

**U.S. Forest Service Mini-Grants**

**FY2001 Request: \$700,000**  
**Reference No: AMD 6776**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation  
**Category:** Development

**Project Type:** Construction

**Location:** Statewide

**Contact:** Pat Poland

**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)

**Contact Phone:** (907)269-4580

**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2000 - 06/30/2005

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The objective of this grant program is to strengthen rural communities by helping capitalize on their potential to diversify and expand their economies through the use of natural resources and by developing new economic activity in non-forest related industries.

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2001</u>	<u>FY2002</u>	<u>FY2003</u>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fed Rcpts	\$700,000						\$700,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

**Operating & Maintenance Costs:**

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**

**Project Description/Justification:**

The Mini-Grant Program is a joint effort between the federal USDA Forest Service and the Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development. This partnership provides funding and technical assistance to communities to enhance their overall quality of life. The partnership also facilitates access by rural communities to the resources available from both the Forest Service and the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Economic development activities are considered for funding under the Mini-Grant program. The objective of the Forest Service funds which are committed to the Mini-Grant program is to strengthen rural communities by helping capitalize on their potential to diversify and expand their economies through use of natural resources and by developing new economic activity in non-forest related industries. The program addresses the long-term vitality of rural areas and focuses on enhancing the overall quality of rural life primarily through natural resource based solutions.

Mini-Grants are awarded annually through a competitive application process. It is anticipated that approximately \$200,000 in federal Forest Service funds will be provided to support the Mini-Grant Program. It is anticipated that the Mini-Grant program can award approximately 10 to 20 grants annually. The Mini-Grant Program is administered by a position within the Community and Economic Development Component.

On April 11, 2000 the department received notification that the Denali Commission has authorized and additional \$500,000 in federal funding for this program. This additional authorization will bring the mini-grant program to \$700,000 in federal receipts.

