

Fairbanks – Reopen Fahrenkamp Residential Facility

FY2001 Request: \$495,000

Reference No: 32452

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Renovation and Remodeling

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Fairbanks (West Fairbanks)

Contact: Larry Streuber

House District: West Fairbanks (HD 30)

Contact Phone: (907)465-1870

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2000 - 06/30/2003

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Renovation and conversion of Fahrenkamp Center in Fairbanks to a Residential Diagnostic and Treatment Center (RDT). If this project is not funded the Department expects that the number psychiatric hospitalizations and placements in correctional facilities of youth will continually increase making it difficult to establish continuity of service, facilitate successful transitions back to home community and family and it increases the likelihood for constant recidivism.

Funding:	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	Total
AHFC Div	\$395,000						\$395,000
MHTAAR	\$100,000						\$100,000
Total:	\$495,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$495,000

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

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

This project has not received previous funding.

Project Description/Justification:

Alaska Mental Health Trust funds would pay for some costs necessary to renovate a portion of the Fahrenkamp Center from its current outpatient mental health clinic function to a Residential Diagnostic and Treatment Center (RDT) for children with serious emotional disturbances. Renovations necessary for licensure as an RDT include such activities as changing windows to safety glass; replacing bedroom doors; converting one room into a locked time-out room; installing motion detector alarm system on exterior doors and windows; and other changes required by fire and health codes.

In addition to the Trust funds, the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) is requesting \$395,000 in AHFC corporate receipts for the project. The Department is actively engaged in several initiatives to reduce the number of out of state referrals and placements being made for Alaskan children and youth. The goal of DHSS is to provide an appropriate level of care as close to home as possible, through community based services. The Fairbanks Residential Diagnostic and Treatment Center (RDT) will be based from the Fahrenkamp Center, a residential facility that was built and completed in the mid-1980s. The Fahrenkamp Center is a 10,150 square foot building that currently houses two separate mental health programs, one of which will be relocated so the residential portion of the building may be used as it was intended. The cost of building the Fahrenkamp Center was \$2,992,445.

The RDT will provide intense mental health services for children and youth such as, accurate diagnosis, crisis stabilization, comprehensive treatment planning, medication management and short term (up to 6 months) residential

care, 24-hours a day seven days a week in a staff secure facility for children in the care of DFYS.

In order to provide safe and appropriate residential diagnosis and treatment services at the Fahrenkamp Center, the building will require renovations prior to occupancy by the new grantee. These renovations are necessary to increase the ability to monitor residents and reduce the potential for youth to harm themselves through suicidal and other self-injurious behaviors.

Renovations that would bring the building into compliance as a licensed residential RDT facility would require hiring a general contractor to oversee the work such as the following; changing all windows to safety glass; replacing all bedroom doors with doors that have observation windows; converting one of the nine bedrooms into a locked time out room; installing an alarm system (motion detector) on all exterior doors and windows; ensuring that the air vents and light fixtures do not pose potential danger; changing shower heads and towel racks; and, all other changes required by fire and health codes.

The grantee also has one time "set up" costs inherent with implementing a residential center: linens, appliances, bedroom furniture, family room furniture, dining room furniture; recreational equipment. All furniture and equipment will need to be purchased from a medical or hospital supplier to increase the safety of the youth in residence.

In addition to the above, the current occupant would need the funds to move to a new location. The funding to move to a new location is being sought in a separate capital request – see Fairbanks Community Mental Health Center Relocation.

This request is being submitted in conjunction with an operating budget request.

The RDT will provide staff-secure treatment and safety for the youth being served in the facility, and it will decrease the number of out of state placements of youth.

Performance Measures:

- Physical plant modifications completed;
- 6-bed facility operating.

The DHSS and the Fairbanks community feel that this RDT is an essential component of the system of care in the Northern Region. If this project is not funded the Department expects that the number of psychiatric hospitalizations and placements in correctional facilities of youth will continually increase. The current trend towards placement in out-of-state facilities will continue. Without these types of intensive programs provided in a child and family's home community, it becomes more and more difficult to establish continuity of service, facilitate successful transitions back to home community and family and it increases the likelihood for constant recidivism.