

Voice of the Arctic Inupiat

FY2022 Request: \$1,000,000
Reference No: AMD 63461

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Construction
Category: General Government
Location: Northwest Arctic Borough **House District:** Arctic (HD 40)
Impact House District: Arctic (HD 40) **Contact:** Micaela Fowler
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2021 - 06/30/2026 **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2506

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

VOICE is a 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation whose twenty-four members include the representatives of federally-recognized tribes, municipal governments, Alaska Native corporations, the regional health-nonprofit, and the tribal college from the North Slope of Alaska. VOICE works on behalf of the Arctic region to promote and advocate issues for the benefit of regional communities.

Funding:	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	Total
1002 Fed Rcpts							\$0
1004 Gen Fund							\$0
1243 SBR	\$1,000,000						\$1,000,000
Total:	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input 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
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Project Description/Justification:

Provide local advocacy and engagement for the Inupiat of the Arctic Slope to state, federal and international forums addressing Arctic issues.

Promote an understanding of the North Slope economy within the region and encourage culturally responsible development for economic sustainability.

Develop local content and responses with respect to activities within the region that allow for protection of land, waters and subsistence resources and act to protect the interests of the Arctic Slope Inupiat.

Serve as a conduit for information transfer with outside organizations, including both governmental and non-governmental entities.

VOICE goals are intended to allow it to address and participate in legislation, regulations, and government programs to protect Inupiat culture; increase communication and information sharing amongst Inupiat organizations across the North Slope; ensure the development of North Slope natural resources in a safe and responsible manner; and to promote Inupiat stewardship of the North Slope, with the ultimate of sustaining and evolving the economies, both subsistence and financial, economies of the North Slope region.

Providing such funding would allow rural entities to provide meaningful and culturally relevant engagement on issues that most affect them. It is important for rural communities to receive information and data in context to their community in a timely manner to be better informed and to expedite decision making in rural areas.