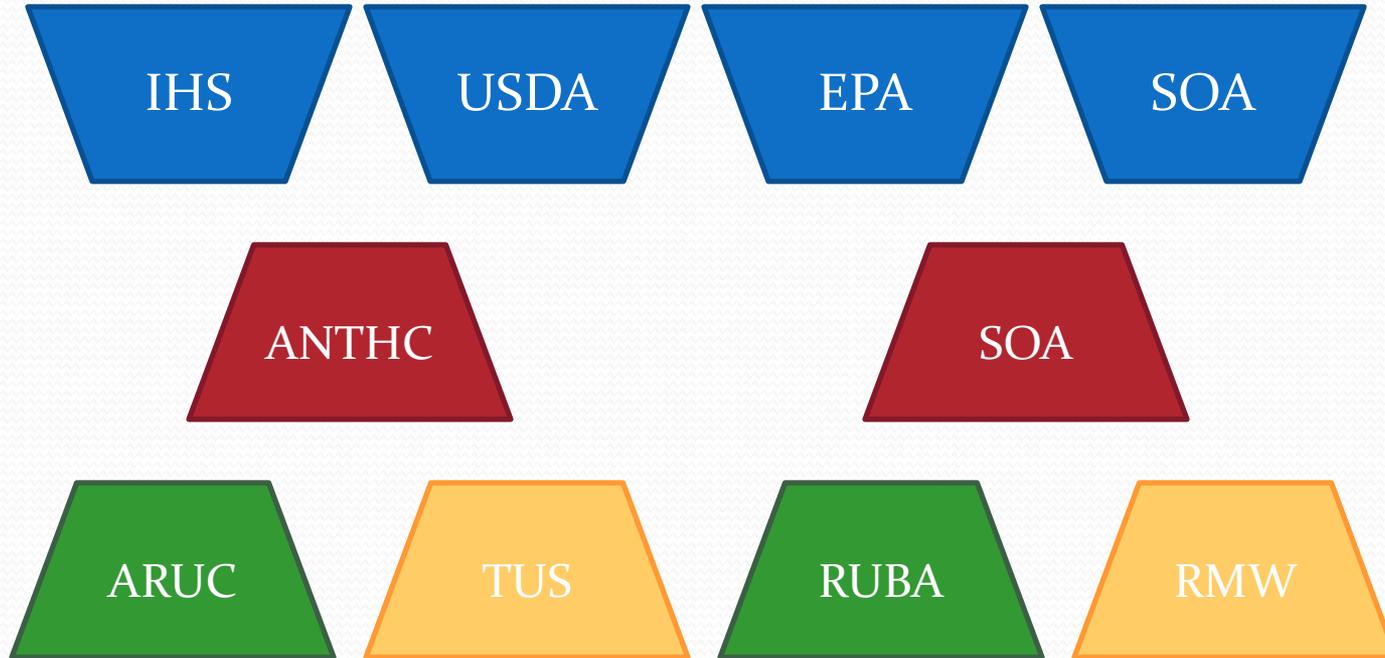
Rural Utility Business Advisor Program

Carrie Bohan, ADEC

History of RUBA Program

- Remote Maintenance Worker (RMW) Program established 1981
- 1990, based on success of RMW Program, DEC piloted Remote Utility Business Advisor Program
 - Funded by EPA and US Public Health Service
 - Focused on YK Delta
- 1991 Rural Utility Business Advisor (RUBA) Program established within Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) at Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED)
 - Funded by EPA Alaska Native Villages Grant and state match

Shared Resources



Shared goals of protecting public health and infrastructure investments by building technical and managerial capacity.

IHS - Indian Health Service; USDA - US Department of Agriculture;
EPA - Environmental Protection Agency; SOA - State of Alaska; ANTHC - Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
ARUC - Alaska Rural Utility Collaborative; TUS - Tribal Utility Support
RUBA - Rural Utility Business Advisor; RMW - Remote Maintenance Worker

RUBA Program

- Regionally based Local Government Specialists
 - Anchorage, Dillingham, Kotzebue, Nome, Bethel, and Fairbanks
- Provide both RUBA and Title 29 (Local Governance) support and training
- Coordination with RMW Program to provide support

RUBA Program

- 2004 RUBA Assessment launched
 - 27 Essential Indicators, 28 Sustainable Indicators
 - Utility Finances, Accounting Systems, Taxes, Personnel Systems, Organizational Management, and Operation of Utility
 - Village Safe Water (VSW) adopted RUBA Assessment as a capacity assessment tool for all project funded by VSW CIP funding
 - 2015 Operations and Maintenance Best Practices introduced

RUBA Program

- Utility Management Courses for Rural Utilities
 - Clerks, Elected Officials, Financial Management, Intro to Rural Utility Management, Operational, Organizational Management, Personnel Management, and Planning Management
- QuickBooks support and training
- Plain English Guide to Drinking Water and Wastewater Regulations
- Onsite Assistance