

*Kenai Peninsula Borough*  
*Alaska*  
*Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of alcohol and nicotine constitute the greatest threats to the well-being of America's children; and

**WHEREAS**, surveys conducted by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University have consistently found that the more often children and teenagers eat dinner with their families the less likely they are to smoke, drink and use illegal drugs; and

**WHEREAS**, teenagers who virtually never eat dinner with their families are 72 percent more likely than the average teenager to use illegal drugs, alcohol and cigarettes; and

**WHEREAS**, teenagers who almost always eat dinner with their families are 31 percent less likely than the average teenager to use illegal drugs, alcohol and cigarettes; and

**WHEREAS**, the correlation between family dinners and reduced risk for teen substance abuse are well documented; and

**WHEREAS**, parental influence is known to be one of the most crucial factors in determining the likelihood of substance abuse by teenagers; and

**WHEREAS**, family dinners have long constituted a substantial pillar of family life in America.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, John J. Williams, Mayor of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, do hereby proclaim the fourth Monday in September as:

***Family Day***  
***A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children***

and urge all citizens to recognize and participate in its observance.



*John J. Williams*  
John J. Williams  
Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor