

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
of Alaska****Federal Tax ID: 94-3188217****Project Title:****Project Type: Other**

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Anchorage F. & A.M., Alaska - Advancement Challenge Program

State Funding Requested: \$56,600
Future Funding May Be Requested**House District: Anchorage Areawide (16-32)****Brief Project Description:**

Mentoring Program for at risk youth in Anchorage & Fairbanks

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$107,800
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	(\$56,600)
Project Deficit:	\$51,200

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The ACP has 3 tiers which will enable the MWPHGL to successfully serve Alaskan Youth:

-  Turnaround: Turnaround focuses on students who are chronically suspended from high school. The goal of the program is to rekindle the youth's commitment to learning and being successful in the classroom. By empowering young people to finish school, mentors are improving the student's success in the work world as adults.
-  Higher Ground: Higher Ground engages youth involved in the juvenile court system. The mentoring relationship is utilized to establish a program of change in the young person's life. The mentor encourages goal-setting, self-discipline, and skill development that improves the young person's sense of hopefulness. Mentors and youth work one-on-one for a year and are also offered opportunities to participate in monthly group activities and outings.
-  Basic Business Friends: We introduce all youths to as many professionals in there respected fields as we can to teach them basic business skills they need in order to be productive in the work force of their choosing.

Project Timeline:

-  Office supplies - \$4,000 (one time buy)
-  Office equipment - \$15,000 (one time buy)
-  Passenger van x 2 - \$12,000 (one time buy)
-  Catering - \$8000
-  Youth office attire - \$6000 (slacks, sport coats, shoes, pant/skirt suits)
-  Rent - \$ 9600 (based on \$200 per meeting at 2 meetings per month)
-  Vehicle maintenance \$2000

See attached for more on 3 year timeline.

**\$56,600
Approved**

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

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Curtis Harris
Title: Executive Director/Grand Master
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Anchorage, Alaska 99501
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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



Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska **Advancement Challenge Program (A.C.P.)**

Executive Director – Curtis Harris

Director – L.V. Lewis

Chairman – Derrick Slaughter

Co-Chairman - Bobby Cassidy

Curriculum Director – Timothy Mullins

Licensed Counselor – Tyrone Charles (AEON Counseling LLC)

Licensed Counselor/Assessments – Michelle Williams

Budget Analyst – Doyle Williams

Member - Ceylon Mitchell (Anchorage)

Member - Charles Mathis (Anchorage)

Member - James Young (Fairbanks)

Member - Robert Singleton (Fairbanks)

Bottom Line Up Front: Request for \$107,800 for program management

The MWPHGL of Alaska is a nonprofit organization that has created the Advancement Challenge Program (ACP) to provide mentoring programs for risk youth ages 12-18 in the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas. Our goal is to foster a commitment in young people that will promote pro-social friendships, strong interpersonal skills, and reassert a sense of hope in the future. Only through personal relationships can a sense of individual responsibility be established that will give youth the commitment to follow through on path to adulthood with a sense of pride and accomplishment.

Through repeated failures in the classroom and the development of destructive habits, at-risk young people have lost faith in the possibilities that await them if they successfully put their lives in order. To accomplish this goal, young people must be in a caring, inclusive learning environment that promotes their best efforts and reinforces personal respect. Our program is in direct response to the growing number of young people that are either falling through the cracks at school or are already entangled with the juvenile court system. One of the aims of this program is to identify youth who may have a turbulent transition to adulthood, and offer a positive support system they can utilize to improve their condition. The focus is slightly different at each level but the goal remains the same; empower the young people to make positive changes in their lives.

A major focus is on high school youth, as this group is particularly problematic and at a time when mentoring will be more effective. Our mentoring and training programs will pair youths with mentors for 6-12 months. During that time they will participate in weekly or bi-weekly lesson plans and/or activities to strengthen their working relationship and improve the young person's confidence and hopefulness. Mentors will receive continuous training throughout the year and will participate in a monthly meeting to report their assigned students' progress. Over time the MWPHGL of Alaska will create a learning environment that will be an invaluable resource to young people, aspiring mentors and the community at large.

Marketing Strategy

MWPHGL of Alaska believes in the goal of leaving no child behind, and to raise the visibility of programs to assure that:

- Referral sources will use the service
- Funding sources will support the program
- Adults will volunteer to be mentors

The marketing strategy is to create opportunities to meet with community service providers who “own” the market we are targeting. We will continue to foster relations between our organization and the leadership of McLaughlin Youth Facility, Alaska Military Youth Academy (AMYA) and the Anchorage/Fairbanks School Districts. We’ve already spoke with Juvenile Probation Officers and Juvenile Justice Officers from the Division of Juvenile Justice, Counselors with the AMYA as well as educators in the Anchorage and Fairbanks school districts. The referral coordinator will create and maintain a network of contacts that will serve as the referral source for the program. Brochures have been developed to market the benefits of the program to both potential referrers and participants. The referral coordinator will provide progress reports for the referring program, school, or organization. A marketing effort will also be implemented to attract and retain quality mentors for the program. The program’s mentor recruiter/trainer will make presentations to the local civic and social groups touting the benefits of program participation. By 2013 we intend to recognize and make presentations to mentors and participants for their efforts at our annual awards banquet.

ACP is in direct response to the growing number of young people that are either falling through the cracks at school or are already entangled in the juvenile court system. MWPHGL of Alaska offers at risk youth the chance to make a dramatic change in their lives. The program is postured to be assessable to young people who otherwise would be swept into the juvenile court system or frequents school detention. Once a student has entered high school with a history of classroom disturbances and poor academic skills, it takes a tremendous proactive effort to assist a student in redirecting their lives. Our program can divert youth from this negative track and enable more fulfilling secondary years in school.

Families are also the marketing focus when adult mentors are able to help youth work on solutions for their family stresses, and provide an objective but caring sounding board. As a

result, many youth and their families report improved relations at home. Families can channel their efforts into the program through a series of custom-designed information and discussion groups that enrich parenting effectiveness, especially in the area of cognitive skills associated with family management practices. The typical mentor-youth relationship demands a commitment that must be stressed to the potential mentor. For most mentors, this experience changes their lives, taps their inner resources, and challenges their convictions and beliefs.

The ACP has 3 tiers which will enable the MWPHGL to successfully serve Alaskan Youth:

- **Turnaround:** Turnaround focuses on students who are chronically suspended from high school. The goal of the program is to rekindle the youth's commitment to learning and being successful in the classroom. By empowering young people to finish school, mentors are improving the student's success in the work world as adults.
- **Higher Ground:** Higher Ground engages youth involved in the juvenile court system. The mentoring relationship is utilized to establish a program of change in the young person's life. The mentor encourages goal-setting, self-discipline, and skill development that improves the young person's sense of hopefulness. Mentors and youth work one-on-one for a year and are also offered opportunities to participate in monthly group activities and outings.
- **Basic Business Friends:** We introduce all youths to as many professionals in their respected fields as we can to teach them basic business skills they need in order to be productive in the work force of their choosing.

Some keys to success

- Establish a strong network of support with the school systems and the juvenile court system.
- Launch a series of fundraising activities that will successfully fund the expanding program.
- Establish an effective training program for mentors that will increase their ability to be successful communicators.
- Establish an effective monitoring system to protect both the youth and the mentor.

Fundraising Strategy

ACP funding initiatives include but are not limited to: private donations, Federal/State grants, private foundations, school districts and business sponsorship. We have established a number of contribution options that a supporter can select from.

- Cash Donations
- Gift of Appreciated Stock: A gift of appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds can both support the program and provide tax savings to the donor
- Legacy Gifts: A planned gift in a will, trust, or other estate plan
- Corporate Giving and Sponsorship: Businesses can provide cash or grants
- Participation in the MWPHGL of Alaska fundraising events that take place throughout the year

Prince Hall Masons support of Alaska communities...

MWPHGL conducted a Bowl-a-Thon and donated \$1000 to the Kids Kitchen Program.

Donated \$1000 to the Brotherhood Inc scholarship fund

Donated \$750 to the Anchorage Chapter NAACP Scholarship fund

Donated \$600 to the BPW of Anchorage chapter scholarship fund

Anchorage Prince Hall Masons:

1. Participated in the 50 Bikes/50 Kids - Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service
2. Worked with the United States Military Academy at West Point Diversity Outreach Program working with prospective cadets
3. Helped serve meals and donated \$100 toward the Bean's Café' Empty Bowl program
4. Donated \$200 for the Anchorage Chapter NAACP scholarship fund
5. Participated in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) 2nd and 3rd National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day that resulted in the collections of 1603.60 lbs. and

1877.66 lbs. statewide. DEA Mission is to collect unwanted or expired medications for safe and proper disposal. The MWPHGL provided a collection point to the Alaska State Troopers to assist their efforts

6. Donated \$1200 to the Juvenile Diabetes Association at the Potentate Ball in Anchorage.
7. Donated \$4000 to a Kidney transplant patient in Anchorage and his family
8. Donated 5 Christmas baskets to the widows of deceased Anchorage Masons
9. Donated \$600 to assist a needy citizen with housing issues
10. Raised and donated \$100 to the Robert Service High School Cheerleader “competition” squad so they could attend the “Holiday Bowl” in San Diego, California
11. Donated \$150 to the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church Food Bank which donates food and clothes to needed families
12. Participated in the First Christian Methodist Episcopal Church which focused on being a good role model, back-to-school safety and education
13. Donated \$700 to Habitat for Humanity
14. Worked with the Alaska Military Youth Academy focusing on mentorship
15. Awarded \$1500 College Scholarships
16. Gave a presentation to the East Anchorage High School JROTC Program focusing on leadership
17. Donated \$300 to the Bartlett High School JROTC Program
18. Supported the Great Friendship Baptist Church’s 60th Anniversary Celebration. This church was the first African-American Church in Alaska to become a part of the Southern Baptist Convention
19. Donated \$150 to the Brotherhood Inc. Scholarship Fund
20. Donated \$150 to the Martin Luther King Food Bank
21. Donate \$90-\$120) to an Anchorage area church once a month
22. Donated to MLK food bank (\$ 200.00)
23. Raising \$500 for Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge
24. Donated and delivered 6 food baskets to needy Anchorage families for Thanksgiving
25. Youth Skate event for community
26. Provided the annual \$3000 YWCA educational grant
27. Provide ushers every 3 Sunday at 1st CME Church
28. Supported the Mother’s day celebration at Pioneer Home
29. Supported the Greater Friendship anniversary program
30. Supported the Special Olympics support at East High

31. Father's Day picnic at Pioneer Home
32. Free 4th of July community picnic
33. 2 x educational grants (\$750.00)
34. Free Labor Day community picnic at JBER cottonwood park
35. 50 thanksgiving baskets to needy Anchorage Residents
36. Pioneer Home holiday gifts giving to all residents (Christmas)
37. Pioneer Home Poke general store now operated by MWP HGL of Alaska # 1
38. Bowl-a-thon for kids kitchen
39. Donated \$100 to Fire Lake Elementary School for new chairs and tables
40. Donated \$200 and meals to the Brother Francis Shelter

Fairbanks Prince Hall Masons:

Co-sponsored activities with The Greater Fairbanks Branch of the NAACP

1. Black Pioneer Banquet held annually for those having lived in Alaska over 25 years
1. Supported and catered the Annual NAACP Banquet
2. Supported and catered the Fairbanks Juneteenth Celebration
3. Black History Month observations – Breakfast & Dinner catered by District II
4. Supported the JP Jones Community Development Youth Summer Program

Other activities include:

1. Community Children's Christmas Party
2. Community Thanksgiving Baskets & Food Certificates
3. Served as servers for the homeless at Fairbanks Rescue Mission, Thanksgiving & Christmas meals.
4. Monetary donation to the Fairbanks Rescue Mission for Thanksgiving.
5. Monetary donation made to the Fairbanks Food Bank for Thanksgiving.
6. Christmas Women's Inc. "Kits for Kids School Project.
7. Toy drive for Fairbanks Memorial Hospital Pediatrics Unit.
8. Supported the Golden Days Parade
9. Participated Relay for Life Cancer Walk

Benevolence Donation for distressed community members:

1. Mac McGill – House fire victim
2. Brandy Parrott – donation to help cover medical expenses,
3. Jonathan & Teddy Kenny – family distress due to death helped provide funding to cover airfare to lower 48's.
4. Samara Henry – donation due to car accident
5. Jacqueline Clark – UAF graduate donation.
6. Post 57 monetary cancer drives for a female veteran suffering terminal cancer and living expenses.
7. Cereal & peanut butter & oatmeal drive for the Fairbanks Food Bank.
8. Dee Wilson – monetary donation for youth in need to cover basketball camp.
9. Margaret Derkens – monetary support during distress.
10. Christian Women Fellowship, Inc. “Spotlighting Our Seniors” provided gift certificates and sponsorship for single mothers, program.
11. Supplied repast meals for many community families during time of lost

Summation

We would like the support of the Alaska legislature with our efforts to better serve the Alaskan communities where our members are living and working as productive members of society. We appreciate the opportunity to present our efforts before the legislature and thank Senator Bettye Davis for making this presentation. We are asking for the following grant to propel us toward the future we envision bringing to fruition.

The MWPHGL is actively invested in this process as we have committed to provide a meeting space and refreshments to the participants and will compensate the mentors for their time. We are actively seeking to purchase a building that will serve as a storefront to operate from, but until such time as the program is financial and can support itself the MWPHGL will furnish meeting space and equipment storage. The committee is actively seeking to purchase a van to enable the program participants to travel to and from the meetings. The intent is for the program to operate in Fairbanks in like fashion and the MWPHGL will procure adequate meeting space for the participants. We estimate the following will be needed some annually and some items are one time buys:

- Office supplies - \$4,000 (one time buy)
- Office equipment - \$15,000 (one time buy)
- Passenger van x 2 - \$12,000 (one time buy)
- Catering - \$8000
- Youth office attire - \$6000 (slacks, sport coats, shoes, pant/skirt suits)
- Rent - \$ 9600 (based on \$200 per meeting at 2 meetings per month)
- Vehicle maintenance \$2000

This gives us \$56,600 to start and \$25,600 in recurring expenses (catering, youth attire, rent & vehicle maintenance) which will put the program on firm ground.

We would like to receive (3) three years of recurring expenses at \$76,800 and the initial \$31,800 for a total of **\$107,800** to maintain a viable program for many years to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration...

Curtis Harris

Executive Director / Grand Master

MWPHGL of Alaska and Its' Jurisdiction Inc.