



2008 PROJECT APPLICATION
Open 1/4/2008 – closes 2/8/2008

COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS:
HEALTHY AND THRIVING COMMUNITIES

Purpose: The Community Investments initiative provides financial support to non-profit or tribal organizations committed to working collaboratively with other organizations serving Alaska Native communities in one or more of the following areas:

- Preparing pre-school age children for school success
- Increasing high school graduation rates
- Providing Elder and youth connections for cultural learning
- Providing opportunities for developing of youth leadership skills

Applicant Information

- Limit the application packet to 7 pages, including the budget.
- Incomplete applications will not be scored or considered for funding.
- If you would like verification that your application was received by the deadline, include the submitters email address under the “contact’s email address” below.

Project Title: Red Elders and Youth Connections program

Legal name of organization: Native Village of Red

Address of organization

P.O. Box 123

| | | |
|------|-------|----------|
| City | State | Zip Code |
| Red | AK | 99123 |

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| Fax number | Web-site address |
| (907) 123-4567 | www.nativevillageofred.com |

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Date of incorporation | Federal Tax ID # |
| 1971 | 92-0000123 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Organizational status: <input type="checkbox"/> IRS 501(c)(3) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain) |
| | Federally recognized tribal government |

Mission of organization

Promote unity, self-determination, and advancement of members of the Native Village of Red.

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Name of Executive Director | Title |
| Jane Doe | Tribal Chief |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Executive Director’s telephone number | Executive Director’s email address |
| (907) 123-4567 | ChiefRed@hotmail.com |

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Contact for this application | Contact’s title |
| John Dough | Tribal Administrator |

| | |
|--|--|
| Contact's telephone number (907) 123-4567 | Contact's email address TARed@hotmail.com |
| Total project budget \$42,000 | Amount requested \$ 30,800 |

Specific purpose(s) for which funds are requested:

- Family/Community Engagement for Pre-school Children
 Family/Community Engagement for Increasing High School Graduation Rates
 Family/Community Engagement in Elders and Youth Connections
 Youth Leadership Development

Signature of authorized official (Board Chair or Executive Director) _____ Date _____

Typed Name _____

Title _____

| Financial Summary | Last audited fiscal year actuals _____ (2007) | Current Fiscal Year (2008 budget) |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Operating Revenue | \$190,000 | \$225,000 |
| Operating Expenses | \$187,322 | \$28,000 |
| Approved Indirect Rate | NA | NA |

Checklist for Application:

- 501 (c) (3) or tribal organization documentation attached
 Community partnerships in place for this project Yes No
 All sections completed
 Budget Attached
 Start date for this project: _____ 3/1/08 _____ End date for this project: _____ 12/15/08 _____

Section A: Community Partnerships and Long-Term Benefits to Community

First Alaskans Institute's desired outcomes are long lasting positive changes in communities that draw on the determination, skills, talents, abilities, and motivation that already exist within the community.

1. Narrative description of your project, what are you going to do, how it will be achieved (outcomes), measured, and reported.

The Native Village of Red plans on further developing their Elder's and Youth "connections" program through the First Alaskans Institute Community Investments program. Red currently has a "connections" program that focuses on addressing the high school drop out rate of the community by providing on site "Elders" at the school from 3:00-4:30pm every day. Elders are paid an honorarium to spend time at the school mentoring, communicating traditional values, and sharing stories with high school students. With the FAI funding the program will be broadened to include elementary and middle school students.

There are 66 students in the Red K-12 School of which 14 are between 9th and 12th grade. Currently 2 Elders work with the 14 high school students. Under the FAI funding Red hopes to expand the program to include up to 8 Elders for the program. Two Elders will work with K-3 grade, two for 4-6 grades, two for 7-8 grades, and two for 9th-12th grade.

Elders would spend time in the school sharing stories about their past, with a focus on cultural identity, traditional way of life, leadership, and family. Lessons will guide students on how to succeed in life based upon traditional tribal values and practices.

The overall intent (or OUTCOME) of the “Connections” program is to reduce the high school drop out rate by providing mentors who know who they are as Native people to youth who may not have a firm understanding of their place in the world. Elders provide connections with our past, guidance towards a healthy future and prescriptive ways of being for today. Providing a link between our Elders and youth in Red guarantees greater success in school, in life, and in the continuation of being Native.

How it will be measured? Current high school completion rates will be gathered for Red (FY 2006 and FY 2007) and a graph of change by quarter will be submitted to FAI via the quarterly report. Attendance rates will also be gathered to show any changes.

After the implementation of the program it is anticipated that the rates will increase due to the positive influence of the program upon youth.

How it will be reported? Quarterly reports and a final report will be submitted to FAI staff using the FAI format. Additional materials will be provided to illustrate positive changes in the high school completion rate (i.e. graphs, charts, outstanding scholar information if applicable). Students within the program will also be assigned with a narrative description of how the “connections” program has impacted their life, schooling, or outlook. A compilation of these essays and quotes will be provided to FAI in the project reports. Students will also be asked to document activities within the program by taking videos and pictures. These reports will also be given to the Village Council at their regular meetings and feedback/suggestions for improvement will be sought by the leadership members.

2. Identify 2-3 (partners) in your community who will be involved, what specifically will the partners complete within your project work plan to achieve the desired outcomes/goals? (i.e. roles and responsibilities of partners to carry out the work plan commitments)

The Native Village of Red Environmental Department, staff members will be enlisted to be “Elders” and provide environmental lessons to youth on traditional ways of respecting the environment and how best to care for local resources. Environmental staff will provide 25% of Elder time (2 staff members).

Red will also partner with the school district for space/location and authorization to utilize the site. The school district has partnered with the Tribe to guarantee a meeting space for all 4 “connection” age groups and has agreed to have a school district employee onsite during the meeting time; 3:00-4:30pm.

Red will explore other partnership opportunities as they arise and report on new collaborations in the quarterly reports.

3. What are the community’s strengths and resources that will be used for this project’s success?

The most important resource the Native Village of Red has is the knowledge base and availability of numerous Elders to provide on site guidance to the community youth. Since this program has already been successfully established for high school age youth, it should be

replicable for the other age groups (strength is having a program that is already working). Another strength the Village of Red has that will impact the success of the project is the dedicated Village Council, Village leadership, partnership with the school district, consistent participation of current youth. Having stability within a program/project of users and staff leads us to believe the program will maintain this stability as well as maintain the viability of the program after the FAI funding has been extinguished. Council members are very involved with this project, understand the need and how to achieve outcomes and thus have fully endorsed the project. Council members have also volunteered to be Elders within the “connections” project, evaluate the success of the project, and continue to give feedback and suggestions to the project staff.

4. How will the project be continued when the funds are spent?

Outside grants will be sought during FY2008 to continue the program into 2009 and beyond. Success of the project will be conveyed to State and Federal representatives to seek funding for the continuation of the program. Staff will conduct the cost-benefit of setting up a bake sale (on a regular basis) and sale of craft items they create to evaluate if this option could offset or support the program.

Section B. Participants

1. Who is your target audience?

66 students from the Village of Red. Non-school district youth will be allowed to attend on a drop in basis as well. Any youth in the community who is interested in attending between the ages of 5-18 will be welcome to attend. Of the 66 students enrolled, 95% are of Alaska Native decent and 80% of them are eligible for free or reduced lunches. Currently there are 45 Elders in the community above the age of 60.

2. How many individuals will benefit from this project?

The entire Village will benefit from the project (approximately 250 residents including the 66 school children). Over time the people of Red will all benefit as the youth involved in the program will have a better understanding of who they are as a people and thus will share this with future generations—leading to a healthier, thriving community.

3. Why will participants want to be involved?

Students from the local school will be involved because there are no other after school activities in our community and have already told the Elders that they would like to have the same opportunity that the high school students have to stay after school and listen/learn from the Elders. Both youth and Elders will be involved Participants will be involved because they have a vested interest in seeing their community as well as all individuals succeed in Red and this program will provide the time, resources, and setting to share the area traditional way of being with youth (who are thirsting for that very knowledge).

4. What services/activities will the participants receive or be involved in?

Activities the participants will be involved in will include: traditional knowledge in the area of the environment, leadership, language, and spirituality. Participants will have the opportunity to learn first hand how to make baskets; do skin sewing, beading, storytelling, dancing, and how to

prepare subsistence foods. Elders will share stories of how they lived off the land, tools they used, hunting, trapping, survival techniques, and traditional values.

Section C. Reporting and Measuring Outcomes

Measuring the impacts of your project is a critical part of this initiative. It provides information on best practices, how you will measure the long-term impacts to the community, and how communities develop strong local partnerships to continue the activities when these funds are expended.

1. Describe the outcomes you want to achieve for lasting changes in your community.

Youth will make positive connections with Alaska Native Elders in the community, which will foster a healthier community, self image, and better understanding of who they are as Alaska Natives. Graduation rates will increase due to the increased feeling of self worth. School attendance rates will increase because students will have a desire to come to school to participate in the “Elders and youth connections” program.

2. How will the activities of your project result in reaching these outcomes?

Providing the opportunity for youth to learn first hand from Elders through the activities listed in the proposal will enable the community to become healthier and have a better understanding of what it means to be a member of our Village/Tribe. All of these activities will benefit the individuals involved as well as the community as a whole.

3. How will you determine the participants and community were positively impacted by this project?

Attendance, graduation, and achievement rates will be collected on a semester basis from participants and compared to pre-project rates. These figures will be included in project reports to First Alaskans Institute as well as the Tribal Council. Testimony will also be collected throughout the project from both Elders and youth on how they think the project has positively benefited them personally as well as within the entire community. These quotes will be captured and submitted to First Alaskans Institute and the Tribal Council via the project reports.

4. How will you gather this information?

Project staff will gather the pre-project data from the school district and project participants will contribute their interim and final data to project staff for compilation into the required reports.

Section D. Key Personnel Qualifications

1. What skills, knowledge, ability, or qualifications will be required of the people who implement this project to make it successful and reach the stated outcomes?

Knowledge/Skills/Abilities:

Understanding of; the importance of the role of connections between Elders and youth, traditional life practices and applications and an ability to share this information in a way that will foster positive life changes in the youth of Red.

Organizational skills to keep project on track both financially and time wise. The current manager of this program has an excellent track record of both for the high school group and would dedicate 25% of their time to project management. (A Resume is available upon request).

- Describe a similar project your organization/community has been involved in, what the desired results/outcomes were, and whether they were achieved. If they were not achieved what would have made them successful?

The Native Village of Red has worked with the school district and the Indian General Assistance Program Environmental Department in the past to initiate and maintain a recycling program in the schools. The outcome of this project was to have a cleaner community. To accomplish this outcome the Village, the school district, and Environmental Department came together to plan a program, enlist volunteers, and implement a recycling program in the school and community. As a result plastic bags have been banned from Red, students are receiving funds for gym equipment (generated from recycled materials), and the entire community is safer and cleaner.

Section E. Financial Projections

Develop the budget based on the activities that will be supported with these funds, who is involved and when monies will be expended to achieve the desired outcomes. Focus on what is being accomplished by the participants rather than monies simply being spent on a schedule. Funds will be distributed quarterly as long as there is demonstrated progress to the intended outcomes.

Please note: this award is intended to fund activities that can be sustained when these funds are expended. It is not intended to fund positions within an organization, travel, or other similar expenses that the community will not be able to sustain.

| Budget Category | 3/08-5/08 | 6/08-8/08 | 9/08-12/08 | Total |
|--|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Planning meetings/gatherings for community leaders | (in-kind) | 0 | (in-kind) | (in-kind) |
| Activities for participants | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Materials, supplies for participants | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | 6,000 |
| Elder honorarium, Student rewards | 12,400 | 0 | 12,400 | 24,800 |
| In-kind contributions from the community | 5,600 | | 5,600 | 42,000 |

Section F. Budget Narrative: Explain what the above budgeted amounts will be used for in each category.

Planning meetings/gatherings – Space has been donated for this project from the school district and Village Council. No cost will be associated for this activity.

Activities for participants – Varied activities for the youth after school program based on age and skill level. Some activities will be: skin-sewing, beading, arts and crafts.

Materials, supplies for participants – materials for activities will include: beads, furs, needles/thread, a digital camera will also be purchased to document the project.

Elder honorarium, student rewards – 8 Elders will be paid \$12 per hour, 2 hrs per day, 5 days a week for 13 weeks in the spring and 13 weeks in the fall. The total expense for Elders will be \$24,800.

Other – NA.

In-kind contributions – The community of Red will contribute human resources from the Village council, Environmental Department, and school district. An MOA has already been signed and accepted between the school district and the Village Council to use the space for the “connections” after school program. This cost of personnel and space for in-kind contributions is estimated at \$11,200 and will come out of the partnership budgets and reflected as a donation to this project.

| Submitted by: Employee Name, Printed | Date | Employee Signature | Supervisor Signature |
|---|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | | |

Mail completed application to:

First Alaskans Institute
Community Investments
606 E Street, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99501

Or fax: 907-677-1780

Or email scanned signed documents and attachments to:

info@firstalaskans.org