

**Copper River Native Association - Copper River Health
Clinic Construction**

**FY2013 Request: \$8,000,000
Reference No: 54833**

AP/AL: Appropriation

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Copper Center

Impact House District: Interior Villages (HD 6)

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2012 - 06/30/2017

Project Type: Construction

Recipient: Copper River Native Association

House District: Interior Villages (HD 6)

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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This is a joint venture between the Copper River Native Association (CRNA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS) to build and operate a healthcare facility on a 10 acre site in Copperville, Alaska.

Funding:	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	Total
Gen Fund	\$8,000,000						\$8,000,000
Total:	\$8,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,000,000

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

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

No prior funding

Project Description/Justification:

The Copper River Native Association (CRNA) seeks from the state matching funding to erect a 33,000 square foot health facility to serve behavioral health needs of all residents of the Copper River Valley. The site is provided to CRNA by the Ahtna Corporation on a 99 year lease. Copperville lies on the Richardson Highway (AK-4) just south of its intersection with the Glenn Highway (AK-01). CRNA has been successful to date in acquiring a \$1,000,000 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Economic Development Initiative grant for construction related purposes for this facility as well as seeking private foundation funding. CRNA has also undertaken a \$10,000,000 loan, the largest loan in the history of CRNA, through the Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the construction of a healthcare facility. The Indian Health Service (IHS) will fund, for a twenty year period, operations, maintenance and the cost associated with 38 full-time employees (FTE) positions. This IHS funding will provide a minimum of \$80,000,000 in funding over the twenty years.

The construction and subsequent opening of this clinic will eliminate the need for Native beneficiaries to travel four hundred miles to Anchorage to see a doctor. Currently in order for beneficiaries to receive services, costly and risky travel must precede primary and follow-up medical care. This need is so great IHS has deemed the Copper River Regional Health Clinic the highest priority of any applicant in the United States. CRNA's existing facilities were originally slated to be decommissioned or demolished in 1985. Over twenty-five years later these facilities are still in operation with failing roofs, failing heating systems, and outdated electrical and sewer systems.

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The facility, as designed, will be approximately 33,000 square feet and will cost approximately \$19,000,000 to the opening of the clinic for services. The center currently provides dental, audiology, community health aide/practitioner (CHA/P), community health representatives, and nursing services, environmental health maintenance, and an array of behavioral health and administrative support services to approximately 3,000 native residents of the catchment area. The clinic will expand, should it be funded, to provide primary care services, vision care, pharmacy, diagnostic imaging, public health nursing and public health nutrition services. The clinic will also provide open access to its state funded programs, including mental health, substance abuse, tobacco cessation and diabetes services. At this time, no additional services are projected to be added to the current array.