



**REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST**  
**Statewide Youth Psychiatric Facilities for the Bring the Kids Home Initiative**  
**FOR FY 2006**

Finance and Management Services, Facilities Section

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The intent for this Request for Letter of Interest (RFLOI) is to assist the Department and The Denali Commission in determining the need and readiness for expanded or enhanced facilities by agencies that serve or have a desire to serve Alaska's children experiencing Severe Emotional Disturbances (SED). The Department is working with the Denali Commission to identify potential projects related to expanding bed capacity in Alaska for SED youth. This is not a procurement process to award funds. The Denali Commission will use this information as a first step in determining the universe of potential youth psychiatric facility projects. Agencies with projects at all stages (from conceptual planning to construction ready) are encouraged to respond. The feedback received from this process will help to guide the manner in which \$1.25 million of Federal Fiscal Year 05 facility funding is granted, and to demonstrate the potential funding needs for Federal Fiscal Year 06 in this area of facility development. Organizations that may have ideas for developing facilities for at risk children and youth may also use this format to describe needed projects for potential future funding.

Response this RFLOI is not a guarantee of funding.

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION & GENERAL INFORMATION**

**(A) Description of Services**

The State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services, Finance and Management Services, Facilities Section is soliciting Letters of Interest for Statewide Youth Psychiatric Facilities for the Bring the Kids Home Initiative. Federal funding through the Denali Commission and managed by the Department will allow for the acquisition, development, or rehabilitation of real property that provides new or additional residential beds or facility improvements for Alaska's children experiencing SED ages 3-11 and youth ages 12-21, particularly those children at risk of moving into out of state or more restrictive environments and/or those children stepping down from out of state placements. These children frequently have difficulties transitioning back to community based placements.

Priority populations of children include those experiencing:

- a) Difficult to treat diagnoses:
  - 1) Psychosis
  - 2) Dual diagnosis (Substance use disorder and SED)

- 3) Eating disorders
  - 4) Medical co-morbidity superimposed with SED.
  - 5) Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders
  - 6) Low intellectual functioning or developmental disability.
  - 7) Traumatic Brain injury
- b) Difficult to treat presentations:
- 1) Runaway Behavior
  - 2) Aggressive Behavior
  - 3) Pregnancy
  - 4) Fire Setting Behavior
  - 5) Sexual Offenses
- c) Underserved youth populations:
- 1) Under 12 years of age
  - 2) Older adolescents transitioning to the adult system
  - 3) Children from rural areas.
  - 4) Children from different cultures
  - 5) Girls

The Statewide Youth Psychiatric Facilities for the Bring the Kids Home Initiative is seeking interest throughout Alaska in providing sustainable therapeutic residential alternatives for children and youth experiencing SED close to their homes and communities. To the extent possible, these alternatives will allow children to remain engaged in school, or job training, continue preparing for employment, and/or learning life skills. Typically, these children and youth present with issues related to multiple factors including mental/emotional/behavioral health, substance use, physical health and/or developmental factors. The service array required is complex and individualized and includes medication monitoring, clinical services, rehabilitative services and other services and supports in accordance with each child or youth's individualized behavioral health treatment plan.

Partnering with other agencies that may provide property management or supportive services is highly encouraged.

**(B) Funding**

Capital funds through Department of Health and Social Services from the Denali Commission.

**(C) Eligibility (Who May Apply)**

Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations; municipalities and Regional Educational Attendance Areas or other political subdivisions of the state; other State agencies; Alaska Native Tribes, or a combination of these entities.

**(D) Deadline For Submission And Contact Information**

Letters of Interest are available on the State of Alaska "Online Public Notice" site at <http://notes.state.ak.us/pn/pubnotic.nsf/> or from the contact person named below. To be eligible for consideration, Letters of Interest must be received at the following address not later than 5:00 p.m., November 4, 2005.

MAILING ADDRESS:

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PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

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Note: U.S. Post Office will **not** deliver  
to the physical address listed above.

Relay Alaska provides assisted communication services at the following numbers:  
from a TT Phone: 1 800 770-8973; from a Voice Phone: 1 800 770-8255

Appendices:

Appendix A: Request for Letters of Interest Response Form