MISSION:
“Promoting and advancing the development of healthy, durable, and sustainable shelter for Alaskans and other circumpolar people through applied research.”
Flooding and erosion affects 184 of 213, or 86 percent, of Alaska Native villages to some extent, and at least six are in immediate peril from encroaching waters.

The Yup’ik village of Newtok in Southwest Alaska is one of these imperiled villages. It has experienced rapid erosion and the loss of its dump site and barge landing. It has been almost completely flooded in the last five years.
Recent steps thus far in Newtok’s relocation effort include:

1. Funding for a Barge Facility at the New Village Site of Mertarvik
2. Funding for Community Planning at the New Village Site
3. Water Source Investigations and the Drilling of A Test Well
4. Geotechnical Studies
5. Building of Three Initial Homes at the New Village Site
6. Design of Road, Air strip, and Gravel Pit at New Village Site

Images showing extent of flooding in 2005, taken from interviews over aerial photographs

Map showing the relocation site of Mertarvik
CCHRC implemented the Mertarvik Evacuation Center into their continuing SUSTAINABLE NORTHERN SHELTER (SNS) PROGRAM

The SNS Project is a multi-step, multi-year process involving many stakeholders.

The goal is to define and document a housing development process that leads to affordable, durable, healthy, safe, and context appropriate housing.

The SNS Project includes charette, test module, and prototype phases.
CCHRC created a charette-planning team with the goal of engaging the community while having community-wide meetings in the evenings. The goal of the charette was to establish specific design criteria according to the particular needs and goals of the community.

Over three days in November, CCHRC team members met with representatives of The Newtok Tribal Council, The Newtok Planning Group, and the Department of Transportation during the day while having community-wide meetings in the evenings.

**CHARETTE SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 1</th>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>EVENING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FLY-OVER SITE</td>
<td>VILLAGE MEETING</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MEET WITH TRIBAL LEADERS</td>
<td>DISCUSS CHARETTE PROCESS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>WALK VILLAGE</td>
<td>PRESENTATION</td>
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<td></td>
<td>INVITE PEOPLE</td>
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<tr>
<th>DAY 2</th>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>EVENING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VISIT EROSION SITE</td>
<td>DESIGN CHARETTE</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VISIT HISTORICAL MOUND HOMES</td>
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<tr>
<th>DAY 3</th>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>EVENING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MEET WITH D.O.T. DEPT. OF COMMERCE</td>
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The initial architectural program of the Evacuation Center came directly from the design charrette and conversations with representatives of the Newtok Planning Group.

In order for the building to be sustainable and useful for years to come, foresight is necessary so that the spaces in the evacuation center can be re-assigned functions when the entire village has moved and the building becomes a community center.
PRELIMINARY FLOOR PLANS

1500 SF

6000 SF (+1000sf Mezzanine)

- Dry Storage
- Cool Storage
- Subsistence Gear
- BAY DOORS
- WATER
- SEWAGE TREATMENT

- VIEWING DECK
- MEZZANINE
- KITCHEN
- FIRE EXIT
- MENS RESTROOM
- SCREEN
- WASHETERA ENTRY
- WASHETERA
- WMS SAUNA
- WMS RESTROOM
- ARCTIC ENTRY

Dimensions:
- 2' 10" (width)
- 8' (height)
Above: modern cold trap (ADA accessible):

Above: quality of light

Above: quality of materiality
CONCEPTUAL RENDERINGS
MISSION:
“Promoting and advancing the development of healthy, durable, and sustainable shelter for Alaskans and other circumpolar people through applied research.”