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**Alaska Farm to School and Alaska Grown programs receive statewide award**

(Palmer, AK) – The Alaska Division of Agriculture’s Farm to School Program and Marketing Section today received the Alaska Community Service Award for Health from the Alaska Public Health Association.

The community service award is given to organizations which make significant contributions to improving the health of Alaskans. The award was presented to the Division of Agriculture today during the Alaska Public Health Summit in downtown Anchorage.

The two programs were nominated due to their work to improve the availability of healthy, local foods.

“Because of these programs, Alaskans have more access to fresh, local foods in schools, restaurants, grocery stores and farmers markets,” said the nominator, Diane Peck, with the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services’ Obesity Prevention and Control Program.

“The Alaska Division of Agriculture is proud of the work that the Farm to School and Marketing programs are doing and we are pleased to receive this honor. We look forward to continued service to the people of Alaska,” said Franci Havemeister, director of the Division of Agriculture.

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