

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: American Red Cross of Alaska****Federal Tax ID: 92-0022414****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

# American Red Cross of Alaska - Service to Armed Forces - Emergency Messaging Program

**State Funding Requested: \$75,000****House District: Anchorage Areawide (16-32)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

The request will provide the necessary support to maintain the infrastructure for our Service to Armed Forces programs utilized by all branches of the military.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$187,864
Funding Already Secured:	(\$112,864)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$75,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:*

2012 Department of Community, Commerce and Economic Development Funding \$74,000 Service to Armed Forces Infrastructure support.

2011 \$125,000 Department of Community, Commerce and Economic Development Funding Service to Armed Forces Infrastructure support.

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

American Red Cross of Alaska's Service to Armed Forces programs have seen an unprecedented demand from Alaskan service members over the past five years due to the high number of individuals deployed to overseas theatres that are active. The Emergency Messaging Program, the only federally recognized emergency messaging system for all branches of the military, has seen a more than 200% growth in requests for services.

This program is being highly utilized not only to active duty service members assigned and stationed here in Alaska but by Alaskan National Guard members who have been called upon to serve their country. The emergency messaging allows service members to stay connected to their loved ones while they are gone on deployment. If a family member was to fall ill or a new child was to come into the world, the American Red Cross ensures that the service member and their family are connected to one another. If necessary the Red Cross will also work with the service member to get them home as quickly as possible to be at the bedside of their loved one.

The funds requested are less than 50% of the operating budget for the Service to Armed Forces program budget annually. Over the past year, Red Cross has worked to increase individual donors and other public support of the program. However,

with the continued increase in demand on services the support of the State of Alaska will be key for this program to continue to meet demand. This funding will allow us to keep staff on hand in our local offices during regular work hours and to assist service members and their families when the need arises, no matter what time of night or day it may come. It is projected that as fewer Alaska Guard members and active duty service members stationed in Alaska are deployed that the demand will decrease and allow the Red Cross to fund the program 100% through private and public contributions and return to pre-Afghanistan and Iraq program budgets.

**Project Timeline:**

This program is a year round program available 365 days a year 24 hours a day.

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

American Red Cross of Alaska

**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



## **American Red Cross**

### **2013 Legislative Request**

**FY 13 Service to Armed Forces Total Value: \$187,864**

**Legislative Request: \$74,000**

Items:

1 Station Managers and After Hours Associates- \$144,000

a. Funds for two Station Managers, one at Ft. Wainwright and one at Elmendorf Air Force Base Campaign and associated program administrative costs. Funds necessary to keep both stations open 5 days a week with 24 hour immediate telephonic response available 365 days per year. Direct work with Survivor Services and Warrior Transition Units providing direct services to family members and service members of all branches. Emergency messaging, case work, deployment briefings on services available, community disaster education, coordination of service member benefits with other agencies and disaster response services to service members and their families are all provided by these two Station Managers.

2 Infrastructure - \$26,200

a. Communications: messaging platform, internet access, cell phones and pagers for Station Managers and Associates- \$16,200

b. Supplies and Materials for deployment briefings, new arrival briefings, comfort kits, family readiness materials, etc. - \$27,664