



**2008 COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS - FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Open Jan. 4, 2008 – closes Feb. 8, 2008**

**A Project to Support Healthy and Thriving Alaska Native Communities**  
**Project Period: March 1, 2008 – Dec. 31, 2008**

**Request for Proposals**

First Alaskans Institute announces the second year of its Community Investments 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 are federally-recognized Alaska Native tribal organizations.
- Organizations that have received funding through the Community Engagement Awards program in 2007 are not eligible to apply for funding in the same project area for the 2008 funding cycle.

**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 the Institute by **Feb. 8, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.** via e-mail, fax, or mail. Applications received after this deadline will not be rated or considered.

**4. Pre-deadline Teleconferences: Monday Jan. 14, 2008 and Feb. 1, 2008, 10:00-11:00 a.m.** These teleconferences provide an opportunity for applicants to discuss questions regarding the application process.

**Teleconference: 1-800-528-2793, Conference ID: 9387827**

**5. Project Timeline:** March 2008 - Dec. 31, 2008.

**6. Total Funding Available:** \$300,000 to be awarded as follows:

- Awards will range from \$20,000 to \$50,000
- There will be between 6 – 15 Awardees, if a significant number of applications meet the evaluation panel's criteria for "excellent" application, Awardees may be asked to submit a revised budget with a reduced amount of funding so more Awards can be distributed benefiting more programs.

**7. Proposal Evaluation and Selections:** Proposal Evaluation Committee meetings:

First Alaskans Institute, 606 E Street, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501  
Tel: 907-677-1700; Fax: 907-677-1780; [www.firstalaskans.org](http://www.firstalaskans.org)

Feb. 15 - Feb. 22, 2008.

8. **Awardees Announced:** Feb. 27, 2008.

9. **Fund Distribution Start Date:** March/April, 2008.

10. **Reporting requirements of an award:** Two progress reports on the award status will be required 30 days after the end of each period. Periods will be 4/1/08-6/30/08 (1<sup>st</sup> report due 7/31/08), 7/1/08-9/30/08 (2<sup>nd</sup> report due 10/31/08) and a final project report covering the whole period 4/1/08-12/31/08 will be due by 1/30/09.

11. **For Applications:** Visit the website, [www.firstalaskans.org](http://www.firstalaskans.org), click on the Community Investment tab on the top bar, or contact First Alaskans Institute, 677-1700, or e-mail Project Assistant, Jenel Franklin, [jenelfranklin@firstalaskans.org](mailto:jenelfranklin@firstalaskans.org),

12. **Proposal Evaluation Criteria:** Proposals will be scored as follows:

Evaluation Criteria for Project	100 Points Possible
<p><b>Project Activities</b></p> <p>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.</p>	<b>15</b>
<p><b>Community Partnerships and Long-Term Benefits to Community Project Activities</b></p> <p>The proposal clearly articulates that the project is a partnership between Community organizations rather than an individual project of one organization. List which organizations in the community will be involved, what that involvement entails, which organization will be responsible for achieving specific activities within the work plan, and how the project will be continued when the funds are expended (how will the project be sustained after FAI funding has been exhausted).</p>	<b>25</b>
<p><b>Participants</b></p> <p>The proposal clearly identifies the geographic area to be served, the targeted participants, and the number of participants to benefit from the project.</p>	<b>10</b>
<p><b>Reporting and Measuring Outcomes</b></p> <p>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.</p>	<b>25</b>
<p><b>Budget and Project Management</b></p> <p>The proposal includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a description of the skills of the project staff (resume and/or qualifications to achieve project goals)</li> <li>• a description of how the organization has succeeded in implementing similar projects</li> <li>• a clear description of how the funds will be used</li> <li>• a budget that accomplishes the proposed outcomes</li> <li>• a description of the community's contributions to the project (financial or in-kind)</li> </ul>	<b>25</b>  <b>(5pts for each bullet within this category)</b>