

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Armed Services YMCA of Alaska****Federal Tax ID: 92-0016680****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

# Armed Services YMCA of Alaska - Y on Wheels Shuttle Service Grant

**State Funding Requested: \$100,000****House District: Anchorage Areawide (16-32)**

Future Funding May Be Requested

**Brief Project Description:**

On-Base public transportation continues to be a challenge for our service members and their families. In Alaska, the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) has been able to fill this gap by offering a \$1.00 "door to door" shuttle service on our State's three largest military installations.

The shuttle service, offered on Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson and Fort Wainwright, is available to all Active Duty, Reserves, National Guard, retirees, and their family members from all branches of service.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$210,410
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	(\$100,000)
Project Deficit:	\$110,410

*Funding Details:*

State of Alaska provided a \$50,000 grant for fuel and maintenance in 2006. Municipality of Anchorage provided a \$15,000 grant in December 2010.

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

We provide young military members and their families, who are without reliable transportation, access to the various services and recreational opportunities on base as well as connectivity to the local public transportation systems. We have extended this service to civilian employees working on the military installations by making routine pick-ups at the mass transit bus stops immediately outside the Base and Post gates. In essence, we have become an extended arm of the city and state transportation services.

Originally, the program was offered free of charge to service members and their families; however, with the rising cost of fuel and lack of dedicated program sponsor, we began charging a modest \$1 per ride to help recover a portion of the program's expense. This decision was made with great heartache but out of necessity to keep our most expensive program operating and available to our troops who need it most. We do not want any service member, family member, veteran or retiree to forego trips to medical facilities, the grocery store, or other important errands because it is too cold or far to walk and they lack access to other reliable transportation.

Below are some of the key points of this program:

- Service is offered on Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER) and Fort Wainwright. There are more than 53,000 active duty personnel and their families stationed at these bases. Additionally, there are another 13,000 service members and family members stationed in outlying areas that rely on JBER and Fort Wainwright for logistical support (medical/shopping/etc) who often utilize the shuttle. The 66,000 total does not include retirees, veterans, and civilian employees who have access to the shuttle service.
- This statewide program has been operating for 5 years and serves more than 40,000 riders a year. More than 25% of the riders are active duty junior enlisted service members (E1-E5).
- Our drivers log 400 miles per day, with the lion share of these miles going to and from military housing/barracks and high-traffic areas like the Base Exchange and hospital.
- Our vehicles spend 95% of these miles on the main base arteries and high traffic areas providing excellent exposure for a potential sponsor.
- Security restrictions as well as fiscal constraints make it impractical for the local public transportation systems to serve the on-base populations. Additionally, a typical Taxi fare from the barracks to the Military Mall is \$35.00 one way, not to mention the long wait to procure service, as base access is restricted to a select few taxi drivers.
- Military shuttles are near extinct due to budget cuts. Additionally, military regulations severely restrict the use of Defense assets from providing [door-to-door] service. If there is a military shuttle on the installation it has limited hours, a specific timed route, and for duty purposes only, which means trips to the hospital and commissary are not authorized nor are family members, veterans or retirees allowed to use the service.
- As a feeder service for the Anchorage People Mover, we help open access for civilians to on-base employment.
- We are often the only means, other than walking, for VA and retirees to access the on-base hospitals and pharmacies.

**Goals:**

- 1.To ensure that service members and their families have access to all of the facilities onboard these military installations.
- 2.To avoid long-term exposure to Alaska's inclement weather; thereby, reducing injuries due to falls, exposure to extreme cold, etc.

**Outcomes:**

- 1.Service members can take full advantage of programs or services offered at the military installation.
- 2.No injuries occur due to falls or exposure to extreme weather.

Although we only charge \$1.00 for our riders, there is a greater expense incurred by the ASYMCA. The transportation program costs \$4.25 per rider or approximately \$210,410 a year. Outside of program sponsorship and the \$1 fee, the rest of the cost will be met through donations and local support.

**Project Timeline:**

Y on Wheels shuttle operates Mon-Fri year round. Expenses such as labor and fuel are incurred daily, where as routine maintenance occurs monthly. Depending on wear and tear, more extensive repairs require prompt maintenance and are not predictable.

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

Armed Services YMCA of Alaska

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name:	Mari Jo Imig
Title:	Executive Director
Address:	PO Box 6272 JBER, Alaska 99506
Phone Number:	(907)552-4688
Email:	marijo.imig@akasymca.org

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

# **Armed Services YMCA of Alaska**

## **“Y” on Wheels Shuttle Program**

### **Organizational History**

The Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA), a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, is a national member association of the YMCA of the USA and works with the Department of Defense. The Armed Services YMCA of Alaska operates 5 locations at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson and 3 locations at Fort Wainwright offering more than 30 critical programs and services.

The Armed Services YMCA’s roots date back to 1861 when some 5,000 dedicated YMCA volunteers took to the battlefields of the Civil War alongside America’s young men -- an act that moved President Abraham Lincoln to commend the YMCA for their “benevolent undertaking for the benefit of the soldiers.” The tradition of the YMCA following the flag has continued into every war and conflict that the United States has been involved, making the Armed Services YMCA the nation’s first volunteer organization to serve the military. The Armed Services YMCA of Alaska has proudly carried on this fine tradition by serving military members and their families stationed in Alaska since 1941.

### **Organizational Mission**

The mission of the Armed Services YMCA of Alaska is *to provide support to service members and their families through educational, recreational, and social programs.*

The Armed Services YMCA of Alaska is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization exemplifying the American spirit of caring. We provide support services for more than 60,000 military service members and their families stationed in Alaska, with a particular focus on junior-enlisted men and women — the individuals on the front lines of defending our nation. In addition, we offer services to military members coming home to Alaska and to those passing through the state on official military business.

### **Organization Description & Beneficiaries**

The ASYMCA of Alaska serves military men, women, and their families serving in Alaska, offering more than 30 critical programs and services in Alaska that are designed to alleviate stress, assist with life challenges, and increase the morale and welfare of our nation’s heroes.

With the help of sponsors and volunteers, ASYMCA of Alaska serves our Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Reserve communities in Anchorage, Fairbanks and outlying areas, with a concentration on the junior enlisted members in pay grades E-5 and below. In FY 2010 more than 140,000 members of military community benefited from the following programs:

- Operation Kid Comfort
- Operation Hero
- Summer Camp
- Face Painting
- “Y” on Rails
- Operation Snack Attack

- 2 Airport Military Courtesy Lounges
- Adopt-a-Lounge Program
- Military Welcome Center
- On Base/Post Shuttle Service
- Father/Daughter Dances
- Mother/Son Adventure
- Combat Fishing Tournament
- 2 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Clinics
- Guardian Angel Program
- After 5 Boutique
- Suits for Success
- No Cost/Low Cost Tickets & Tours
- Salute to the Military
- Military Appreciation Week
- Volunteer Development & Recognition
- Hospital Services Morale Cart
- Teddy's Child Watch
- Baby's First Ride (car seats)
- Food Pantries
- Cyberzone
- Heroes Homes
- Monthly Movie Tickets
- Holiday Cookie Baskets

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## **“Y” on Wheels Program Budget**

### REVENUES

Program Fees (\$1 ride * 75% of riders)	\$ 30,000
Individual Donors	\$ 55,410
(Individual contributions and special events allocations)	.
<b>Subtotal</b>	
<i>Municipality of Anchorage Grant Request*</i>	\$ 25,000
(To be used on fuel and maintenance only; 1 year only)	
<i>State of Alaska Request</i>	\$ 100,000
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUE</b>	<b>\$210,410</b>

### EXPENSES

Labor & Benefits		\$109,973
Drivers	\$64,880	
(2 drivers Anchorage * 3472 hours/year)		
(2 drivers Fairbanks * 2976 hours/year)		
Management & Supervision	\$23,178	
FICA & Benefits	\$21,915	
Operation & Maintenance		\$ 100,437
General Liability Insurance	\$ 2,000	
Vehicle Insurance	\$ 4,875	
Vehicle Maintenance	\$22,000	
Fuel	\$52,000	
(13,000 gallons * \$4/gallon**)		
GPS Vehicle Tracking Service	\$ 972	
Telephones	\$ 2,090	
Miscellaneous Program Expense	\$ 4,500	
(Postage, Office Supplies, Cleaning Supplies, etc.)		
Retrofitting ANCHORides Buses***	\$12,000	
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$210,410</b>

### NOTES

\*Pending request. In 2011 we were funded \$15,000 for maintenance and fuel. Should the full amount not be granted we would augment deficit with unrestricted individual contributions and special event allocations.

\*\*Based upon the average cost per gallon paid in 2011.

\*\*\* In 2011 we were notified that we would receive three ANCHORides buses from the Municipality of Anchorage. Once we are in receipt of the buses we will need to retrofit and rebrand the buses as ASYMCA Y on Wheels Shuttles. This is a one-time expense.