

**MH: AHFC Beneficiary and Special Needs Housing**

**FY2015 Request: \$1,750,000**

**Reference No: 6360**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation

**Project Type:** Life / Health / Safety

**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:**

Funding will provide for a continuing program to serve populations with special housing needs. This program provides funds to Alaskan nonprofit service providers to increase housing opportunities for Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (AMHTA) beneficiaries and other special needs populations throughout the state. The funds may be used for housing development and/or services designed to achieve long-term residential stability.

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>FY2019</u>	<u>FY2020</u>	<u>Total</u>
AHFC Div			\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000	\$7,000,000
Gen Fund	\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000					\$3,500,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,750,000</b>	<b>\$1,750,000</b>	<b>\$1,750,000</b>	<b>\$1,750,000</b>	<b>\$1,750,000</b>	<b>\$1,750,000</b>	<b>\$10,500,000</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 Ch16 SLA2013 P12 L28 HB66 \$1,750,000  
 Sec5 Ch16 SLA2012 P13 L26 HB285 \$1,750,000  
 Sec4 Ch4 SLA2011 P11 L30 HB109 \$1,750,000  
 Sec5 Ch42 SLA2010 P18 L28 HB302 \$1,750,000  
 Sec4 Ch13 SLA2009 P14 L31 HB83 \$1,750,000  
 Sec4 Ch28 SLA2008 P15 L31 HB312 \$1,750,000

**Project Description/Justification:**

**The purpose of this program** is to provide funds for Alaskan nonprofit service providers and housing developers to increase housing opportunities to Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries and other special needs populations throughout Alaska. This program has developed over 195 units since FY2000.

**The projected outcomes are to:**

- Add 20 congregate housing units for people with mental illness or developmental disabilities;
- Reduce recidivism among clients spending time in institutions;
- Provide supportive housing, including assisted living, for people with mental, physical, or

developmental disabilities, or multiple disorders; and

- Provide transitional housing with support services for newly recovering alcoholics and addicts.

**Program Description:**

This program provides funds to Alaskan nonprofit service providers and housing developers to increase housing opportunities to AMHTA beneficiaries and other special needs populations in Alaska through pre-development and development activities. These funds will continue to assist in developing community-based supportive housing in conjunction with the Homeless Assistance Program.

In FY2012 funding cycle focused on a prisoner re-entry demonstration program. One project with 35 units was funded under this program through a partnership with the Department of Corrections. A recent evaluation of four projects showed that the utilization rate was over 94%, 76.5% of the people were stable housed for greater than 7 months and the average daily expense was approximately \$30 a day compared to \$136 in prison and over \$1,100 a day in API.

The demand for special needs housing remains critical. The AMHTA has made housing one of its five focus areas for funding. The Alaska Independent Living Council, and other special needs advocacy groups, has identified supportive housing as a top priority in their statewide planning efforts. The target populations consist of mental health beneficiaries and other special needs groups like severely emotionally disturbed children and the homeless.

To optimize leveraging of these funds with other federal grant and tax credit programs and to expedite the release of funding to nonprofit housing developers, AHFC will administer these housing development funds. This will also administratively streamline housing development projects, which also intend to borrow money from AHFC. Typically, most special needs housing in Alaska is financed by AHFC.

Examples of special needs housing includes, but are not limited to:

- Congregate housing for people with mental illness or developmental disabilities;
- Supportive housing, including assisted living, for people with mental illness, developmental disabilities, or multiple disorders;
- Transitional housing with support services for newly recovering alcoholics and addicts; and
- Permanent or transitional housing support for the homeless and AMHTA beneficiaries.

The loss of these funds will mean increased expenditures by the state to house people who are inappropriately housed in the Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API) or the correctional system. The cost of providing community-based care is significantly lower than institutional care. Another negative effect is the loss of leveraging opportunities with other federal grant programs.