

First Alaskans Foundation

Progress for the next ten thousand years

NOV - 2 2001

October 30, 2001

Michelle Anderson
Project Officer
Denali Commission
510 L Street, Ste. 410
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Community Planning & Development Program
Project No: 0018-DC-1999-E4
Performance Report For the Period July 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001

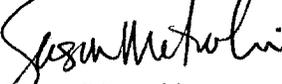
Dear Michelle:

Enclosed is a progress report on the First Alaskans Foundation's Community Planning and Development Program, funded by the Denali Commission. This report covers the project period from July 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001. This report includes all grant expenditures for this period, as well as project status updates, accomplishments and labor, residence and wage report information.

We have worked hard this past quarter in absence of Carrie and in light of busy workloads surrounding AFN. The last RFP for remaining funds under this program have been mailed. Our deadline for applications is November 30, 2001.

If you have any questions about the Program, or should you require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
FIRST ALASKANS FOUNDATION


Jason Metrokin
Director of Programs

Enclosures



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PROGRESS REPORT TO THE DENALI COMMISSION
Submitted by
FIRST ALASKANS FOUNDATION
Community Planning & Development Program

Project No: 0018-DC-1999-E4

Grant Period: December 1, 2000 to September 30, 2004

Grant Award Date: January 29, 2001

Reporting Period: July 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001

I. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Over a two-year period, this program will build capacities of Alaska Native individuals and communities statewide through the development of local decision-making, management and governance skills necessary to plan and implement sustainable community development efforts. This program will impact Alaska Native communities, organizations, and individuals statewide through statewide visioning efforts; a minimum of 2 regions/sub-regions of rural Alaska through specific infrastructure development efforts; and, a minimum of 24 individual Alaska Native villages statewide through specific community development, community economic development, and community infrastructure construction projects.

Grants selections were made available in the following areas:

- Community Development
Six (6) Grants, Maximum Funding \$50,000
- Community Economic Development Planning
Six (6) Grants, Maximum Funding \$50,000
- Statewide Visioning
One (1) Grant, Maximum Funding \$100,000
- Community Infrastructure Construction
Ten (10) Grants, Maximum Funding \$25,000

Grants still available in the following area:

- Regional/Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning
Two (2) Grants, Maximum Funding \$125,000

Total Proposals Received:

Community Development: 14

Community Economic Development: 13

Statewide Visioning: 1

Regional/Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning: 1

Community Infrastructure Construction: 7

II. MAJOR ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since our last progress report to the Commission, we have been busy collecting reports from our grantees as well as amending agreements to those projects that require manual labor. All grantees awarded for Community Infrastructure Construction, Community Development and Community Economic Development have signed a Memorandum of Agreement. These grantees have also received first payments for the respective projects. The Construction project grantees received the amended agreements to include requirements for completing the Labor, Residence and Wage reports. Copies of these reports have been included in this quarterly progress report.

We continue to work with the Alaska Humanities Forum and the development of the Visioning Project. We received funds for this project earlier this month. The Forum will hold the Conference on the Future of Alaska and I hope to see representatives from the Denali Commission there.

The RFP for Regional/Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning Grants has been distributed to approximately 800 organizations statewide. Our application deadline is November 30th at 4:30pm. Our review committee will be set up once again to fund the last two awarded projects. A copy of the RFP is included in this report.

Quarterly Grant Updates

Of the 22 funded Community Planning & Development Program grants, we have received and reviewed 12 quarterly reports as of October 30th. There have been no significant challenges for many of the grantees. Some have difficulties with personnel turnover or weather related issues. The City of Aniak, as you know, is struggling with their VPSO housing project due to flood zones and unforeseen logistical setbacks. Other projects, such as the Togiak Court Project are going so well, they need additional funding to keep up with demand. Finally, the Eyak Handicap Access project and the Chickaloon Tribal Government Building are nearing completion.

Attached to this report is a list of all grants and reporting status.

III. PROJECT ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Statewide Visioning Grant

We have now received funds for the Visioning Project. There have been initial meetings with the Alaska Humanities Forum to discuss a program outline. The first phase will be to convene in a conference environment. As outlined in the Request for Proposals, the purpose of the statewide visioning grant (maximum funding \$100,000) is to develop a statewide process for planning for the future of Alaska's indigenous people and communities (both rural and urban). Our partnership with AHF is for the development and implementation of a Statewide Visioning process. The First Alaskans Foundation's newly formed Alaska Native Policy Center is underway with visual materials being finalized for fundraising efforts beginning January 2002.

Regional/Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning Grants

With a re-defined Regional/Sub-regional program, we intend to fund the remaining two projects by December 2001. While the purpose of the Regional/Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning grants is to seek new and better information on the desirability and viability of multi-community infrastructure development, we continue to feel that these funds can be awarded to qualified applicants who best fit the scope of this grant category.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTING

The following report provides a snapshot of the Community Planning & Development Program to date financially. While First Alaskans Foundation was issued a check for \$799,347.00 on 5-25-01, only half of those funds were disbursed to grantees by conditions of the signed agreements. FAF has \$337,164 available at this time for additional disbursements as necessary. It is required by agreement for grantees to furnish quarterly reports and invoices to receive additional monies.

Initial funding		\$	1,175,000.00
Initial program outlays - 4/30/01	\$	799,347.00	
Less: Cumulative program income	\$	-	
Net program outlays	\$	<u>799,347.00</u>	
Total federal funds available		\$	<u>375,653.00</u>
FAF funds disbursed	\$	(462,183.00)	
FAF funds available	\$	<u>337,164.00</u>	

V. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

During the next reporting period, the Community Planning & Development Program anticipates accomplishing the following major activities:

- Continue development of Visioning Project with the Alaska Humanities Forum, post-conference findings.
- Set up review committee for funding Regional/Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning grants.
- Reporting and monitoring of selected projects, as well as additional funds disbursements as outlined in grant agreements
- Continued program outreach, including program information inclusion on First Alaskans Foundation and Denali Commission websites.
- Ongoing communication with Denali Commission and statewide funding agencies/organizations.

Native Village of Eyak

The First Alaskans Foundation
Labor, Residence & Wage Report

Project Name	Estimated		Residence	1st Check Date	Last Check Date	Rate of Pay/Hr.	Total Payroll Earnings
	Construction Period	Position					
Eyak Cultural Center	June 1-30/01	Project Manager	Cordova	6-1-01	6-22-01	\$27.00	-
Eyak Cultural Center	6-1-30-01	Laborer	Cordova	6-1-01	6-15-01	\$ 20.00	-
Eyak Cultural Center	6-1-30-01	Laborer	Cordova	6-1-01	6-15-01	\$ 20.00	-
Totals		3					

Grant Category	Project	Village	Total FAF Funding	Matching Funds	Disbursed	Project Status
Community Infrastructure Construction	VPSO Housing Project	Aniak	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$12,500	Still trying to alleviate issues with original home sight. Some materials have been ordered and received. No funds from the grant have been expended to date.
Community Infrastructure Construction	Deer Mtn. Tribal Hatchery & Comm. Ctr. Repair & Maintenance.	Ketchikan	\$25,000	\$5,077	\$25,000	Both sheet rock and electrical projects have been completed. Work on incubation wall replacement is not expected to encounter any problems.
Community Infrastructure Construction	Community Building	Kwethluk	\$25,000	\$918,453	\$25,000	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.
Community Infrastructure Construction	Community Building Construction	St. Michael	\$25,000	\$868,553	\$12,500	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.
Community Infrastructure Construction	Building Renovation	Ft. Yukon	\$25,000	\$6,000	\$23,079	Financial report received without narrative. 92% of awarded funds have been expended.
Community Infrastructure Construction	Community Center Renovation – Iqurmiut	Russian Mission	\$25,000	\$1,623	\$25,000	City of Russian Mission has donated addition funds to complete project. Renovation is going well, with the completion of project on course.
Community Infrastructure Construction	Capital Improvements for Tribal Office	Saxman	\$25,000	\$5,598	\$12,500	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.
Community Infrastructure Construction	Tribal Government Building	Chickaloon	\$25,000	\$101,000	\$14,389	Several items have been completed in this project including: handicap ramps, walkways and septic upgrades. There have been no difficulties to date.
Community Infrastructure Construction	Boardwalk Completion	Port Alexander	\$23,291	\$2,329	\$11,646	Reactivated Admin. Asst. to hire Project Foreman. First task will be to prepare materials list and solicit bids. Shortage in local labor pool due to extended fishing season. Very little funds expended thus far.
Community Infrastructure Construction	Wind Energy Development for Community Freezer	Ambler	\$25,000	\$2,500	\$12,500	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.

Community Infrastructure Construction	Community Handicap Access Improvement Project	Eyak	\$25,000	\$343,898	\$25,000	Project is nearing completion with no problems.
Community Development	Local Governance	Chickaloon	\$50,000	\$14,331	\$25,000	Village has had difficult time scheduling meetings with Borough Assembly to gain recognition. Media has been favorable but it is still early on.
Community Development	Court Project	Togiak	\$50,000	\$5,110	\$25,000	Tribal court is up and running but allocation of time written into the grant has exceeded the budget for the tribal clerk. Looking for additional funding.
Community Development	Court Project	Barrow	\$36,138	\$39,213	\$18,069	Received Financial Report, with some funds expended. No Narrative report as of 10/30/01. Requested report from grant coordinator.
Community Development	Health Clinic Planning & Preliminary Design Project	Atka	\$50,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	The Atka Clinic has been categorized as a level 4 Priority by the Denali Commission. No FAF grant funds have been expended, as the City has entered into agreement with HDR and will travel to Anch. to discuss program needs.
Community Development	Village Capacity Building	N. Slope Borough	\$50,000	\$40,920	\$25,000	Project Manager accepted another job, in the process of rehiring. Weather has been a challenge for travel. Previous mgr. began working with Wainwright.
Community Development	Water & Sewer Utilities Master Plan	Toksook Bay	\$50,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.
Community Economic Development	Koyukon Basin Economic Development Initiative	Galena	\$50,000	\$10,565	\$25,000	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.
Community Economic Development	Transportation Corridor: Access & Development at Lenard Harbor	King Cove	\$34,500	\$9,500	\$25,000	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.
Community Economic Development	Community Economic Development Strategy & Prelim. Master Plan	Chenega	\$49,888	\$16,470	\$25,000	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.
Community Economic Development	Community Economic Development Strategy	Rampart	\$40,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.
Community Economic Development	Comprehensive Economic Development Update	Allakaket	\$50,000	\$6,000	\$25,000	Quarterly report not received as of 10/30/01.

First Alaskans Foundation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Regional / Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning Grants

The First Alaskans Foundation is requesting proposals for Regional / Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning Grants in Alaska. Proposals are encouraged for all projects that will support multi-community infrastructure development in the areas of basic utility, transportation and life, health and safety infrastructure.

Priority will be given to eligible projects which have broad public involvement and support; are consistent with an adapted community based comprehensive plan; demonstrate a commitment to local hire; and provide for cost-sharing.

Grants Available: 2

Maximum Funding: \$125,000

Maximum Project Length: 18 months

Eligible Entities

Include partnerships, consortia and/or cooperatives consisting of governing bodies of at least two rural communities in relative geographic proximity.

Members of such partnerships may include: Traditional Tribal Councils, IRA Councils, First Class Cities, Second Class Cities, Boroughs, Regional Native Non-Profit Organizations, Community Development Quota Groups, Alaska Regional Development Organizations, and Regional or Village Corporations.

Examples of Eligible Projects

Regional/Sub-Regional planning projects may include, but are not limited to: transportation planning, public facilities construction planning, facilities maintenance planning, and other innovative plans for infrastructure development and sustainability at the multi-community level.

Application Submittal

Please submit by mail, an **original and two (2) copies** of your complete proposal by **Friday, November 30, 2001 at 4:30pm** (Five (5) pages maximum) to:

First Alaskans Foundation
1577 C Street, Suite 320
Anchorage, AK 99501



First Alaskans Foundation

Program Overview

The goal of the Regional/Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning grants offered by the First Alaskans Foundation is to examine the viability of multi-community infrastructure development in the areas of utilities, transportation, and life/health/safety. The purpose of such grants is not to fund actual construction or operation of public works - but rather, to plan for them in an intelligent way. As stated by the Denali Commission (the federal source of these funds), "...there is not an adequate community and regional planning process that requires coordination of ...resources for sustainable economic development."

For over a decade, public resources for community development planning in rural Alaska have been diminishing; and in some areas, they are virtually non-existent. Reduction of such planning efforts corresponds to a more general decline of funding for rural infrastructure throughout the 1990's. This reality is made even more difficult by the increasing cost of delivering basic services in remote communities, many of which have weak cash economies. In many such places, the basic infrastructure of modern life is just a dream.

Because much of rural Alaska's infrastructure is now aging and declining, a new wave of federal spending (e.g., the Denali Commission) has recently begun. As welcome as this is, we cannot expect it to come even close to what Prudhoe Bay and the pipeline built in the bush during the last 25 years. Moreover, these new efforts are under public and congressional pressure to be long lasting, efficient and cost-effective.

The era in which public funds could replicate separate, "stand-alone" infrastructure in every village is likely coming to a close; and the model we have followed in the past can't be made to work much longer. Consider the number of villages that have not chosen to join electric power cooperatives and have therefore missed the chance to get lower overhead costs - or the number of closely proximate villages that have never thought about combining health care or school systems in order to lower costs and deliver more and better services. How much longer can that go on, in light of the dollars available? In short, the problem of rural Alaskan development is not only political (increasing legislative competition for resources) - but economic (the fact that costs and resources would not add up in the best of political circumstances). Such resources will surely continue to decline in the future.

The future may well belong to regional and sub-regional clusters of communities that can plan imaginatively for shared infrastructure, economies of scale and cost-effectiveness. We must do more with less.

Hence, this offering by the First Alaskans Foundation of two grants, the purpose of which is to encourage rural communities to come together and to think "outside the box," as regards planning for local infrastructure.





Proposal Format

Please answer the following questions about your proposed project in the format specified below.

I. Project Description

1. What is the project? Briefly describe it.
2. Why is this project needed? Describe the problem, need or strategy that the project addresses.
3. Is this project part of a plan (i.e., economic development plan, environmental plan)? How does it fit into the plan?
4. List any studies or plans that are needed (i.e., feasibility, marketing, engineering, design or other technical studies). Identify whether they have been started or the stage the plan is in towards completion.

II. Coordination and Community Support

1. Are there other projects related to or dependent on this project? Is this project dependent on other activities or actions? If yes, describe projects, actions or activities specifying phases where appropriate.
2. Does this project fit into a regional strategy? Does it meet the needs of other communities as well as your own?
3. How many businesses will be affected by this project and how?
4. What type of needed infrastructure does this project provide?
5. What has occurred in the community which provides evidence that the community actively supports the project? Provide a resolution of support from the community governing body(s). *If a community has a city and/or a tribal council, a resolution from both is required, regardless of who the applicant may be.*

III. Project Costs and Resources

1. What is the estimated total cost of the project? Provide a budget detail and narrative.
2. What funds have been secured? Specify amounts, sources, local match, and any conditions attached.
3. What is the annual cost and long-term cost for operation and maintenance of this project? How will the community meet these costs?
4. What local resources are available for the long-term operation and maintenance costs of this project?
5. Discuss project management and qualifications.

IV. Project Impact and Sustainability

1. What service jobs will be needed in order to operate and maintain this project?
2. How many full-time, permanent jobs will this project create and/or retain in the next 1 to 3 years? 3 to 5 years? Total?
3. What training is necessary in order to prepare local residents for jobs on this project?
4. What construction jobs will be necessary to complete this project?
5. What are the anticipated outcomes of the project? Discuss specific project goals and objectives.

V. Other

1. What permits will be required? List the permit, permitting agency, and status of existing applications.
 2. What health and safety problems will this project address?
 3. What state and/or federal compliance requirements will this project satisfy or correct?
 4. How will the project improve the environment?
-



**Community Planning and Development Program
First Alaskans Foundation**

APPLICATION COVER

Grant Category:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Regional/Sub-Regional Infrastructure Planning	
Project Title:	
Total Funding Request	\$ _____
Other Financial Commitments (total in-kind/cash match, other agency funds, etc.)	\$ _____ *10% Match Required
Other Funds Required (not yet committed/identified)	\$ _____
Total Project Cost	\$ _____
Communities Represented: <i>(Only one application may be submitted per project (per grant category), except a community can submit an application and also be a part of a regional or sub-regional project.)</i>	
Applicant Organizations:	
Address:	
Phone/Fax/Email:	
Contact Person and Title:	
<hr style="display: inline-block; width: 60%; vertical-align: middle;"/> <i>Signature of Authorized Representative</i> <hr style="display: inline-block; width: 20%; vertical-align: middle;"/> <i>Date</i>	

APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

Please mail an original and two (2) copies of your complete proposal by Friday, November 30, 2001 at 4:30 p.m. to:

**First Alaskans Foundation
1577 C Street, Suite 320
Anchorage, Alaska 99501**
