

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: The Alaska Community Foundation****Federal Tax ID: 92-0155067****Project Title:****Project Type: Other**

# Alaska Community Foundation - Alaska Children's Trust Youth Suicide Prevention Program

**State Funding Requested: \$75,000****House District: Statewide (1-40)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

To continue a 3-year small grants program dedicated to community-based youth suicide prevention efforts in Alaska.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$75,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	(\$75,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:**FY2013 capital grant for pilot program - \$25,000**These funds were matched by the Alaska Community Foundation.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This request follows a very successful pilot project. If funded, The Alaska Community Foundation will again match the funds with up to \$25,000 in year one and Alaska Children's Trust will cover the administrative costs for administering the grants in the amount of \$2,000 per year. If funded, the Alaska Community Foundation Board will explore the option to match state funding for each year of the program. Grant funds will be evenly distributed per year and with between ten (10) and twenty (20) grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 for community-based suicide prevention efforts. Eligible applicants will be required to align their projects with the Alaska Suicide Prevention Plan and must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or equivalent. Preference will be given to applications which demonstrate accountability, cultural sensitivity, and unify communities. Successful applicants will detail measurable and achievable outcomes and address the sustainability of the program or project for which funding is desired.

**Project Timeline:**

The project timeline and grant awarding will take place 2014 - 2017.

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

The Alaska Community Foundation

**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

<i>For use by Co-chair Staff Only:</i>
11:56 AM 5/13/2014



February 10, 2014

Senator Anna Fairclough  
State Capitol Room 514  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Fairclough,

Alaska Children's Trust (ACT) and The Alaska Community Foundation (ACF) seek \$75,000 from the State of Alaska to offer a 3-year small grants program dedicated to community-based youth suicide prevention efforts in Alaska.

Research indicates many complex factors contribute to youth suicide and suicidal behavior. Amongst these are adverse childhood experiences like a history of childhood physical or sexual abuse and impaired parent-child relationships. The roots of prolonged abuse and impaired familial relationships can start early in a child's life. ACT and ACF have focused attention on building families during these early years. It is important to provide tools for families and communities to build protective factors as young children grow into pre-teens and teenagers. ACT and ACF seek to obtain funding from the State of Alaska to continue to fund community-based youth suicide prevention efforts building on the success of the Teen Suicide Prevention pilot program in 2013.

**About Alaska Children's Trust:**

As a grant-making entity, ACT is a leader among organizations that implement programs to impact parents and youth in Alaska. Since 1997, ACT has invested over \$4 million in Alaska's children, youth and families. In 2013, ACT provided nearly \$235,000 to 18 organizations to implement programs that prevent child abuse and neglect. ACT has been at the forefront of integrating the nationally recognized Strengthening Families model into grant making. This model identifies five "protective factors" which exist in healthy families and communities. In addition, ACT has been a leader in exploring how to increase Alaska's work related to brain development, adverse childhood experiences/trauma and resiliency.

**About The Alaska Community Foundation:**

Starting as an idea with minimal initial resources in 1995, the founders of The Alaska Community Foundation (ACF) imagined a place where Alaskans who have done well were able to give back. In 1998, the original articles of incorporation were restated and amended, establishing ACF as it exists today. Today, ACF is a statewide platform for philanthropy. ACF manages more than 300 funds, including nine Affiliate and three partner community funds across the state, with assets totaling more than \$60 million. Each year ACF grants out \$5 – \$6 million in charitable gifts to local nonprofit organizations and charities, making a lasting impact on Alaska for years to come.

**Organization Background:**

ACT is exploring how to better connect youth suicide prevention efforts to ACT's existing work on child abuse and neglect prevention in Alaska. ACT has started conversations with community partners on enhancing grant-making programs to effect change in this vital area. ACT operates with the vision of Alaska as a place where children and families are safe and thriving. ACT works to accomplish the vision through raising awareness, increasing support and committing resources to eliminate child abuse and neglect.

In addition to implementing and managing the pilot Teen Suicide Prevention grant program in 2012-2013, the Alaska Community Foundation has been working to prevent suicide in Alaska through a variety of projects and programs. For example, ACF supported the travel costs for the presentation of *Winter Bear* in rural Alaska. In addition, ACF hosted a panel discussion on suicide prevention aired on public television and radio featuring scenes from *Winter Bear* and panel members John Baker, Kate Burkhart, Teressa Baldwin and Amanda Murdock. ACF welcomes the opportunity to build on the successful pilot of the Teen Suicide Prevention grant program in the coming years.

**Teen Suicide Prevention small grants program 2014-2017:**

If funded, The Alaska Community Foundation will again match the funds with up to \$25,000 in year one and Alaska Children's Trust will cover the administrative costs for administering the grants in the amount of \$2,000 per year. If funded, the ACF Board will explore the option to match state funding for each year of the program. Grant funds will be evenly distributed per year with between ten (10) and twenty (20) grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 for community-based suicide prevention efforts. Eligible applicants will be required to align their projects with the Alaska Suicide Prevention Plan and must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or equivalent. Preference will be given to applications which empower the disadvantaged or underserved, are collaborative or cooperative in nature, and do not duplicate existing programs and services. In addition, preference will be given to applications which demonstrate accountability, cultural sensitivity, and unify communities. Successful applicants will detail measureable and achievable outcomes and address the sustainability of the program or project for which funding is desired.

**For more information, please contact:**

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Warm regards,



Candace Winkler  
President & CEO  
Alaska Community Foundation



Trevor J. Storrs  
Executive Director  
Alaska Children's Trust