



RURAL CAP

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.



2023

Annual Report

Healthy People | Sustainable Communities | Vibrant Cultures

RurAL CAP's Central Office rests on the traditional lands of the Dena'ina Athabascans and has services spread across the state. For thousands of years, Alaska Natives have been and continue to be the stewards of this land. It is with gratefulness and respect that we recognize their contributions, innovations, and perspectives.



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Who We Are

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc., (RurAL CAP) founded in 1965, is a private, statewide, nonprofit organization working to improve the quality of life for low-income Alaskans.

Governed by a 24-member Board of Directors, we represent every region of the state as one of the largest and most diverse nonprofit organizations in Alaska.

We value input from and have respect for all people. We believe that Alaskans have the right to maintain their cultural heritage and close relationship to the land while protecting their economic and human potential.

As the only Community Action Program in the state, our programs in housing, early childhood education, and health and well-being serve to alleviate the root causes of poverty. We deliver innovative, community-driven solutions in response to Alaska's most challenging needs while supporting vulnerable individuals and communities statewide.

To empower low-income Alaskans through advocacy, education, affordable housing, and direct services that respect our unique values and cultures

Healthy People | Sustainable Communities | Vibrant Cultures

Mission

Vision

Board of Directors 2023

Executive Committee

President	Joe Williams
Vice President	Walter Sampson
Secretary	Barb Gray
Treasurer	Marvin Adams
Member	Mark Hoover
Member	Paul Johnson
Member	Ashley Hicks
Member	Amanda McFarland
Member	Nikole Nelson

Target Area Representatives

Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association	Etta Kuzakin
Assoc. of Village Council Presidents, Inc.	Martin Andrew
Alaska Native Brotherhood	Paul Johnson
Alaska Native Sisterhood Grand Camp	Paulette Moreno
Bristol Bay Native Association	Ted Angasan
Central Council Tlingit & Haida	Jackie Pata
Child Development Policy Council	Ashley Hicks
Chugachmiut	Mark Hoover
Copper River Native Association	Tonilee Jackson-Goodlataw
Kawerak, Inc.	Barb Gray
Kodiak Area Native Association	Nancy Nelson
Maniilaq Association	Percy Ballot

Public Representatives

Alaska Cooperative Extension Service	Leif Albertson
Alaska Municipal League	Nils Andreassen*
Office of the Governor	Kim Kovol
Anchorage Council Tlingit & Haida	Alvin Edenshaw
Northwest Arctic Borough	Walter Sampson
Native Village of Hooper Bay	Eric Olson
Native Village of Saxman	Joe Williams
Board Seat	Vacant

Private Sector Representatives

AK Natural Scentz	Amanda McFarland
Alaska Legal Services Corporation	Nikole Nelson
Alaska Village Initiatives Management	Myron Naneng
National Capital LLC	Marvin Adams

* service began 03/2023

Message from Leadership

As Alaskans, we celebrate the mission-based successes of 2023. In partnership with communities, organizations, and our partners, we have worked with Alaskans to ensure homes are warm for individuals and families, empowered youth across the state, and developed thriving community food gardens. We remain steadfast in our commitment to collaborate at the Federal, State, and local levels to ensure that all Alaskans have access to essential services and the tools to build a better future. Through these strengthened partnerships, we will identify innovative and efficient approaches that cater to the unique needs of our communities.

Central to our strategic priorities is the profound commitment to supporting the dreams of our children and elders. Our approach is grounded in the belief that effective support begins with active listening and genuine understanding. Our unwavering determination, boundless compassion, and profound purpose drive us to rise together, united in the pursuit of a healthier, warmer, and more food-secure Alaska. We proudly highlight the following achievements:

Housing in Rural Alaska |

- Expanded Mortgage Loan Packaging to 24 rural communities.
- Planned construction of 64 new, off-road-system homes.
- Partnered with typhoon-impacted communities to provide disaster relief.

Local Leadership Capacity Building |

- Successfully launched and operationalized the Community Action Resource Center (CARC), serving as a vital hub for community development initiatives through partnerships with 100 tribes statewide and the US Department of Treasury.
- Enhanced economic development prospects with 54 villages in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region by promoting Digital Equity.
- Fostered community partnerships to support domestic violence survivor services in two additional rural villages.

Increase Workforce Development |

- Created an Apprenticeship Pilot Program designed to increase workforce development opportunities for future generations of Alaskans in collaboration with the Child Development Center and Head Start. This effort will commence in the Fall of 2024.

Our ability to foster meaningful connections is our greatest asset as we strive to advance together. United we rise.

Sincerely,



Joe Williams
President, Board of Directors

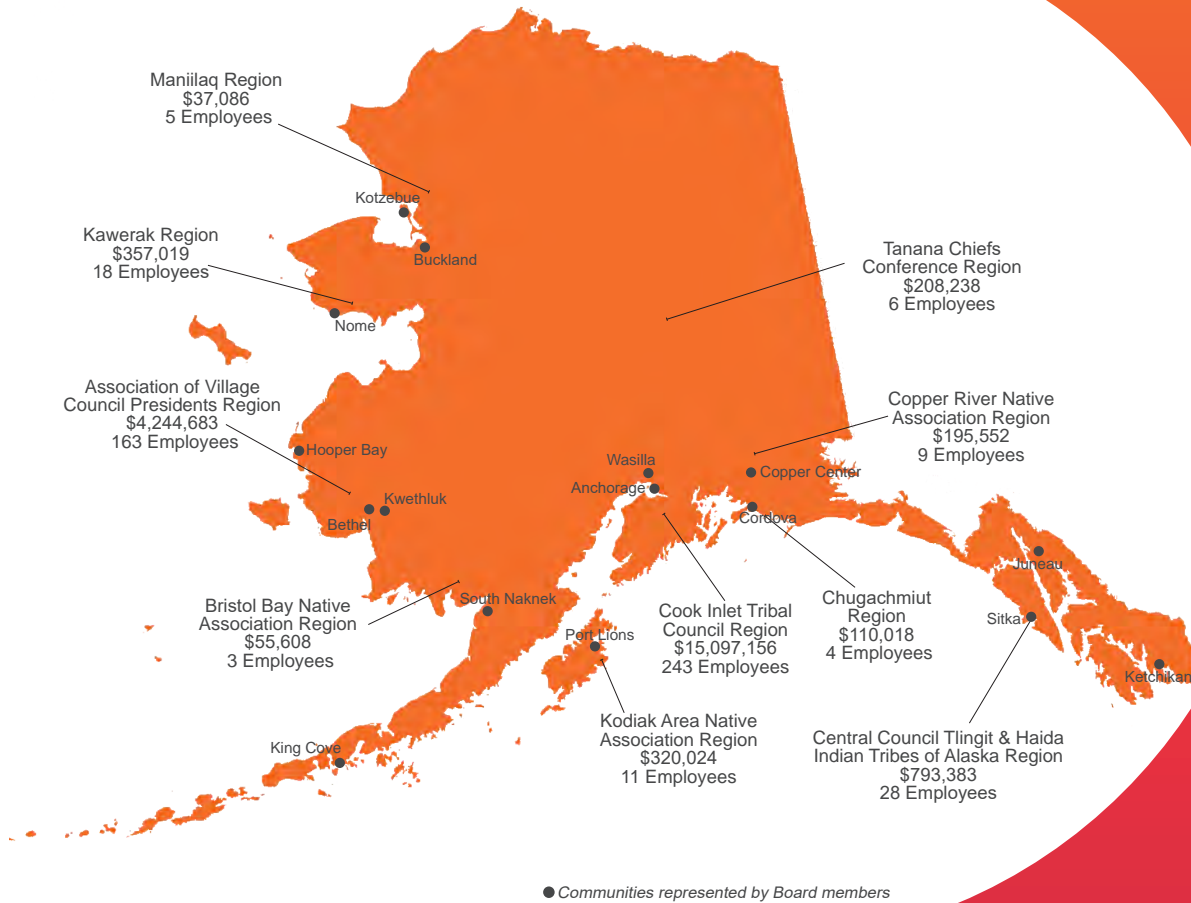
L. Tiel Smith
Chief Executive Officer



Economic Impact

In fiscal year 2023, the agency operated on \$47 million consolidated revenue, which included \$31 million for nonprofit operations sources and \$16 million for its for-profit subsidiaries operations: Rural Energy Enterprises; RC 325 Third, LLC; and RC Muldoon Road, LLC. Although RurAL CAP's Central Office is located in Anchorage, more than half of its employees, as well as the majority of its Board members, live and work in rural Alaska. During 2023, RurAL CAP employed 490 Alaskans in 60 communities statewide.

Economic Impact of Wages Paid FY 2023



Proudly informed by an agency-based
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee

What We Do

Education



We serve prenatal parents, children, and families through early childhood education. Promoting socio-emotional development, healthy practices, cultural richness, and school readiness, our programs include the Child Development Center, Head Start, Early Head Start, and Parents as Teachers. Our Training & Technical Assistance services provide resources and connection to entire communities for the overall health and development.

Housing



Our housing programs address the physical, mental, and financial needs of individuals and families through Homeless, Housing, & Shelter Services; Homeownership; and Home Improvement services.

Health & Well-Being



Through community-driven programming and services, we find solutions for locally identified needs via youth development, community wellness, and healing. We also provide Wellness and National Service programs throughout the state.

Client Services

Education

Child Development Center

Anchorage

Head Start & Early Head Start

Akiak*	Kake	Nunapitchuk*
Alakanuk	Ketchikan	Pilot Station*
Anchorage	Kluti Kaah	Savoonga
Chevak	Kodiak	St. Mary's*
Emmonak	Kwethluk*	Stebbins
Haines	Marshall	Toksook Bay
Homer	Mountain Village*	
Hooper Bay*	Napaskiak*	

*Also an Early Head Start Site

Parents as Teachers

Anchorage	Kodiak
Chevak	Mountain Village
Haines	Toksook Bay

Training & Technical Assistance

The Resource Basket	Alaska Tribal Victim Services
Alaska Tribal Justice Resource Center	Training & Technical Assistance
Community Action Resource Center	

Housing

Homeless, Housing, & Shelter Services

Affordable Housing	Homeless Outreach
Supportive Housing	Bay Haven Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Shelter
Transitional Housing	

Homeownership

Mutual Self-Help Housing	Housing/Credit Counseling
Certified Loan Packaging	

Home Improvement

Weatherization	Mobile Home Repair
Home Modifications & Upgrades	Senior Access

Health & Well-Being

National Service

Elder Mentor Program	AmeriCorps VISTA Program
AmeriCorps Senior Companion	RAY AmeriCorps Program

Wellness

Youth Development & Culture Grants	Growing Rural Opportunities for Wellness
Youth Tobacco Prevention	Bay Haven's Developing Child Advocacy Center
Hooper Bay Wellness Program	

Community Impact



579 families received early childhood and parent education services, totaling **712 children** across **22 communities** statewide.

Homes were made safe, affordable, and accessible to **more than 500 Alaskans**.



23 families in rural communities became first time homeowners with **32 additional families** accessing loan programs for homeownership.

Emergency shelter services were provided to **121 Alaskans seeking refuge** from domestic violence and sexual assault in rural Alaska.



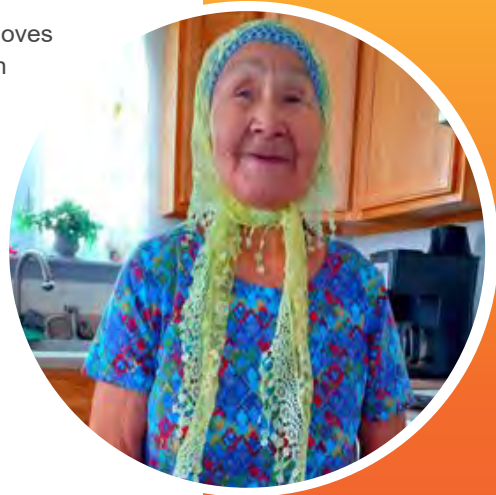
More than 570 Alaskans experiencing homelessness were connected to housing services.

Partnered in **107 communities** statewide.

RurAL CAP in Action

"My mom has been working under this program for a while. She really loves what she does in the Yup'ik room. She does not know a word of English and cannot hear. There are other Elders in the room with a few school staff members, and they love her. She's the eldest in the village, and she says the kids keep her alive and thriving. She loves the age groups that she works with, and she loves the school staff. I know the presence of the kids has made her come this far. She just turned 84 and can't wait to go back. Thank you, Elder Mentor Program."

-Daughter of Anna Neketa
Elder Mentor
New Stuyahok



"Pauline, a single Alaska Native woman in her sixties, is raising her youngest child who is 15 and in high school. Despite facing medical dual diagnoses and struggling with communication due to her hearing loss and other debilitating issues, Pauline's resilience shines through as she advocates for herself and her daughter. With support of the Central Leasing Office, she found a unit that kept her daughter in the same school where she is on track to graduate in 2024."

-Supportive Housing Program
Southcentral Region



"In September 2023, the GROW Program collaborated with Metlakatla Indian Community to co-host an in-person gathering of community gardeners from four Southeast communities: Kake, Juneau, Ketchikan and Metlakatla. Eleven attendees came together to share their local knowledge, connect with one another, and learn about garden design from Master Gardener and GROW

Coordinator Emily Becker. Participants also learned about composting and building healthy soil, guided by Garden Champion Gatgyeda Haayk. They also honed their food preservation skills through classes taught by Cooperative Extension Agent Sarah Lewis. The GROW Program is excited to co-host this event again in spring 2024, incorporating participant feedback and widening the audience to other coastal communities beyond the Southeast."

- Growing Rural Opportunities for Wellness (GROW) Program
Southeast Region



"Last summer, Harlan Glen met Loretta at the Wasilla Area Senior Center. Loretta shared with him her work with the children at Swanson Elementary as an Elder Mentor volunteer, which she deeply enjoyed. Facing a challenging year himself, Harlan Glen decided the best way to build resilience was to look for opportunities to give back to his community and to fill his time with love and meaningful service to others. Soon, Harlan Glen was an official Elder Mentor and assigned to Tanaina Elementary School near his home in Wasilla. The Principal and school staff warmly welcomed him.



When children come to him, they are often dealing with the repercussions from challenging behaviors. Harlan Glen explained, "I don't discipline. I empathize with them. I share this statement with them: I direct my thoughts. I control my emotions. I make my future. I want to help them to feel empowered. I feel like I'm doing something to make the world a better place." Although Harlan Glen has only been at Tanaina Elementary for a few short months, he has made a lasting impression on the children he works with and has earned the cherished new title given to him by the children: GRANDPA Harlan Glen."

-Story of Harlan Glen Smith

Elder Mentor

Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District



"An elderly resident in St. Mary's lives on a fixed income and cares for her grandchildren often. Her home was built in 1975. Utilizing multiple funding opportunities, we were able to perform a broad scope of work addressing most of the home's deficiencies.

In speaking to the client several times after the project was completed, she shares that she is more comfortable, has less stress due to high utility bills, and has taken a renewed interest in her home."

**Weatherization
Client**
St. Mary's



RurAL CAP in Action

"The Kiana Traditional Council held two sessions 14 miles north of Kiana on the Kobuk River in July and August. Katyaaqmiut, (people of Kiana), use the entire river system for subsistence and gathering activities.

For Subsistence learning activities, children visited local camps in the vicinity, for hands-on experience and learning the system of seining, processing, and sharing the catch, and learning to eat and live off the land on a daily basis. The youth learned how to put up the poles to dry salmon, cut and wash the fish, and hang them on the poles to half dry it.

Debra Reed-Thomas, Activities Instructor, helped the youth learn to cut the material out and hand sew the atikluks (traditional clothing) – a vital self-sufficiency activity to instill on Youth."

- Youth Development & Culture Grant Program
Kiana



"I've never done a lot of this stuff. This would be the most professional job I've had, so I've gotten all these professional skills like how to do reports, being comfortable talking in front of people, and then also learning how to work with a team and learning all the planning, preparing stuff."

- Resilient Alaskan Youth AmeriCorps Member
Undisclosed Location

"I usually feel I've changed. I grow, I gained more knowledge, and I feel more supported, and I like working with our kids. Some of them are my nieces and nephews and they'll be like, "Hi, Auntie," and it makes me happy because my kids are involved too when they're not feeling sick. But then, sometimes I get overwhelmed with trying to take care of my kids. I'm a single mother of five but my family supports me and everything. I feel like just having that support system is making me feel like I could, you know, soar."

- Resilient Alaskan Youth AmeriCorps Member
Undisclosed Location

"Our daughter loves school so much and thinks that there should not be weekends. Our family has loved the family nights because our daughter loves every opportunity to socialize. We are so grateful for the Head Start program especially for our outgoing kids who want to be around their peers all the time. We do not have any other options for social interactions for our 3 year old outside of the Head Start."

-Chelsea Lews
Kake Head Start Parent



"I was motivated by this program because I grew up loving the cultural and traditional lifestyle, and at the same time, I was choosing the wrong path. This is exactly what I needed when I was in my youth years."

Now, as the Tribal Youth Planner, Tasha sees many young people continuing to struggle with what she faced as a young person, being "caught between wanting to do what I loved and doing what others thought they loved." As Tasha is quick to share, it is this reason that she is "taking this opportunity to help the youth and my community."

The program, serving youth between the ages of 10-17, emphasizes tradition, cultural practices, and intentional community building to provide a meaningful foundation for youth to feel empowered in their lives. "Community building actually means so much to me," Tasha notes, reflecting on the shifts away from cultural ways of life. "It seems to me that these modern days are eating up the old ways of life... I want to strengthen the knowledge of our youth to [return to] the way it used to be, or at least carry that on." Tasha and her team work to build and sustain this cultural foundation through group activities that foster relationship building through shared experience."

- Tasha Tonuchuk
Tribal Youth Planner
Alaska's Atauciquut Youth Program: Growing Together as One
The Resource Basket
Kotlik

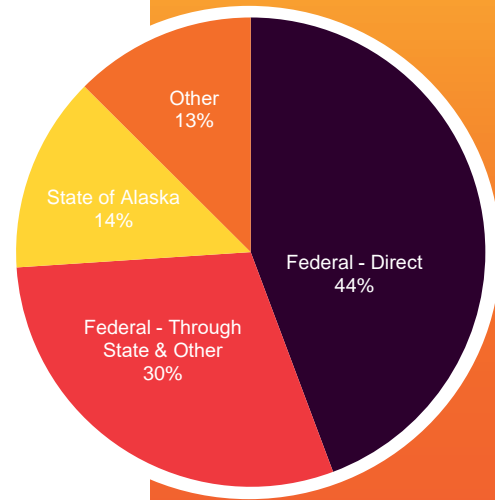
Following the ratification of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, Community Action Agencies (CAAs) were developed across the nation to address the War on Poverty. Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc., (RurAL CAP), has uniquely served as the state's only CAA since 1965 and has since operated to ensure the causes and conditions of poverty are effectively addressed and to strengthen, promote, represent, and serve the Community Action Network.



Financial Summary

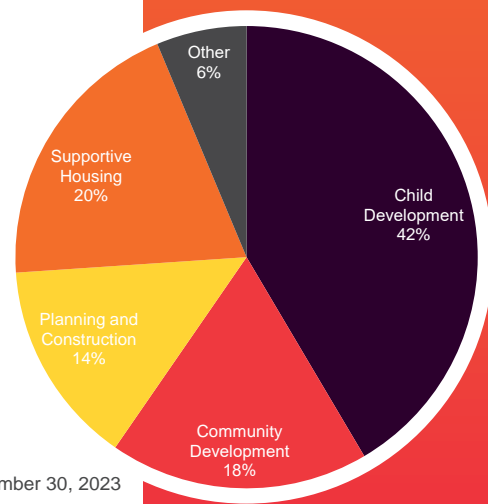
Federal - Direct	13,563,557
Federal - State & Other	9,085,252
State of Alaska	4,137,882
Other	3,836,855
Local Grants	537,037
Corporation, Foundation & Individual Support	193,422
Other Revenue	3,106,396
Nonprofit Source Subtotal	30,623,546
Rural Energy Enterprises	16,187,293
RC 325 Third, LLC	221,410
RC Muldoon Road, LLC	254,435
Total	47,286,684

Nonprofit Funding Sources



Child Development	13,255,731
Community Development	5,788,441
Planning & Construction	4,573,915
Supportive Housing	6,311,173
Other Programs	2,015,993
Nonprofit Use Subtotal	31,945,253
Rural Energy Enterprises	13,666,719
RC 325 Third, LLC	395,299
RC Muldoon Road, LLC	639,234
Change in Net Assets	640,179
Total	47,286,684

Nonprofit Funding Uses



Fiscal year ending September 30, 2023

The FY2023 audit was conducted by Moss Adams. RurAL CAP's federally approved indirect rate of 10.2% of direct costs covers administrative expenses such as those for the executive, accounting, purchasing, and human resources departments, corporate insurance, annual audit, and Board of Directors.

Subsidiaries

Rural Energy Enterprises

Rural Energy Enterprises (REE), a wholly owned subsidiary of RurAL CAP, is a wholesale distributor of energy-efficient and money-saving products. REE began in 1987 after receiving a federal grant to evaluate the feasibility of engaging in energy-related for-profit activity.



Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Properties

RurAL CAP used the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) to acquire and develop 325 East 3rd Avenue and Muldoon Garden. These two properties provide permanent supportive housing and affordable housing, respectively, to low-income individuals and families in Anchorage. RurAL CAP's ownership interest of these LIHTC properties is less than 0.1%.

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.

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