

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.
Youth Development and Culture Grant Program
Request for Proposals FY24

I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Youth Development and Culture Grant Program is to reduce the disproportionate number of minority youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. Alaska Natives make up approximately 15% of youth ages 12-17 in Alaska while making up approximately 30% of these youth referred to the Division of Juvenile Justice each year. The DJJ recognizes the need to collaborate and team with agencies that have the cultural knowledge, community connections and expertise to enhance and strengthen its work with Alaska Native youth, families and communities. The Youth Development and Culture Grant Program targets both a reduction in the disproportionate contact Alaska Native youth have with the juvenile justice system in Alaska, and an increase in the ability of the Alaska Native communities ultimately funded through this program to better develop and manage DHSS grant programs.

RurAL CAP requests proposals for community projects that are innovative and implement either culture activities/camps or youth leadership development.

FUNDING SOURCE

The State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Delinquency Prevention CFDA #16.540 is pending award funding to the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) award #609-237-22001 to issue sub-award grants to rural, Alaska Native communities with the purpose of reducing the disproportionate number of minority youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. RurAL CAP is requesting proposals from eligible applicants to provide Division of Juvenile Justice Formula Title II services for the State of Alaska. Program Services are authorized under AS 47.14.010(6) General Powers of Department over Juvenile Institutions; AS 47.05.010(7) Duties of Department; and 7 AAC 78 (Grant Programs). Access State of Alaska statutes and regulations at <http://www.law.state.ak.us/doclibrary/doclib.html>.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

AWARD AMOUNT

RurAL CAP anticipates funding 8-12 projects of **\$6,000 to \$16,000** per year, with *no match required*.

Funding for this project is a reimbursable process in which Tribes will be expected to spend funds during the grant period and RurAL CAP will provide monthly reimbursement to Tribes. If this is a barrier, please contact us so we can explore alternative financing options.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

1) Applicants must be a federally recognized Indian Tribe, or public or private nonprofit institution in rural Alaska.

2) Applicant organizations proposing projects with significant impact on rural Alaska Native youth may apply. Non-profit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are not eligible to apply.

- Applicants must demonstrate in their application that the project they will manage will be performed in Alaska.
- Applicants submitted from entities on the Debarred or Suspended list will not be considered.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

All projects must address the goals stated above through **one of the following ways:*

1. Culture camps providing spiritual and cultural guidance for youth ages 12 – 17, specifically emphasizing community responsibility. These camps teach sharing and hard work, respect for nature and for all people, celebration of language and heritage, respect, cooperation, and reverence for Elders.
2. Leadership development to support youth in developing the knowledge and self-confidence to speak out and create change and to encourage youth to find ways to maintain traditional culture, while thriving in the modern world.
3. Projects identified by rural communities as endeavors supporting the reduction of Alaska Native/American Indian youth contacts with the juvenile justice system through positive youth development activities and delinquency prevention services.

PROJECT EXAMPLES

There are many projects that could be implemented with this funding. In order to have a stronger impact on the youth that participate, consider applying for funding for a series of cultural and youth leadership activities. Some examples of eligible projects to be awarded through this competition have included:

- A series of subsistence camping trips, including recruiting participants, gathering supplies, and implementing activities such as taking the youth silver salmon fishing and inviting an Elder to help teach how to prepare them for subsistence. Other activities might include teaching basic camping skills, moose calling, tracking, fly fishing, or conducting a Spirit Camp focused on connecting youth to cultural activities, the outdoors or winter survival skills. Activities could include canoe races, fishing, cooking, hiking, arts and crafts like beading, and games. Elders and adults can provide guidance, stories, and teachings. A cultural identity project to help youth work with the community and Elders. The youth can interview Elders and other community members, then write the stories and take pictures. Through this project, the youth will learn about their ancestors as well as basic life skills. Other innovative projects were building smoke racks or doghouses, drying fish or gathering subsistence foods, including animals or greens.
- Youth Leadership training can include bringing a national or statewide trainer to your community to work with youth. Also, funds for youth can be used to develop leadership skills through conferences within the state.

Successful project proposals should also include a commitment to document the project in a way that can be shared and replicated. Assistance in capturing the project will be available from RurAL CAP staff. If you have any questions about whether a project is appropriate for this funding source, please contact the RurAL CAP Project Coordinator at youthdevelopment@ruralcap.org.

TIMELINE FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals are due:	Rolling application
Awards will be announced:	Within two weeks of application
Unsuccessful applicants notified:	Within two weeks of application

Project period:

Start date is dependent on application submission and completion of pre-project meeting. Grant period ends on **May 31, 2024**.

III. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO RECIPIENTS

RurAL CAP will provide technical training and technical assistance to all awarded projects, including information on: project administration; financial management; purchasing and shipping of supplies; and working with youth.

REQUIRED PRE-PROJECT MEETING

After notification of award and before beginning project activities, recipients will meet virtually (over phone or online) with the RurAL CAP Project Coordinator to review grant reporting requirements. The Project Lead and Financial Lead must attend this 1-2 hour meeting. Other project staff are also welcome to attend.

IV. REPORTING & EVALUATION OF PROJECTS

Monthly progress reports and financial reports will be due 10 days after the close of each month and a final report will be due June 10, 2024. Reports may be submitted by e-mail to youthdevelopment@ruralcap.org.

Successful applicants will be required to evaluate projects based on the output measures and utilizing a survey tool provided by RurAL CAP.

V. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:

E-mail completed YDCG Application to:

Community Development, Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.
youthdevelopment@ruralcap.org

Or, Mail to Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc., ATTN: YDCG
731 E. 8th Avenue Anchorage, Alaska 99501

