

**AP/AL:** Appropriation

**Project Type:** Economic Assistance

**Category:** Health/Human Services

**Location:** Statewide

**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)

**Impact House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)

**Contact:** Les Campbell

**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2014 - 06/30/2019

**Contact Phone:** (907)330-8356

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Program funding will be used to provide grants to local communities/agencies to help develop programs to support programs designed to reduce homelessness by providing services that prevent housing displacement and assist the homeless to transition back to permanent housing. Other Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) programs may be leveraged with these funds when appropriate. All Homeless Assistance Program funds will be combined and administered as one program by AHFC.

<b>Funding:</b>	<b>FY2015</b>	<b>FY2016</b>	<b>FY2017</b>	<b>FY2018</b>	<b>FY2019</b>	<b>FY2020</b>	<b>Total</b>
AHFC Div			\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$8,000,000
Gen Fund	\$6,300,000	\$6,300,000	\$6,300,000	\$6,300,000	\$6,300,000	\$6,300,000	\$37,800,000
GF/MH	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$5,100,000
MHTAAR	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$5,100,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$8,000,000</b>	<b>\$8,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	<b>\$56,000,000</b>

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

**Operating & Maintenance Costs:**

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Prior Funding History / Additional Information:**

Sec5 Ch15 SLA2013 P12 L31 HB66 \$8,000,000  
 Sec5 Ch16 SLA2012 P13 L29 HB285 \$8,000,000  
 Sec4 Ch4 SLA2011 P12 L4 HB109 \$10,000,000  
 Sec5 Ch42 SLA2010 P18 L31 HB302 \$10,000,000  
 Sec4 Ch13 SLA2009 P15 L9 HB83 \$8,000,000  
 Sec4 Ch28 SLA2008 P16 L9 HB312 \$8,000,000

**Project Description/Justification:**

**The purpose of this program** is to support programs that address homelessness by providing assistance to families in imminent danger of becoming homeless or those who are currently homeless.

**The projected outcomes are to:**

- Prevent near homeless individuals and families from becoming homeless; and/or
- Provide homeless individuals and families assistance to obtain safe, sanitary shelter.

**Program Description:**

Established in 1993, this program enables thousands of homeless and/or near homeless families to obtain or retain safe and sanitary shelter each year. Demand for this program has increased steadily over the last five years as annual requests for the prevention and operating components have reached \$6 million per year.

This program has taken on the role of a housing trust and is the coordinated funding for homeless prevention activities in Alaska. There are four main funding sources, AHFC, MHTAAR, GF/MH, and other federal or private resources. In FY2013, the award of \$5.8 million in state funds for 25 projects; approximately 8759 households containing 12,382 people benefited from the program; 1,838 persons transitioned from homelessness to permanent housing and 1,072 households received financial assistance to prevent homelessness.

In FY2012, 12,000 people (\$2.9 million (state) and \$1.1 Million (federal) awarded to 27 projects) benefited from the program; 1,164 households transitioned from temporary to permanent housing; and 774 households were prevented from becoming homeless. This request is supported by the 2009 "10-year Plan to Reduce Homelessness in Alaska" which identifies the activities and cost of reducing homelessness in Alaska over 10 years.

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The Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) provides grants to assist nonprofit organizations, local governments, and regional housing authorities in addressing the emergency needs of homeless and near-homeless Alaskans. During the previous competitive rounds, the total amount of Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) grant requests received by AHFC has exceeded \$8 million, only \$5.8 M of those requests were funded. This program has become increasingly important as funds for grants such as homeless assistance from municipal grants and Federal Emergency Housing Assistance continues to shrink.

The most recent grantees have utilized HAP funds to expand shelter facilities, develop supportive transitional housing, provide case management, and rental assistance services and develop supportive housing for mental health trust beneficiaries and the homeless. All funds will be combined and administered as one program by AHFC. A portion of these funds will be used to support the planning, operation and coordination efforts of the Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness and the operation of the statewide information and referral system 211.

These funds have helped reduce the number of homeless veterans in Alaska, and bring the total number of chronic homeless down. In addition, the number of people who were unsheltered and staying in vehicles or camping has also decreased since the implementation of the state 10 year plan.