

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Maniilaq Association****Federal Tax ID: 92-0041461****Project Title:****Project Type: Maintenance and Repairs**

Maniilaq Association - Repair and Renovate Lake Street House Group Home

State Funding Requested: \$250,000**House District: 40 / T**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Repair and renovate the Lake Street House group home building foundation.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$250,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$250,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

For over 30 years, the Maniilaq Association has provided health and social services to residents of Northwest Alaska. A non-profit corporation, Maniilaq Association represents twelve federally-recognized tribes located in Northwest Alaska. The Association manages social and health services for about 6,500 people within the Northwest Arctic Borough and the village of Pt.Hope. Maniilaq also coordinates tribal and traditional assistance programs, and environmental and subsistence protection services.

Maniilaq Senior & Developmental Disabilities provides services for developmentally disabled clients focusing on consumer satisfaction and positive results for individuals and families. Services include the Lake Street House, a Medicaid waiver funding Group Home / residential supported living facility that provides case management and care for people with major disabilities, and allows them to stay in their region instead of being sent out of region to a facility far away from family and friends. The current building was donated to Maniilaq to start the program back in 1991 by a local resident. Maniilaq renovated the donated house into the current 5 bed facility with offices. The Lake Street House current foundation is still the original foundation of the building and needs to be replaced soon or the building/program is in danger of being closed down. The \$250,000 request would be used to repair and renovate the existing building foundation, without closing the program, and ensuring the program can continue for many years to come. The Lake Street House is the only group home for developmentally disabled clients in the Arctic region which covers the Nome and Northwest Arctic boroughs.

Project Timeline:

As soon funds are received.

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

Maniilaq Association

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Maniilaq Association
Title:	Tribal Non-Profit Organization
Address:	PO BOX 256 Kotzebue, Alaska 99752
Phone Number:	(907)442-3311
Email:	

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



List of Maniilaq Association Top Priorities

Issue: The Maniilaq Association has identified as its top priorities the following. All projects contribute to the Associations mission of promoting healthy and strong communities by providing Health, Social and Tribal services to Northwest Alaska.

Federal Funding Request	State Capital Request
❖ \$10 million for Employee Housing	❖ \$250,000 for Foundation and renovation of DD Lake Street House
❖ Increase IHS Funding for Long Term Care (\$1.5 million per year)	❖ \$291,000 for Alternative Energy (Wind-to-Heat) project with Kotzebue Electric Association
❖ Establish Advanced Appropriations for IHS	❖ \$500,000 for Energy Efficiency improvements (Replacement of Old Windows & Thermostats)
	❖ \$100,000 for Child Advocacy Center equipment and renovations
	❖ \$5 million to develop and build a regional behavioral health facility



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Federal Funding Request

\$10 million for Employee Housing

The majority of Maniilaq Association’s professional staff comes from the other 49 States. Kotzebue, which is a mile long and a quarter mile wide, has very limited housing in a market of 3,500 people. Substandard or lack of housing is the top reason for Maniilaq staff turnover, causing Maniilaq to have a 20 percent vacancy factor. When staffing is short, services are unavailable, so must travel to Anchorage or other locations to receive care. This causes financial hardship for patients and delays in the delivery of life-saving medical care, and also increases Medicaid costs for the State of Alaska. Addressing the housing shortage and replacing substandard housing will reduce staff turnover, improve recruitment overall and save the State of Alaska in Medicaid costs.

In addition to these challenges, these facilities leak energy, contain asbestos, and are very expensive to maintain due to their age (more than half are over fifty years old). Maniilaq’s housing project will replace existing apartment buildings (20 unit, 8 unit, and 4 duplexes). The Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) have confirmed that the buildings can only be replaced as rehabilitation will not address these overarching issues. The site for these new facilities is already approved for development and has a water and sewer system line. Maniilaq is seeking your partnership to make this project a reality and ensure that quality care continues to be provided to the residents of Northwest Alaska. The project need is \$10 million to design and build these new housing units.



Project Scope: To fund the new construction of a 40 unit apartment building for Maniilaq Health professional staff and their families, this would replace the current Maniilaq apartment buildings (20 unit, 8 unit, and 4 duplexes).

This is important because most of Maniilaq professional/highly educated staff come from the other 49 States. Moreover, Kotzebue has an extremely limited housing market. Substandard or lack of housing has been the top reason for Maniilaq staff turnover which has led to Maniilaq on average having a 20% vacancy factory. When staffing is short or not available, patients must travel outside the region which cost more to the State as a high number of our clients are on Medicaid.

Statement of Need: Maniilaq Association like all of Rural Alaska has challenges in the recruitment and retention of Nurses, Doctors, Social Workers and other Health professionals in rural Alaska. An inadequate health professional labor force negatively impacts a community's/regions health. For example, an inadequate number of health care professionals will result in delays in the delivery of life-saving medical care.

Lack of or Substandard housing is the top reason employees give in exit interviews. So the lack of housing has a direct impact on Maniilaq staff turnover. Turnover of our health service professions negatively impacts our organization finances. When a position is vacated, we incur significant additional costs in recruitment and TDY staff cost.

Project Description: The new housing project will replace existing Maniilaq apartment buildings (20 unit, 8 unit, and 4 duplexes) which are all over 50 years old and all have very high cost to maintain and high cost of heating. Moreover, the 20 unit building has issues asbestos. All building are schedule to be demolish by I.H.S next year. None of these building can be address need by rehabilitation rather than new construction. 40 units (Including common space) x 750 sq. feet x \$333 cost = \$10,000,000.00

- Project has a site already approved for development which is in walking distance of the Maniilaq Health Center and has no potential environmental hazards or zoning or building code issues.
- Project site currently has a water and sewer system line.
- Local labor will be used in the development of this project.
- The management and operate this project will be conducted by Maniilaq Association which has experience in building in the region having built the new \$17 million dollar Long Term Care facility as well as 10 new village clinics.

Project Benefits:

- Project will provide safer and better living environment for Maniilaq Health professional employees and their families.
- Will reduce the cost of energy and heating to Maniilaq.
- Will reduce staff turnover and make it easier to recruit and retain new health care professionals because we have new professional housing.



- Recruitment of new staff has been challenging as horror stories of freezing pipes, cold rooms, mold, and mildew in Alaska's rural housing in rural communities. With new housing we will be able boast of having some of the best professional housing in Alaska, which will be a major recruitment tool.
- Funding will allow Maniilaq to take out a loan for remanding cost of project feasible.

Increase IHS Funding for Long Term Care (\$1.5 per year)

The Indian Health Care Improvement Act authorizes tribes and tribal organizations to operate long term care services for their tribal members. Maniilaq Association is committed to providing facility-based elder care and home and community based care to meet the needs of elders in Northwest Alaska. To ensure continuum of care and that these services are provided to the aging community in Northwest Alaska, Maniilaq Association is pursuing an increase in IHS funding in for long term care services. Without funding, Maniilaq cannot meet the needs of local elders and their families to ensure they do not fall through the cracks. Despite long term care being added to the list of approved activities under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act Permanent Reauthorization, no funding for long term care is currently provided. As a result, beneficiaries who are eligible and have some resources oft en must liquidate in order to qualify for Medicaid. Medicaid Insurance at a Tribally run facility is reimbursed 100% by the Federal FMAP program. In order to stop having elders give away their hard earned assets in order to cover the cost of needed services, the Indian Health Service needs to modify the formula to account for increased services. In FY12 & FY13, Maniilaq's long term care budget fell short \$1.2 million each year.

The United States government has a trust responsibility to the Iñupiat people of Northwest Alaska of all ages. Funding for long term care is needed to fulfill this trust responsibility to our region's elders. We are requesting an increase of \$1.5 million per year.

Establish Advanced Appropriations for I.H.S - Fixing the Gap: Multi-year Funding for the Indian Health Service

Maniilaq Association, as well as other tribes and tribal health care providers, experiences chronic underfunding of programs and an unstable environment for predicting annual funds due to Congressional gridlock over appropriations. Chronic underfunding and instability of the appropriation of funds hampers the ability of entities like Maniilaq to properly plan and manage resources and is creating a backlog of unmet needs. This is an endemic problem forcing entities like Maniilaq to use fixed administrative costs to cover funding shortfalls, thus, threatening existing programs and affecting the organization's ability to recruit, train, and maintain existing programs and facilities. Chronic funding shortfalls and annual appropriations are threatening the ability of tribe and tribal health care providers to meet the United States trust responsibility to ensure the highest possible health status and reduce the significant health disparities of Alaska Native people.



To eliminate this gap in funding, Maniilaq Association, along with other Indian health care providers, is proposing that Congress to enact legislation amending the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and any other necessary steps needed to authorize advanced appropriations for IHS. Advanced appropriations funding model is currently applied to the Veterans Administration for medical services. The Veterans Administration faced similar hurdles in planning due to funding uncertainty and funding shortfalls due to continuing resolutions.

State Funding Request

\$250,000 for Foundation and renovation of DD Lake Street House

Maniilaq Senior & Developmental Disabilities provides services for developmentally disabled clients focusing on consumer satisfaction and positive results for individuals and families. Services include the Lake Street House, a Medicaid waiver funding Group Home / residential supported living facility that provides case management and care for people with major disabilities, and allows them to stay in there region instead of being sent out of region to a facility far away from family and friend. The current building was donated to Maniilaq to start the program back in the 1991 by a local resident. Maniilaq renovated the donated house into the current 5 bed facility with offices. The Lake Street House current foundation is still the original foundation of the building and needs to be replaced soon or the building/program is in danger of being closed down. The \$250,000 request would be used to repairs and renovate the existing building foundation, without closing the program, and ensuring the program can continue for many years to come. The Lake Street House is the only group home for developmentally disabled clients in the Arctic region which covers the Nome and Northwest Arctic boroughs.

Alternative Energy and Efficiency Upgrade to Maniilaq Health Center

In 2012 Maniilaq spent over \$2 million on energy costs for the Maniilaq Health Center in Kotzebue. The Health Center is the largest energy consumer in Kotzebue, consuming an average of 2,500,000 kilowatt hours of electricity and 164,000 gallons of fuel per year. Rising fuel costs continue to leech already reduced funding for programs that deliver the only healthcare and social service programs in Northwest Alaska. It is critical that every dollar is maximized to provide basic services to Maniilaq clients. To achieve savings on energy costs, Maniilaq is working with local partners and others to identify ways the Health Center and other Maniilaq buildings can reduce their energy costs. Below are two viable projects identified with ANTHC that will reduce the cost of energy and achieve savings that will be used to promote healthy communities and wellness in Northwest Alaska.

Energy Challenges:

- All diesel fuel must be imported by barge.
- High cost of equipment
- High cost of shipping
- Low efficiency when converting diesel fuel to electrical power.
- Gasoline is 177% higher and Propane 193% higher
- Electricity is more than three time higher than ANC



Wind-to-Heat (\$291,531)

Maniilaq and Kotzebue Electric Association (KEA) are partnering to utilize existing wind-energy infrastructure to reduce the cost of energy for the Health Center. KEA is the local utility cooperative and operates a 3 Mega Watt wind farm that off sets the use of diesel to generate electricity. The KEA and Maniilaq Wind-to-Heat project will design and construct the necessary equipment to utilize excess wind energy. During periods of high wind, the wind generated energy can exceed the electrical load of the community. This presents an opportunity to utilize “dump loads,” which would convert electricity into heat. The Health Center is an ideal candidate for this excess energy because its heating loads are substantial and fairly constant. An electric boiler along with associated controls into the Health Center’s hydronic heating system and excess wind energy from KEA’s wind farm will be used off set and reduce the hospital’s fuel oil consumption. This project is expected to reduce hospital fuel oil consumption by up to 20 percent by directly off setting an estimated 31,938 gallons annually. With fuel oil at \$6.16 per gallon and savings divided equally between KEA and Maniilaq, the net annual benefit for the Health Center will be \$95,814 per year. To achieve these savings through this project Maniilaq is seeking \$290,531 to design, build and install equipment needed to integrate the electric boilers into the system and ensure that there are no adverse impacts to the electrical system.

Project Description:

This project will provide design and construction funding to install the equipment necessary to utilize excess wind energy for hospital space and process heating. An electric boiler along with associated controls will be installed into the hospital’s hydronic heating system. Excess wind energy from KEA’s wind farm will be used offset and reduce the hospital’s fuel oil consumption.

Project Justification:

This project will help to reduce the amount of energy used by the hospital. In 2012, the Maniilaq Association (Maniilaq) spent over \$2 million on energy costs for the Health Center alone. Moreover, it will decrease the need for diesel fuel.

Program Impacts:

Minimal interruptions of health care services are expected. The project will be phased and implemented to minimize any possible impacts to healthcare services to the greatest extent possible. Construction will occur during the summer months when space heating loads are low. The project will provide a healthier, safer employee working and patient environment when it is completed.

Replacement of Old Windows & Thermostats (\$500,000)

In addition to the Maniilaq Health Center, Maniilaq Association is also responsible for administrative buildings, housing, and other support buildings. The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) conducted an infrared thermal imaging analysis of Maniilaq buildings which showed excessive heat loss from walls, windows, and roofs of the buildings. The heat loss from these areas amounted to significant waste of energy. This funding will be used to install ENERGY STAR qualified windows to lower Maniilaq energy bills so funds can be focused on patient care and cut down on Maniilaq’s carbon footprint.



In addition to heat loss from windows, improper temperature settings in Maniilaq buildings were identified as accounting for significant waste in energy. Consumers save money on heating and cooling bills by simply resetting thermostats before sleeping or leaving the home. One of the most efficient ways to manage these setting in a single household or in multiple buildings is to have an automatic setback or programmable thermostat.

Programmable thermostats commonly account for a large percentage of energy savings for many rural residential and business energy efficiency programs. By replacing old thermostats in each of the Maniilaq buildings with new programmable thermostats, Maniilaq can adjust heat according to a pre-set schedule. Having new precise and programmable thermostats will have an immediate impact on the cost of energy with the added benefit of being user friendly.

\$100,000 for Child Advocacy Center equipment and renovations

It is difficult for statistics to accurately describe the problems, challenges, and issues of child abuse/sexual assault in the Northwest Arctic region. Through collaboration of many State and local partners, the identified top priority in addressing these challenges has been the creation of a Northwest Arctic regional Child Advocacy Center. Maniilaq Association has been working towards establishing a Child Advocacy Center (CAC) for many years. The Maniilaq Health Center has three SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) educated nurses who have completed their pediatric SANE certification in 2013. The established Maniilaq Sexual Assault Response Team and Multi-disciplinary Team (M-MDT) has been working to improve the coordinated response of law enforcement, medical personnel, and prosecution staff for older victims of sexual assault who are served in region.

The Problem - Without an in region CAC, child victims have been served outside the region. Currently, victims in are sent to Anchorage, over 550 miles away. The Anchorage Based CAC has also expressed significant support for the creation of a Kotzebue CAC so that the regions victims could be treated in region.

The Solution - Addressing child abuse and child sexual assault (CA/CSA) through a single institutional point of service or Child Advocacy Center (CAC) within the Maniilaq service area would be the most effective way to address the problem and gaps in service identified above.

By creating a Kotzebue-based CAC, victims in the region would at most face a much shorter flight to the regional hub community, greatly reducing the delay in medical attention, evidence collection, and forensic interviewing. Improvements in these initial steps should lead to stronger evidence and could result in improved prosecution of offenders. In addition to reducing the time involved in the initial phases of a case, children would face reduced trauma by remaining in a region which is still „their home“. The regions villages and the hub community of Kotzebue are closely tied together by family relationships and cultural similarity. Preventing gaps in services to victims and their families is also best addressed through the creation of a local CAC so that victims and their non-offending parents or guardians have a single point of contact to follow up with behavioral health services and legal advocacy.

Progress made - Since efforts have been underway to create a CAC in the Maniilaq service area, we have an organized group of different organizations that work together on this issues. A specific planning group for a Kotzebue CAC meets monthly and involves the key agencies



involved in the Maniilaq MDT as well as additional child welfare agencies. These agencies include the Maniilaq SART nurses, the Maniilaq Behavioral Health Department, the Kotzebue Police Department (KPD), the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and the State Division of Juvenile Justice, the Kotzebue District Attorney's Office, the Maniilaq Family Crisis Center (Shelter), the State Office of Children's Services, and the State funded Putyuk Youth Home.

Benefit to the State - The purpose of this project is to reduce need to send child victims out of region to Anchorage by creating a Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in the regional hub of Kotzebue, which will save on travel and housing cost to the State. Moreover CAC would work to decrease the number incidents of child abuse or child sexual assault. (CA/CSA)

What is needed? – We are requesting funding in the amount of \$100,000 to renovate an identified building in Kotzebue and get the equipment needed to open a Kotzebue CAC.

- \$18,000.00 / **Colposcopy with image capturing and camera** - A colposcopy with image capturing capability is a key piece of equipment for medical examinations. This price estimate includes additional shipping costs for delivery to the arctic.
- \$10,000.00 / **CAC furnishings exclusive of medical exam room** - Renovating a space to present a child-friendly medical exam room requires the acquisition of exam room furnishing and supplies such as a forensic light source, otoscope, various monitors, examination table, etc. The estimate includes significant shipping costs as supplies would need to be flown into the region which greatly increases shipping costs.
- \$12,000.00 / **Exam room furnishing and supplies** - Additional renovations to the space for administrative and family support functions requires the acquisition of work stations and waiting room furniture which ideally would provide emergency respite space (a convertible sofa bed for example) for family members. These items would also incur significant shipping costs due to their need to be flown to the region.
- \$25,000.00 / **Digital Interview recording equipment, software, and installation** – For purchase and installation of interview recording equipment takes into account that there are no local providers for this service. Technicians, equipment, and tools would need to be flown in from Anchorage and technicians would need to be reimbursed for travel costs for the time of installation, testing, and instructing staff on the use of the new equipment.
- \$35,000 - **Renovation to create CAC with child-friendly service areas, administrative areas, and family space** - To provide a child-friendly physical location for a Child Advocacy Center (CAC), funds are needed to rent space, renovate the space, provide telecommunications and defray the high cost of utilities.



\$5.0M to Build a Regional Behavioral Health Facility

Residents of Northwest Alaska must travel 500 miles to Anchorage or Fairbanks to receive residential behavioral health services. The geographic disparity creates unnecessary financial, physical and cultural barriers to treatment for families and individuals voluntarily seeking rehabilitation and for those who must receive rehabilitation services due to incarceration.

Maniilaq Association is seeking \$5.0M to plan, design and build a Regional Behavioral Health Facility that will house existing services and provide residential and transitional housing. Not only will this facility allow families and individuals to receive services close to home, but it will also save the State of Alaska money. According to a State of Alaska Department of Corrections study conducted by the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER):

- Almost all Alaskan inmates have a behavioral health disorder
- Education and substance-abuse treatment programs save the state two to five times what they cost to operate
- Rehabilitation services aimed at reducing recidivism could save the State of Alaska as much as \$312 million
- Native Village of Kotzebue tribal council submitted a resolution at the 2013 AFN meeting in Fairbanks, of its supports the building of a Kotzebue alcohol and drug treatment center with Maniilaq Association that supports detox and provides an inpatient program as one of its top three community priorities with federal-state agencies for funding requests for 2013-2014. The resolution was approved at AFN.

The 2011 Alaska Five Year Prisoner Reentry Strategic Plan also identifies that those who are Alaska Native accounted for 36% of the prison population in 2008, though Alaska Native people were only 18% of the population at that time. One of the challenges for rural Alaska Native offenders to preventing re-offense is that there are no rehabilitation services in their communities.