

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alaska Native Heritage Center****Federal Tax ID: 92-0127531****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

Alaska Native Heritage Center - Education and Administration Facilities Expansion

State Funding Requested: \$3,185,000**House District: Anchorage Areawide (16-32)**

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

This project will be Phase I of a multi-phase, multi-year project to add new educational space to the Center and expand the facility.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$10,678,750
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	(\$3,185,000)
Project Deficit:	\$7,493,750

Funding Details:

This request marks the beginning of a multi-year, multi-phase project to create new educational and public spaces for the Center. If awarded, ANHC will have the much need matching funds to seek gifts from corporations and private foundations.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The original vision and initial master plan for ANHC required a balancing act of vision against the realities of budget. As a result, the original vision was trimmed by approximately 50% from the facility that was originally conceived. While the inability to achieve the full vision has left some challenges, it also has provided the opportunity to focus development as it proceeds on those items that prove to best meet the needs of the Native community and non-Native visitors.

This project, is intended to promote the Alaska Native Heritage Center as a "Center of Excellence." It recognizes that ANHC is a vital center for young people to learn about Native ways and for sharing Native culture. The plan also recognizes that ANHC is a place to which many people have entrusted care of artifacts for which a safe and protective environment must be provided. Also, it recognizes that improvements must include revenue generating opportunities that will assist ANHC in remaining fiscally strong. To that end, ANHC is planning a multi-phase, multi-year project to address our facility needs. In support of this project, the Alaska Native Heritage Center is requesting \$3,185,000. These funds will be used to leverage additional gifts from private foundations and corporations.

Phase I:

- Provision of new educational spaces dedicated to teaching Native ways of living and learning.
- Construction of administrative space to house key staff in one building, removing trailers that cost money to heat and maintain.

Phase II-IV:

- Construction of a new assembly hall/theater that can provide orientation to visitors, performance space for students and performers, and income-generating potential for events.
- A reorganization of the Hall of Cultures and separation of artifacts from potential sources of contamination.
- Expansion of the Hall of Cultures to provide curatorial and decontamination areas. Expansion will also facilitate growth to house many of the artifacts that continue to be entrusted to ANHC, and allow ANHC to be a host site for loaned objects from other institutions.
- An expanded kitchen to allow dining that facilitates both ready-made and full-service meals. This will greatly expand revenue-generating opportunities both on a routine basis and for banquets or catered events.
- An expanded gift shop to increase floor space for item display, customer circulation, and inventory storage.
- A reorganized Gathering Place, theater, and Crossroads that will facilitate banquets, meetings, and dining as well as large performances.

The Center's stability is marked by the incredible growth of the cultural and educational programs over time. Today, the community looks to ANHC for cultural awareness education, school programs, art and culture classes for school children and their teachers, language restoration, and the transfer of cultural knowledge from elders to youths. The Center's priorities reflect a solid commitment to the community through partnerships with schools, museums, and cultural organizations; and to Alaska Native people, particularly Alaska Native Youth. In 2009-2010 the Center was host to 5,553 elementary school children, 782 middle school youth, and 99 high school youth. An additional 69 staff joined us as Interns over the summer months. The Center also hosted activities through the winter that drew more than 19,339 people to Saturday events and more than 80,000 total visitors.

Project Timeline:

This project, if funded, will begin in Fall 2011 with Phase I construction. Phases II-IV, subject to funding, will commence in 2012 with construction completed by Winter 2016. This project was designed to allow minimal impact on the facility so that programs can continue as construction takes place. That way, this project will not hinder the Center's revenue generating summer tourism program.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Alaska Native Heritage Center

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No