

MH: AHFC Beneficiary and Special Needs Housing

FY2021 Request: \$1,700,000

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: James Wiedle

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2020 - 06/30/2025

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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The purpose of this authorization 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 251 units since FY2000.

Funding:	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Total
1092	\$200,000						\$200,000
MHTAAR							
1139 AHFC Div	\$1,500,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$10,000,000
Total:	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$10,200,000

State Match Required
 One-Time Project
 Phased - new
 Phased - underway
 Ongoing
 0% = Minimum State Match % Required
 Amendment
 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
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Sec7 Ch1 SLA2019 P14 L19 SB2002 \$2,000,000
 Sec3 Ch1 SLA2018 P9 L20 HB285 \$1,700,000
 Sec4 Ch18 SLA2018 P12 L18 HB285 \$1,700,000
 Sec4 Ch1 SLA2017 P12 L18 HB59 \$1,015,300
 Sec4 Ch1 SLA2017 P12 L19 HB59 \$484,700
 Sec4 Ch1 SLA2017 P12 L20 HB59 \$200,000
 Sec5 Ch1 SLA2016 P16 L18 HB257 \$1,500,000
 Sec4 Ch24 SLA2015 P11 L16 SB73 \$1,500,000
 Sec4 Ch17 SLA2014 P13 L18 HB267 \$1,750,000
 Sec5 Ch16 SLA2013 P12 L28 HB66 \$1,500,000

Project Description/Justification:

This program provides funds to Alaska nonprofit service providers and housing developers to increase housing opportunities to Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (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.

An analysis of six supportive housing properties funded through this program, several years ago, showed an average daily expense of \$51 a day compared to \$142 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 administers these housing development funds in conjunction with other resources to the greatest extent possible. This enables AHFC to administratively streamline housing development projects, which also may intend to borrow money from AHFC.

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

- Congregate housing for people with mental illness or developmental disabilities;
- Supportive housing for victims of domestic violence;
- 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 may increase 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.

The projected outcomes are to:

- Support the operations of 17 congregate housing properties for victims of domestic violence, people with mental illness or developmental disabilities, and chronically homeless Alaskans;
- 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.