

Online Resources for the Children of Alaska Enhancements FY2010 Request: \$414,255
to Meet Federal Requirements Reference No: 46905

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Information Technology / Systems / Communication

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2009 - 06/30/2014

Contact: Arnold Liebelt

Contact Phone: (907)465-1870

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project will enable the Office of Children's Services' Online Resources for Children of Alaska (ORCA) to implement statewide regional intake. Currently all incoming reports of child abuse and neglect are processed by each of the outlying OCS offices. By establishing statewide regional intake, reports will be documented consistently, will maintain regional autonomy, will be responded to more quickly, and will be better monitored. In addition, the project will develop the capability to collect and report information required by the National Youth in Transition federal mandate.

Funding:	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$172,092	\$172,092					\$344,184
G/F Match	\$242,163	\$242,163					\$484,326
Total:	\$414,255	\$414,255	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$828,510

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
58% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input 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	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

This is the first year of the project.

Project Description/Justification:

Information Technology Capital Project Review Form FY2010

1. Has this project been previously approved? No.
2. Addition federal requirements will also be incorporated into this project. By federal fiscal year 2010, the OCS must begin to collect demographic and survey data on children who have aged out of foster care. The data to be reported includes some demographic information now available from ORCA, but the requirement also contains a second set of data collected through a series of surveys conducted by OCS on the young adults who leave foster care. According to the federal mandate, the data must be collected and reported from ORCA, Alaska's system or record, and available by federal fiscal year 2010.

3. Is this a new systems development project?

Upgrade or enhancement to existing department capabilities? This is an enhancement to existing department capabilities required to implement a change in the division's business practices and to fully comply with a federally mandated data set.

4. Specifically, what hardware, software, consulting services, or other items will be purchased with this expenditure? These services will be performed by the contractor.

5. How will service to the public measurably improve if this project is funded? Improved outcomes related to responsiveness, consistency, and caseload assignments. Move toward agency access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Enables field staff to focus on the OCS mission: Promote stronger families; safer children.

6. Does project affect the way in which other public agencies will conduct their business? No.

7. What are the potential out-year cost implications if this project is approved? (Bandwidth requirements, etc.) None.

8. What will happen if the project is not approved? The OCS will not be able to implement regional intake and the division will continue as is. Inconsistent decision making, report recording and monitoring, and worker investigation assignments will continue. The smaller offices that have only one to three workers will continue to have difficulty monitoring incoming calls while performing other duties that often require them to be out of the office. There will be no improvement in access to the agency for the public.

If the state does not comply with the federally mandated data requirements, \$720,000 in federal funds received through the Independent Living Program could be suspended. This program provides preparatory living skill services to children aging out of the foster care system, including education costs, assistance with rent and living expenses, and specific training for young adults to help make a successful transition to responsible, independent adulthood.

Department's Mission: To promote and protect the health and well being of Alaskans. This project supports the Department's mission by standardizing methods of guarding children's safety.

The end result to which this project contributes is "Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse or neglect."