

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Hope Community Resources, Inc.****Federal Tax ID: 92-0036594****Project Title:****Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition**

Hope Community Resources, Inc. - Kenai/ Soldotna Community Center

State Funding Requested: \$798,915**House District: Kenai Areawide (33-35)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Kenai/Soldotna request for a capital project for a much needed Education/Recreation Community Center in the Kenai/Soldotna area.
--

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$798,915
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$798,915)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Funding Details:

From June 2005 (757 individuals) to July 1, 2012 (1257 individuals) the number of Alaskans served by HCR grew 66%.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Hope Community Resources Inc. FY2013

Kenai/Soldotna Community Center Legislative Capital Grant Request

District 33/ Rep. Kurt Olson / District Q/ Sen. Thomas Wagoner / District 34/ Rep. Mike Chenault

Hope Community Resources, Inc. is the largest statewide provider of community supports for children, adolescents and adults who experience disabilities. The individuals who choose Hope supports are diagnosed as intellectually disabled and/or physically disable.

At the request of concerned families in the Kenai/Soldotna area, Hope started to deliver services there in 2004. When Hope enters a region it is always as a response to a direct invite. We immediately establish a Community Resource Team (CRT) which functions as a local advisory Board to our central; administrative team. In Kenai, the CRT is comprised of the following people:

- 1.Mr. Dennis Haas
- 2.Ms. Susie Stafford
- 3.Ms. Theresa Reger
- 4.Ms. Koreena Ortiz
- 5.Ms. Carletta Gemmell

Ms. Holly Scott and Ms. Teri Fuller who are residents of Kenai serve as staff to the committee.

Over a 5 year timeframe, Hope has experienced a 55% growth rate since opening its doors in Kenai/Soldotna. Starting with an initial 8 families, Hope is currently supporting 98 individuals within the Kenai/Soldotna area. In working with the CRT, Hope's management has responded to their request in developing the existing combined office/education/recreation center on two acres in the Kenai/Soldotna area. Our growth rate has resulted in an intense competition for space at the current building resulting in having to relocate about one-half of the staff assigned to the region to rented office space elsewhere.

Last year the Legislature appropriated funds for badly needed upgrades to the existing structure and to improve the handicapped access. In working with the CRT we are now attempting to build a separate community recreation center and return our staff to the office building. These buildings will both exist on the 2 acre lot. At this time, Hope is seeking a grant to build a new one story 4500 square foot Community Education/Recreation Center.

Hope requests that the legislature, in addition to its annual maintenance request, approve a grant of \$798,915 for design and construction of this new Kenai Peninsula Community Center building.

Project Timeline:

This project will be built within the next 2 years, we anticipate completion by 2014.

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

Hope Community Resources, Inc

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Stephen P. Lesko
 Title: Executive Director
 Address: 540 W. International Airport Rd
 Anchorage, Alaska 99518
 Phone Number: (907)561-5335
 Email: slesko@hopealaska.org

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