

**Alaska Children's Trust
Community Investment Guidelines**

**Tier 1
Community Based Child Abuse & Neglect
Prevention Grants**



**2020 Application Deadline
Friday, 13 March 2020**

**Alaska Children's Trust
3201 C Street, Ste 110
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 248-7676**

www.alaskachildrenstrust.org

ABOUT THE ALASKA CHILDREN'S TRUST

Mission

The mission of Alaska Children's Trust (ACT) is to improve the status of children in Alaska by generating funds and committing resources to eliminate child abuse and neglect.

History

ACT is the statewide catalyst for empowering communities to be leaders in the prevention of child abuse and neglect. For nearly two decades, ACT has provided organizations and communities with the support to build safe, stable and nurturing environments for Alaska's children. ACT was first created by the Alaska State Legislature in 1988 and received initial funding in 1996. In 2010, ACT became an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Today, ACT's assets total more than \$11 million, which has allowed them to invest over \$5 million in communities aimed at strengthening families, protecting children and developing healthy communities.

For further information, go to www.alaskachildrenstrust.org.

TIER 1 COMMUNITY BASED CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT PREVENTION GRANTS

Alaska Children's Trust (ACT) recognizes, to effectively impact current trends, ACT must utilize our resources in a strategic and sustainable fashion. Alaska has struggled for decades with some of the highest rates (per capita) of child maltreatment in the nation. Our future is influenced greatly by the types and level of trauma our children are exposed to and the amount of resiliency they are equipped with to handle these traumas. This acknowledgement drives much of ACT's work to ensure all Alaska children live in safe, secure, and nurturing environments.

Total Award Available: Up to \$10,000

Grant Cycle: One year (July 1 through June 30)

FOCUS AREAS

ACT has identified four core areas of focus on the prevention of child abuse and neglect: (1) primary prevention of child abuse and neglect programs, (2) collection and dissemination of quality data, (3) advocacy and community building, and (4) positive social norming. Tier 1 grants only fund core area #1, 3 & 4.

Primary Prevention Programs

Prevention is the direct effort to stop CAN before it occurs. The term "prevention" can either represent activities that stop an action or behavior or be used to represent activities that promote a positive action or behavior. Research has found that successful child abuse interventions must both reduce risk factors and

promote protective factors to ensure the well-being of children and families. Primary prevention aims to prevent CAN before it ever occurs. This is done by preventing exposures to hazards that cause CAN (i.e. social determinants like poverty, unplanned pregnancy, teen violence, historical trauma), altering unhealthy or unsafe behaviors that can lead to CAN, and increasing resilience should trauma like CAN occur.

Advocacy & Community Building

ACT strives to ensure the spotlight on CAN is strong. By increasing our community's knowledge and awareness, we empower them to take impactful action that leads to positive change at a local level.

Positive Social Norming

Attitudes of CAN and the value of children in general plays a major role in our efforts in eliminating child abuse and neglect. Positive Community Norms (PCN) framework is a new approach to improving health and safety in our communities. PCN fosters cultural transformation by addressing many different audiences throughout the community for the purpose of growing positive norms and thereby improving health and safety. PCN integrates leadership, communication and prevention portfolio integration across the social ecology to improve health and safety.

GRANT PROGRAM INFORMATION

Grant awards are made one time per fiscal year.

Deadline: Friday, 13 March 2020 (5 p.m.)

All applications must be submitted through The Alaska Community Foundation's online system by 5 p.m. Alaska-time. Only completed applications that meet the basic eligibility criteria will be considered.

The online application system can be accessed at <http://alaskacf.org/grants-overview>.

Grant awards will be announced by 30 June 2020. Grant cycle is 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

General Requirements

- Projects are required to be focused on one of the focus areas.
- No more than one Tier 1 application per organization is allowed at any given time.
- Organizations can receive a Tier 1 and Tier 2 at the same time. However, funding must support separate programs/projects.
- Applicants are welcome to contact ACT staff prior to applying to discuss proposed projects.
- If a proposal is declined, organizations may call ACT staff for feedback.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applications are accepted from qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, or equivalent organizations located in the state of Alaska. Equivalent organizations may include tribes, local or state governments, schools, or Regional Educational Attendance Areas. Organizations that have received past awards and are in good standing are eligible to apply. Applicants with open ACT grants must be current on all grant reporting. Applications from organizations with outstanding grant reports will not be accepted.

Who cannot apply?

Individuals, for-profit, 501(c)(4) or (c)(6) organizations, non-Alaska based organizations, and federal government agencies are not eligible for competitive grants. Applicants with open ACT grants that are past due on any grant reports will not be considered for funding.

Applications for religious indoctrination or other religious activities, endowment building, deficit financing, fundraising, lobbying, electioneering and activities of political nature will not be considered. Nor will proposals that promote discrimination based on race, gender, marital status, sexual preference, age, disability, creed or ethnicity. Funds cannot be used for expenses incurred prior to the grant award.

ACT Grant Funding Priorities

Alaska Children's Trust considers as a priority grants that support an approach of primary prevention and strengthening families. Key components of the primary prevention and strengthening families approach include:

- Promoting community inclusion.
- Promoting healthy parenting skills and strengthening families.
- Addressing social determinants that create an environment that leads to CAN
- Providing support and services that are universal.
- Focusing on existing strengths and promoting continued growth and development.
- Fostering parent leadership and empowering parents to identify resources, support and strategies to help them parent more effectively.
- Incorporating the understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences study (i.e. reduce trauma and build resiliency).
- Support evidence based or promising practices.
- Promoting the following five **Protective Factors** identified by the Center for the Study of Social Policy (<http://www.cssp.org/reform/strengthening-families>) based on an extensive review of the research literature related to young children:
 1. Parental Resiliency
Courage during stress or after a crisis; parents feel supported and able to solve problems.

2. Social Connections
A support system; relationships with extended family, friends, co-workers and other parents with children similar ages.
 3. Knowledge of Parenting/Child Development
Basic information about how children develop.
 4. Concrete Support in Times of Need
Supports and services within the community which can include transportation, food assistance, job training, mental health services.
 5. Healthy Social/Emotional Development
Children feel loved, have a sense of belonging and can get along with others.
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PROPOSAL CONTENTS

Organization Description and Background

Briefly describe your agency including its mission, founding date, services offered, geographic area(s) served, and number of individuals served.

Geographic Area(s) Served by Proposed Project

Select the area(s) in Alaska the proposed project will serve.

Project Summary

3-5 sentences outlining the project.

Project Description

Outline the need for the project, what you will be doing, target population (whom and how many will benefit) and geographic area served, and community support for your project. If you are requesting funds to support an existing project, share the impact the project has had already on the targeted population.

Explain how the targeted population will be better off as a result of this project. Please be specific about the expected benefits and how it relates to the selected areas of focus.

Explain how the project supports and/or will incorporate the Strengthening Families protective factors. In addition, outline how the project reduces adverse childhood experiences (trauma) and supports the building of resiliency.

Project Impact

Clearly outline how this project will prevent child abuse and neglect. Define the project as primary, secondary or tertiary prevention and how it achieves that level of prevention. Explain how the target population will be better off by the proposed project.

Primary prevention activities are directed at the general population and attempt to stop child abuse and neglect before it occurs. All members of the community have access to and may benefit from these services. Primary prevention activities with a universal focus seek to raise the awareness of the general public, service providers, and decision-makers about the scope and problems associated with child maltreatment.

Secondary prevention activities with a high-risk focus are offered to populations that have one or more risk factors associated with child maltreatment, such as poverty, parental substance abuse, young parental age, parental mental health concerns, and parental or child disabilities. Programs may target services for communities or neighborhoods that have a high incidence of any or all of these risk factors.

Tertiary prevention activities focus on families where maltreatment has already occurred (indicated) and seek to reduce the negative consequences of the maltreatment and to prevent its recurrence.

Project Outcomes

Provide up to four **measurable** outcomes that will be reported on at the end of the funding year. Remember, goals are general, broad, and often abstract statements of desired result. Whereas, outcomes are more specific, narrow and measurable. For example:

Non-measurable Outcome: Will increase reading scores.

Measurable Outcome: Improvement of reading scores by one grade level as seen on standardized test given after six months of participation.

Budget

Provide a project budget using the spreadsheet attached to the online application. Indirect costs are limited to 10% of the total budget. Matching funds are encouraged but not required. Ensure to include any additional funding for the project (not the organization). If no other source of funding is connected to the proposed project, indicate it by checking the box next to “No Other Source of Funding”.

Budget Narrative

Explain the costs and revenue sources described in the budget, and how they were derived. If the funds needed to fully fund the project, including a potential Alaska Children’s Trust grant, is not secured, please describe how the remaining funds will be raised by identifying pending and planned sources of funding and when decisions will be made. Matching funds are encouraged but not required.

PROPOSAL PREPARATION & REVIEW

All applications must be completed through The Alaska Community Foundation's (ACF) online application system

The application portal can be found through the ACF website: <http://alaskacf.org/grants-overview>. Click "Apply now" under the Alaska Children's Trust Grant Cycle to begin the application process. Please refer to the "Online Application Tutorial" for more in-depth information about using the online application system.

Grant Application Review and Action

Evaluation criteria include but are not limited to the completeness of the application, overall merit of the project, the ability and past reputation of the agency for successful completion of projects, the clarity and measurability of the projects goals, the feasibility of the time frame given for completion of the project, the benefit to the target population, whether the costs are commensurate with benefits, the potential of the project to become a long-term solution for an existing or emerging problem, other sources of support, and the overall sustainability of the project.

Preference will be given to applications which empower the disadvantaged or underserved, are collaborative or cooperative in nature, and do not duplicate existing programs and services. In addition, preference will be given to applications which demonstrate measurable results, accountability, cultural sensitivity, and unify communities.

Notification of Application status and Grant Award and Agreement

ACT will notify applicants by letter no more than June 30th.

Contact Information:

For questions related to the request for proposals, please contact:

Trevor Storrs
Alaska Children's Trust
3201 C Street, Ste 110
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

tstorrs@alaskachildrenstrust.org
907-248-7676

For questions related to the on-line application system, please contact:

Stefanie O'Brien
sobrien@alaskacf.org
907-274-6710