



FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Community Engagement Awards A Pilot Project to Support Healthy and Thriving Alaska Native Communities

Request for Proposals

First Alaskans Institute announces its pilot Community Engagement Awards funding initiative. **This funding opportunity is targeted to projects that demonstrate long lasting and collaborative efforts among community organizations to plan and implement innovative projects.** Funding will be available for results-based activities that include family and community partnerships in the following areas:

- **Pre-school education activities that better prepare children for success in school;**
- **increasing high school graduation rates;**
- **connecting Elders and youth in cultural learning;**
- **promoting youth leadership development opportunities.**

GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. Eligible Applicants:**
 - Demonstrated evidence of a collaborative community effort serving the Alaska Native community.
 - Organizations recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the IRS Code that serve Alaska Natives or federally recognized Alaska tribal organizations.
- 2. What will be Funded:** Community based projects that result in long-term measurable outcomes and project sustainability.
- 3. Proposal Due Date:** Proposals must be received at First Alaskans office by **July 20 at 5:00 p.m.** via e-mail, fax, or mail. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.
- 4. Pre-deadline Teleconferences: June 26, 2007 and July 10, 2007, 3:00-4:00 p.m.** These teleconferences provide an opportunity for applicants to discuss questions regarding the application process.
Teleconference: 1-800-528-2793, Conference ID: 9387827
- 5. Pilot Project Timeline:** August, 2007-June, 2008.
- 6. Total Funding Available:** \$500,000 to be awarded as follows:

For the first \$350,000:

- Awards ranging from \$20,000 to \$35,000
- Up to 15 Awardees

For the remaining \$150,000:

- Three applicants will receive \$50,000 each to enhance ongoing best practices in one of the targeted areas.

7. Proposal Evaluation and Selections: Proposal Evaluation Committee meetings: August 1, 2007.

8. Awardees Announced: August 15, 2007.

9. Fund Distribution Start Date: August, 2007.

10. For Applications: Visit the website, www.firstalaskans.org, click on the Community Engagement tab on the top bar, or contact First Alaskans Institute, 677-1700, or e-mail Sarah Scanlan, sarah@firstalaskans.org,

11. Proposal Evaluation Criteria: Proposals will be scored as follows:

Evaluation Criteria for Project	100 Points Possible
Project Activities	15
The proposal reflects new ideas for project activities with measurable outcomes that increase school readiness for pre-school children, increase high school graduation rates, increase cultural learning, and increase leadership activities that youth are involved in.	
Community Partnerships and Long-Term Benefits to Community Project Activities	25
The proposal clearly indicates a shared effort that identifies the community organizations involved, how the strengths and resources of the community and organizations will be utilized for the project and how the project will be continued when the funds are expended.	
Participants	15
The proposal clearly identifies the geographic area to be served, the targeted participants, and the number of participants to benefit from the project.	
Reporting and Measuring Outcomes	25
The proposal is clear on the specific outcomes for each quarterly reporting period, how progress will be measured, what the long-term impacts of the project will be and how that will be verified over time.	
Budget and Project Management	20
The proposal includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a description of the skills of the project staff • a description of how the organization has succeeded in implementing similar projects • a clear description of how the funds will be used • a budget that accomplishes the proposed outcomes • a description of the community's contributions to the project 	