

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Kenaitze Indian Tribe****Federal Tax ID: 92-0069243****Project Title:****Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition**

Kenaitze Indian Tribe - Dena'ina Health and Wellness Center

State Funding Requested: \$15,000,000
One-Time Need

House District: Kenai Areawide (33-35)**Brief Project Description:**

Funding for a construction of a new health and wellness center in Kenai.
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Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$28,000,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$8,000,000)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	(\$15,000,000)
Project Deficit:	\$5,000,000

*Funding Details:**Total Project Cost: \$28,000,000**Funding Already Secured: (\$8,000,000)**FY2012 State Funding Request: (\$15,000,000)**Project Deficit: \$5,000,000**Funding Details:**Federal Funds (HUD ICDBG/USDA Loan) \$ 4,250,000**Private Grants (Murdock Trust/Rasmuson Fdn) \$ 750,000**Total \$5,000,000***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Kenaitze Indian Tribe has received an Indian Health Service Joint Venture Construction Program award to build and operate a healthcare facility in Kenai, Alaska. The Dena'ina Health and Wellness Center will provide medical, dental and behavioral health services to over 3,000 Alaska Native and American Indian people, 51% of whom are low and moderate income. All State of Alaska sponsored programs, including community mental health services, will be open to the public. Key benefits include bringing more than \$200 million in federal funding to the community over the next 20 years; new jobs through the hiring of local contractors and construction personnel; the employment of over 100 permanent and sustainable healthcare staff, with at least 50 new full-time positions being filled during the first five years of operation; and, improved access to healthcare for under-served population.

The Dena'ina Health and Wellness Center is one of only three projects nationwide selected by the Indian Health Service for the highly competitive Joint Venture Construction Program in FY 2011. Under the joint venture, Kenaitze Indian Tribe will design, construct and equip the new facility. In exchange, the Indian Health Service will fund the operation and maintenance costs of the facility for a minimum of 20 years.

The Dena'ina Health Clinic was established in 1972 as a primary care clinic. The health and dental clinics are currently located in a commercial strip mall, which the Tribe has been leasing for the past 20 years. Although the number of patients using all Tribal services increased 57% from 2001 to 2009, the available facility space is 65% below the level recommended by Indian Health Service. The overarching challenge with the existing facilities is that they offer no room to grow and adequate space is not available in the community to rent or purchase.

In 2009, Kenaitze Indian Tribe started the planning and design process to build the 52,000 square foot Dena'ina Health and Wellness Center to be located on over 3 acres of tribally-owned land in the townsite historic district in the City of Kenai. The facility will be centrally located near many of our low and moderate income residents and situated next door to our Tyotkas Elder Center. The close proximity between patients and providers will enhance care for Elders, who are some of our most vulnerable patients.

The new facility will bring all our health programs under one roof and facilitate the integration of multidisciplinary treatment teams using the patient-centered medical home model of care. This will enable the Tribe to better serve the health care needs of our community and help put our customers in the center of care. This project is widely supported in the community and we have received several formal letters of support from community organizations and public bodies.

Project Timeline:

The project design is currently underway, site preparation work will commence this spring (2012) and the balance of the construction will take place immediately following.

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

Kenaitze Indian Tribe with funding through the Indian Health Service Joint Venture Agreement

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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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