



Thriving Communities Grants Program

Applications Accepted: May 1st – June 16th, 2023

Grants awarded from \$5,000 up to \$250,000

The Thriving Communities Grants Program is made available by Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) with funding provided by the State of Alaska Department of Health COVID-19 Health Equity grant. The purpose of this grant program is to fund Alaska based organizations working to promote health equity and reduce disproportionate negative health outcomes, including impact of COVID-19, to populations that are medically underserved and at higher risk for poor health. These populations include BIPOC, low-income and rural communities, rural and historically underserved and marginalized communities. In order to address health equity, this grant program employs a social determinants of health framework as [defined by the CDC](#).

DESCRIPTION:

This funding seeks to support work in Alaska communities that improve access to the conditions and resources that strongly influence health and support the goals of the [Healthy and Equitable Communities Strategic Plan](#).

In order to serve the long-term goal of creating healthy and equitable Alaska communities, RurAL CAP seeks to fund projects in the following [five key areas of social determinants of health](#) as determined by the CDC's Healthy People 2030 Program. Definitions below are provided on the Healthy People 2030 website: <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>.

[Economic Stability](#)

“In the United States, 1 in 10 people live in poverty,¹ and many people can't afford things like healthy foods, health care, and housing. Healthy People 2030 focuses on helping more people achieve economic stability.”

Examples: Reduce household food insecurity; supplies and personnel time for community gardens and food pantries; update safety practices for staff in the workplace; expand and strengthen the affordability and accessibility of quality early childhood programs; provide scholarships for education and training for adults; employment programs, etc.

[Education Access and Quality](#)



“People with higher levels of education are more likely to be healthier and live longer. Healthy People 2030 focuses on providing high-quality educational opportunities for children and adolescents — and on helping them do well in school.”

Examples: Increase access to culturally relevant materials and resources for underserved communities; implement evidence-based, trauma-informed practices that create safe and supportive learning environments in schools; increase reading skills for 4th graders that are not proficient; improve accessibility etc.

Health Care Access and Quality

“Many people in the United States don’t get the health care services they need. Healthy People 2030 focuses on improving health by helping people get timely, high-quality health care services.”

Examples: Health fairs; support public education about staying healthy, preventing illness and disease, and reducing stigma associated with accessing care for underserved communities; increase access to culturally and linguistically relevant resources for underserved communities; develop advisory groups that include local leaders, community members, and people with lived experience to address barriers to good health and to identify potential solutions, etc.

Neighborhood and Built Environment

“The neighborhoods people live in have a major impact on their health and well-being. Healthy People 2030 focuses on improving health and safety in the places where people live, work, learn, and play.”

Examples: Rental and mortgage assistance; increase access to housing programs through outreach to underserved communities; increase understanding of root causes that lead to higher risks for poor outcomes among Alaskans for COVID-19 and other health issues; climate change mitigation and adaptation projects; improve indoor air quality; increase access to broadband internet; improve accessibility; tobacco prevention; tree planting etc.

Social and Community Context (Support)

“People’s relationships and interactions with family, friends, co-workers, and community members can have a major impact on their health and well-being. Healthy People 2030 focuses on helping people get the social support they need in the places where they live, work, learn, and play.”

Examples: Cultural activities; increase access to mental health services; creative projects that explore issues around mental health; storytelling about mental health; cultural activities; increase access to victim’s services for underserved communities;



anti-bullying programs; civic engagement programs; community gardens, parks and recreational centers, etc.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Eligible applicants include Federally Recognized Tribes and 501(c)(3) nonprofit or equivalent organizations in the state of Alaska. Equivalent organizations may include tribal organizations, schools, faith-based organizations, and local government agencies and programs.

Ineligible applicants include individuals, 501(c)(4) or (c)(6) organizations, for profit, private foundations, non-Alaska based organizations, state or federal government agencies.

INELIGIBLE PROJECTS:

Ineligible projects include: religious indoctrination or other religious activities, endowment building, deficit financing; lobbying; electioneering and activities of a political nature; sponsorships for special events; direct fundraising; construction to include minor renovations; purchase of real property; activities that have the potential to support terrorism; any proposals that discriminate as to race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, age, disability, creed or ethnicity.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. Review the guidelines to ensure your organization is eligible for funding.
2. Contact the RurAL CAP Thriving Communities Grants Program staff at grants@ruralcap.org if your organization is interested in applying or has any eligibility questions.
3. Applications will be available in a fillable PDF document on May 1st. These applications may be uploaded into the Ecvivis system or emailed to grants@ruralcap.org.
4. Available after May 15th, create your account within the Ecvivis system on the RurAL CAP website. You will be able to log back in to your profile to make edits and submit your application.
5. Applicants will be asked to provide:
 - a. Organization background (Mission Statement, geographic region served, overview of services)
 - b. Project Budget with requested amount
 - c. Description of the project
 - d. Budget and Project Narrative
6. Once the application is submitted, it cannot be modified by the applicant.



RurAL CAP

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7. Grants will be reviewed and award announcements made by June 26th, 2023.
Applications are due Friday, June 16th, 2023 by 5pm (AKST).
8. Grant awards will be sent out by June 30th, 2023.

REPORTING & GRANT REQUIREMENTS

1. Quarterly program reports.
2. Quarterly financial reports for reimbursement. Receipts may be requested.
3. Grantees must meet insurance requirements.
4. Any projects that will be collecting data may have additional reporting requirements.
5. Grantee must attend a 1.5-hr required training on program and financial reporting requirements.

RURAL CAP CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please contact the Thriving Communities Grants Program team at grants@ruralcap.org.

ABOUT RURAL CAP

Since 1965, Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) has been fulfilling the mission to empower low-income Alaskans through advocacy, education, affordable housing and direct services that respect our unique values and cultures. RurAL CAP is a private, statewide, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization on the leading edge of promoting self-sufficiency in Alaska. RurAL CAP is governed by a 24-member Board of Directors representing the public sector, the private sector, and the different regions of rural Alaska.