

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: The Bread Line, Inc.****Federal Tax ID: 92-0111082****Project Title:****Project Type:** Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades

# Bread Line, Inc. - Stone Soup Cafe - Renovations and Service Improvements

**State Funding Requested: \$150,000****House District:** Fairbanks Areawide (7-11)

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

The Bread Line will complete renovation of its organizationally-owned facility to serve hot meals five days a week to those in need, including the homeless. Facility renovation will save the organization costs otherwise spent on rental space and strengthen our service including our partnerships and outreach to the food insecure.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$433,833
Funding Already Secured:	(\$125,750)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	(\$150,000)
Project Deficit:	\$158,083

*Funding Details:*

We are requesting \$149,000 from the Rasmuson Foundation, \$10,000 each from GVEA GoodCents and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Funds, and \$30,000 from the Stroecker and Weeks Foundations.

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:****RENOVATING ASSETS, STRENGTHENING SERVICE**

The core purpose of the Bread Line and Stone Soup Cafe is feeding hungry people 5 days a week. Currently we are providing this service by serving a hot breakfast and offering a sack lunch Monday-Friday while local churches provide one meal on Saturday and Sunday. The Cafe provides over 500 meals a week and does so in the most economical way possible, with volunteers and with donations of food. The Bread Line has a well-established partnership with the Food Bank that provides the majority of the food prepared with the remaining coming from direct donations.

Bread Line has served the Fairbanks community for 27 years fulfilling this important, basic need of providing meals to the food insecure.

Meals are currently served at space rented from a centrally located church in downtown Fairbanks. The building to be renovated will become Stone Soup Cafe's permanent home. It will also provide 12 months of support to strengthen partnerships and successfully transition all services to the new facility.

**Need for Renovating Assets, Strengthening Service**

Project Cost estimate: \$410,750, estimated date for completion: October 15, 2012

**Renovating Assets**

Bread Line, Inc. owns a building centrally located in Fairbanks at 507 Gaffney Road. This facility was originally purchased as a rental property to provide a regular stream of income to provide organizational support for Stone Soup Cafe services.

In 2011, the Board of Directors carefully evaluated current use of their assets through a rigorous planning process and analysis. It became quite clear that renovating assets--modifying and upgrading the building Bread Line owns, rather than continuing to pay mortgage and rent was the best course of action.

This building is currently configured for offices. A professional architect and engineer has contributed services for project design, planning, and cost estimation for renovation scope, timeline, and cost--meeting all needs of the Cafe and kitchen. The facility will meet all codes and requirements.

Facility renovations include:

- Roof repair
- Interior finish of floor, walls, ceiling, bathrooms and walk-in cooler
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- HVAC,-new boiler, hot water baseboard system, kitchen exhaust hoods, and ventilation
- Contingency

Some renovations have begun through the work of volunteers, including that donated by many in the Fairbanks contractor community (see Project Match).

#### Strengthening Service

This project includes support services for one year to cover organizational and facility transitions, expansion and strengthening of partnerships, and increased outreach to the food insecure. This includes:

- Strengthening relations with all organizations in the North Star Borough that work to feed the hungry and the food insecure;
- Reaching out to the Command at both Ft. Wainwright and Eielson AFB to assess the need for on-base/off site services to better understand and serve those in need; Reaching out to the community of churches to determine needs not being met by current food support services and to explore partnering with them to provide meals for their parishioners in need at a location acceptable to the members of the parish;
- Partnering with Tanana Chiefs Conference and the University of Alaska Career and Technical College to provide job readiness skills and certification through development of an occupational endorsement program that would certify the training received and skills mastered while working and training at Stone Soup Cafe.
- Continuing conversation with Beans Cafe of Anchorage for lessons learned and best practices.

#### Why services are essential

The Stone Soup Cafe feeds hungry people by serving a hot breakfast and providing a sack lunch five days a week, serving over 500 meals a week. No one is turned away. Daily tallies are kept of all guests served and of all volunteer hours which are transmitted regularly to the Board of Directors. Up until two years ago, Stone Soup Cafe also served hot lunches. At that time the daily number of meals served exceeded 125. That number dropped when service went to hot breakfast and sack lunches only. We do not know what directly accounts for the change in numbers or to the degree to which there is unmet need. Based on conversations with those who were actively serving at Stone Soup at that time as well as with others who are working to care for the same cohort, it seems likely that the lunch service met the needs of a different cadre of food insecure members of the community. It is our plan, through strengthening of service, to reach out to other organizations and to resume hot lunch meals.

This is our commitment: to stand by those in need until they are able to get decent employment, housing, and food. Our program reduces the physical, mental, and social duress hungry people experience. By providing this service, the Bread Line is able to provide a critical safety net to citizens of the Fairbanks North Star Borough as they face the constraints of poverty.

The Cafe also serves as a pass through for essential services for our clientele. This fall the Cafe supervisor arranged to have flu shots available to guests who wanted them. Local retail stores have provided gloves, socks, and other items that keep people warm in the cold weather. Many individuals and families donate like items.

**Project match**

The Bread Line has broad-based community support from individuals, nonprofit organizations and businesses. We are well into the process of securing \$100,000 in financial contributions and donated services. We have met with the Rasmuson Foundation and intend to submit a proposal for \$150,000-200,000 for this project.

**About Us**

The Bread Line has a 10 member Board of Directors, most of them employed in full time jobs yet most also working in some volunteer capacity whether working at the Cafe or fulfilling an administrative role. Each has made a meaningful financial donation in support of Stone Soup's mission. Some members have been active in other non-profit organizations, for others this is their first time--drawn by the compelling urgency of our mission. The Bread Line was started by three people who felt that urgency and began by making sandwiches in their homes to pass out from backpacks on the streets of Fairbanks. Having a permanent, safe, and welcoming home for the Cafe fulfills that original vision--of being there for our fellow Fairbanksans, so there is never any doubt that the next meal will be available, as long as the need exists, served with dignity and without question. It is that which brings us all together.

**Project Timeline:**

July 1, 2012: Funding Secured

August 1, 2012: Air Handling Equipment Installed

September 1, 2012: Building Renovations

October 1-16, 2012: Project Completion

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Breadline, Inc.

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Jennifer Jolis  
Title: Vice Chair, Board of Directors  
Address: PO Box 73715  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707  
Phone Number: (907)460-2350  
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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☐ Yes ☒ No



**Fairbanks Community Food Bank :: Freely Given Food, Given Freely.**

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January 23, 2012

Senator Joe Paskvan  
Alaska State Legislature

Dear Senator Paskvan,

It is my joy to write in support of the Breadline program. I have worked with and watched the Breadline program in our community for all the time they have been in existence. The original concept was started when the Rev. James Hunter and Dick Ferris made sandwiches in their kitchens and handed those sandwiches out downtown to those who were homeless. A worthy beginning, and a continuing reality. The Breadline has certainly had its' ups and downs in all these years of operation. There is no sustaining grant for hunger services in our state. Hunger response is always grassroots and local, but we have many success stories in Alaska's communities because people care. Bean's Café in Anchorage is a great story, and the Glory Hole in Juneau has served many of Juneau's less fortunate. It takes courage and conviction to operate a small non-profit with hunger as a mission.

In Fairbanks our Breadline needs your support. Kathy Mayo tells me their board of directors will ask for sufficient money to complete the remodel of 507 Gaffney. That has been an obvious and much needed project for many years, and the group now has a board of directors who will see that project through. I am so grateful to them for their perseverance and foresight. They have, literally, done all they have done on a shoestring, and it is our opportunity to help them across the finish line, so they can have a more sustainable organization which can resume a lunch time program for the guests they serve with a hot lunch each day. I hope you can find a way to support them, too. They provide food assistance to those in our community who need one free, hot meal Monday through Friday. On the weekend, this mission is continued by Immaculate Conception Church.

Thank you, Senator Paskvan for considering the request of the Breadline (Stone Soup Café).

Sincerely,

Samantha Kirstein  
Executive Director



A United Way Agency

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH  
115 NORTH CUSHMAN STREET  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
452-3533  
icc.community.service@alaska.net

January 27, 2012

To Whom This May Concern,

This Letter of Support is written on behalf of the newly reorganized Board of Directors for Bread Line Inc. and in support of their fund raising efforts for Stone Soup Café.

It is understood that they are soliciting funds from public and private sources, local and state, for the purpose of capital improvement to the property which will serve as meal service and a future culinary training site for Stone Soup Café.

I have not had the opportunity to review their entire project and have only attended one Board of Directors meeting. However, conversations with some of the newly elected board give me great confidence that they are now moving in the right direction, with a strong and dedicated, professionally skilled support group.

Over the past seven (7) years as Director of Community Service at Immaculate Conception Church (ICC), I have had the opportunity to work with the Stone Soup coordinators, the new board members and community advisors. Both of our organizations have been serving the same population in downtown Fairbanks for about as long. Now, we are working more closely together and it is a good relationship.

Stone Soup maintains a five (5) day a week meal service program and ICC runs weekends and major traditional holiday meals service. Both of our organizations rely on the generosity of food donations from our local Fairbanks Food Bank and others. And we both utilize the kindness of community volunteers to assist us in the delivery of services. Together, we look out for the welfare of our guests, share information to the benefit of our guests, share information about projects in an effort to avoid duplication.

In my capacity as director of ICC Community Service, I have had the opportunity to work with the Statewide and Fairbanks Homeless Coalition, related public agencies and other non-profit groups, and to bring attention to additional needs of the friends we serve.

We rely heavily on the dedication of Bread Line Inc. - Stone Soup Café and support them with hope that they will continue the week day meal service program in a remodeled, affordable location. The loss of their service would be a loss for the entire community.

Thank you for the opportunity to write this letter of on behalf of Bread Line Inc. Stone Soup Café. Your funding generosity will go a long way in providing stability for these much needed services to the "poorest of the poor" and to the dedicated volunteers serving in our community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With kind regards,

Cindy Fields, director  
ICC Community Service



**DOYON**  
— Limited\* —

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Anchorage, Alaska 99515

In Anchorage: (907) 375-4220

January 25, 2012

Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801

Subject: Capital Budget Request- The Breadline

Dear State Representatives and Senators:

Doyon, Limited, the regional Native corporation in Interior Alaska, wholeheartedly supports The Breadline, Inc.'s capital request of \$175K to prepare for an organizationally-owned facility to serve meals to those less fortunate in downtown Fairbanks.

Annually, Doyon, Limited and its various business subsidiaries contribute to numerous non-profit organizations in Interior Alaska. Most recently we donated \$5,000 to the Breadline's Stone Soup Café. As the Alaska Native regional corporation for the Interior with over 18,000 shareholders, we value our community and support non-profits serving those in need in our communities.

Thank you, Senators and Representatives, for considering The Breadline Inc.'s request. We wish you well this legislative session and thank you for the work you do on behalf of the Alaskan people.

If you have any questions or need additional information concerning Doyon's letter feel free to contact me at (907) 459-2000.

Sincerely,

Aaron Schutt  
President and CEO