



PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Over 25,000 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Alaskans would benefit greatly with access to information, technology and education. In addition, many Deaf lack community connection and employment due to isolation and the inability to access community resources.

The State of Alaska is in need of a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center. Throughout the United States there are numerous Deaf Centers, which have enhanced the lives of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HOH) within their respective communities - Alaska too needs a center to provide access for Deaf and Hard of Hearing in need.

For the past 3 years, committed community members have gathered to plan, organize and create a Deaf & Hard of Hearing Center to meet the needs of persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the State of Alaska. In the past, the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community has struggled due to lack of resources and integrated program support. Due to the generous support of the state with funding of Phase 1 and Phase 2, systems are in place to enter into the final phase, making this **long anticipated project** complete and operational.





PROJECT SITE

The Board of Trustees for the Alaska Deaf & Hard of Hearing Center (ADHHC) has secured a building that will be the future home of the Denali Deaf Community Center. The ADHHC has partnered with Alyeska Vocational Services to provide the services component for the center. Alyeska Vocational Services is the provider for the State sponsored "Bridges Navigator Program." This program provides assistance navigating and accessing available resources and coordinating social services systems for individuals with multiple disabilities. They provide training to employers and service providers on **Deaf culture values** and coordinate with Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to maximize employment supports and assist individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing in accessing and maintaining appropriate and affordable housing.

Potential services at the Denali Deaf Community Center include:

- Health and Social Services
- Employment Services
- Housing Services
- Training to employers and services providers on needs of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities
- Free public access videophone, caption phone, and TTY
- Outreach and marketing to rural communities
- Counseling Services
- Independent Living Services
- Culinary Arts Classes
- American Sign Language classes



COMMUNITY INPUT PROCESS

Building on input gathered since the inception of the Deaf Center project, the design team facilitated 3 community input sessions throughout the concept design development. At the first two meetings, the design team gave an overview of the project and the project history and then asked participants to work in small groups to answer a series of visioning questions:

- What do you want to get from your Deaf Center experience?
- What activities and services would you like to be provided by the Deaf Center and in what priority?
- What is the most important activity or service that needs to occur at the Deaf Center?
- If there was a headline in the Anchorage Daily News in 5 years regarding the Deaf Center, what would it be?
- What are your group's three key insights for the design team?

The answers to these questions, as well as the discussion that followed provided the design team with the beginnings of the building program and the project's Critical Success Factors.

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

- The space is inviting and **welcoming** to the deaf and hard of hearing community, as well as to the entire Alaskan community.
- The space is designed around the tenets of **DeafSpace***.
- The space is **flexible** in use and can adapt to the changing needs of the community.
- The space provides the most current **technology** for Deaf and Hard of Hearing users.
- The space **generates income** by supporting a social enterprise.

* Created by the University of Gallaudet, DeafSpace is a way of altering or designing surroundings around the needs of a deaf or hard of hearing user.



Denali Deaf Community Center



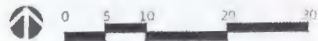
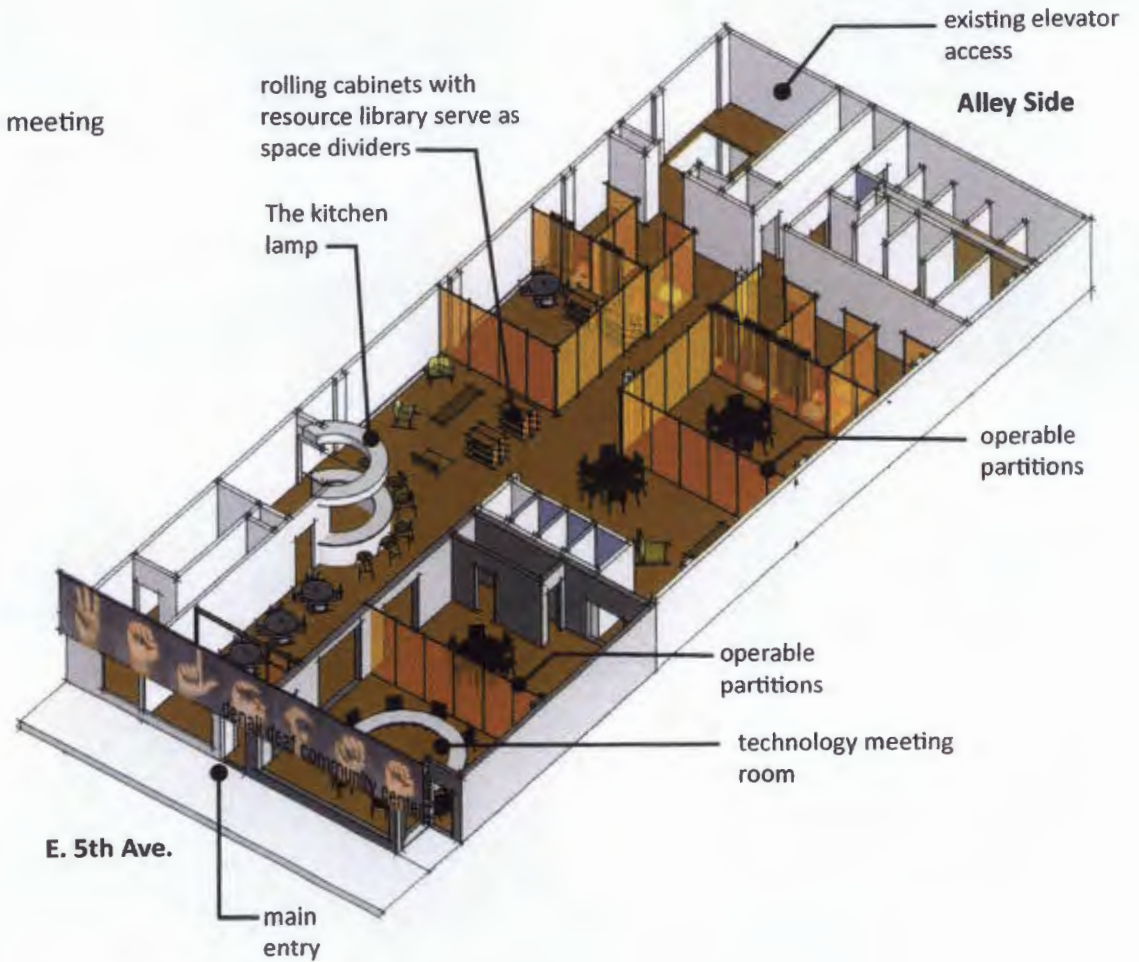
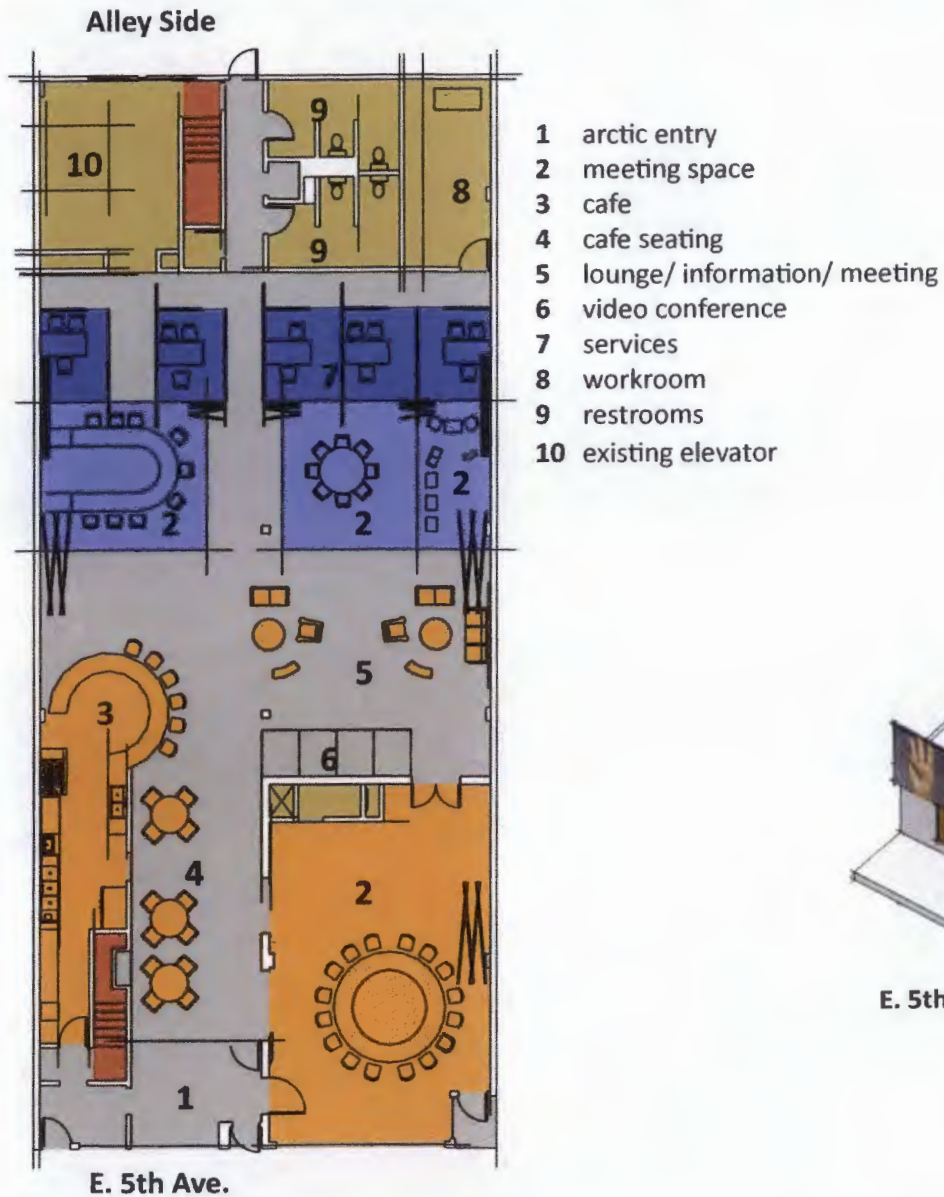
“Life happens around the kitchen table rather than the living room sofa because the lighting is better in the kitchen”

Using the historical information provided by the Board, as well as the community input, the design team generated three renovation options for community input. The options were presented in the third community meeting and participants were asked to select their favorite option, as well as make comments and notes about changes they would make. Based on this input, the Board selected the option “THE KITCHEN LAMP” to be developed into the concept design featured in this funding package.

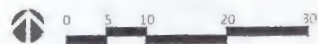
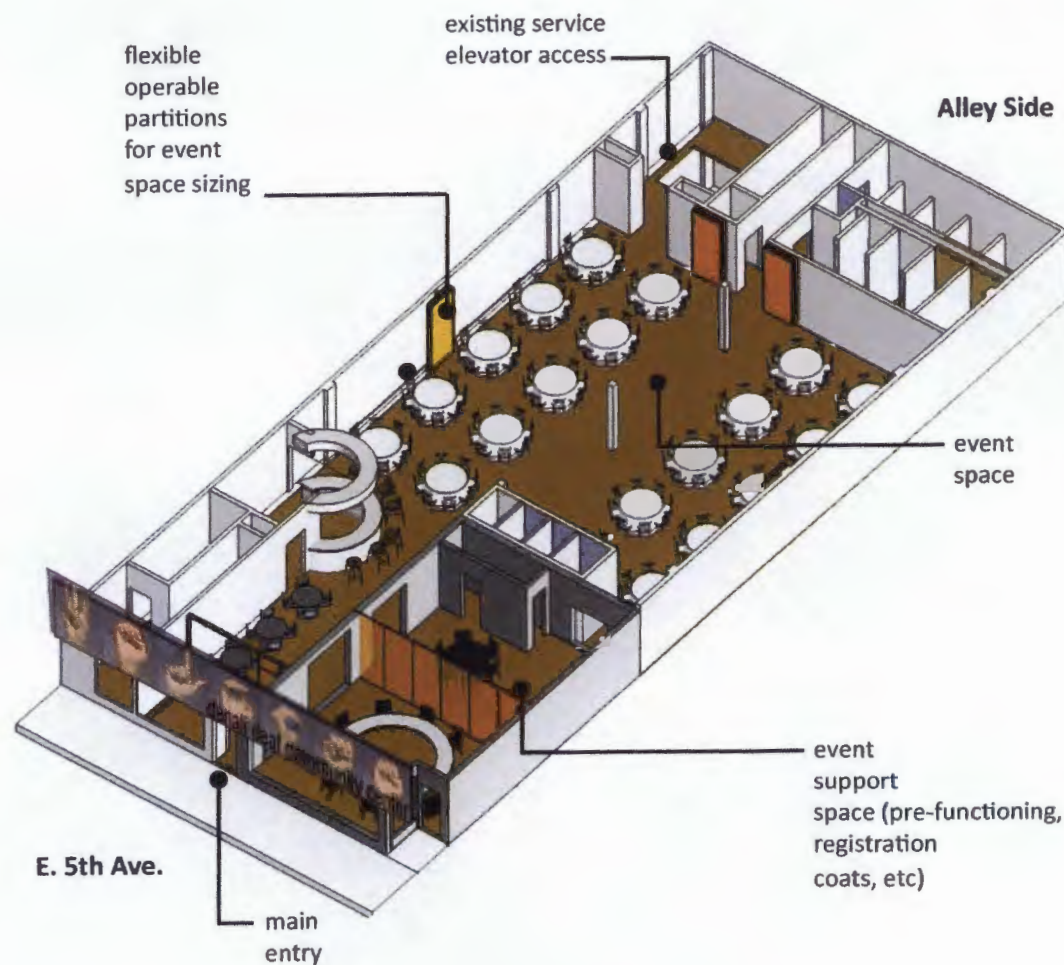
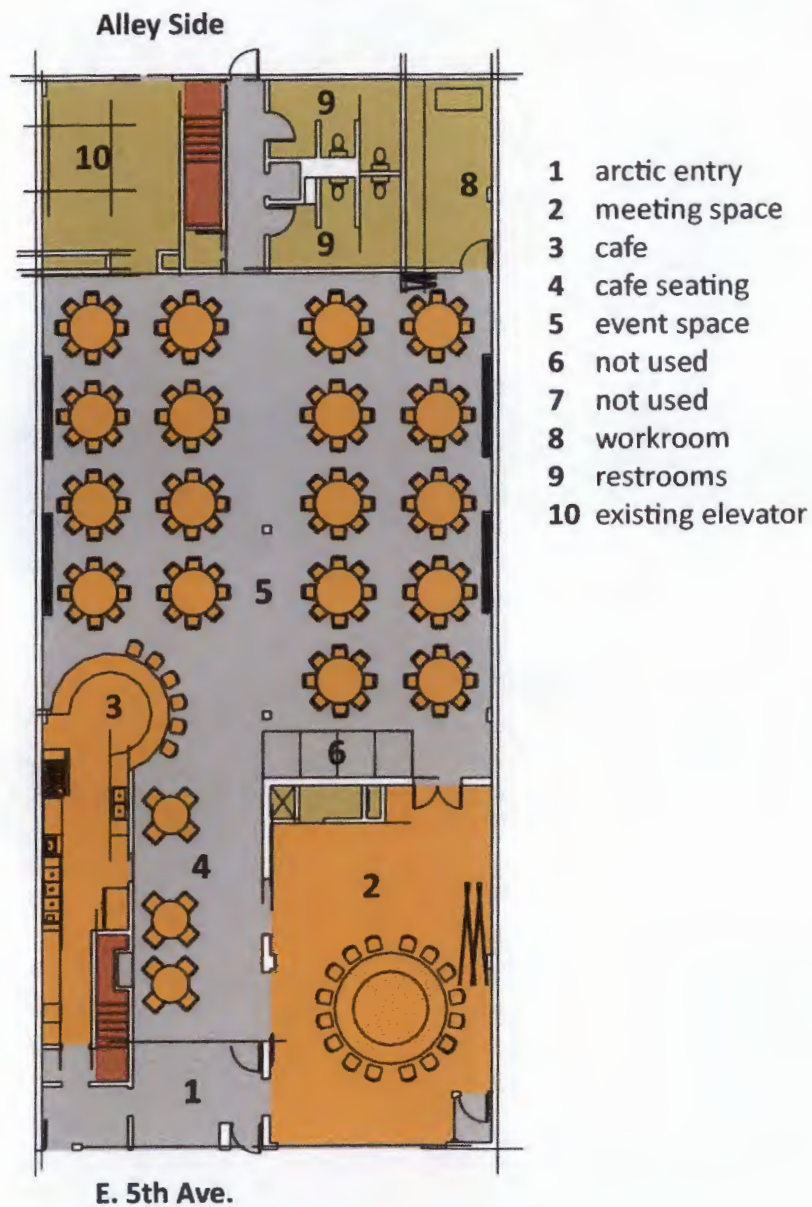
In addition to the project’s Critical Success Factors, the team researched DeafSpace Design Principles to apply to the concept design.

- Design of circulation and gathering spaces that enable signers to move throughout space uninterrupted
- Space that allows for visual connection throughout
- Spatial orientation and the awareness of activities within the surroundings
- Soft, diffused light “attuned to deaf eyes”
- Design to reduce reverberation and other sources of background noise

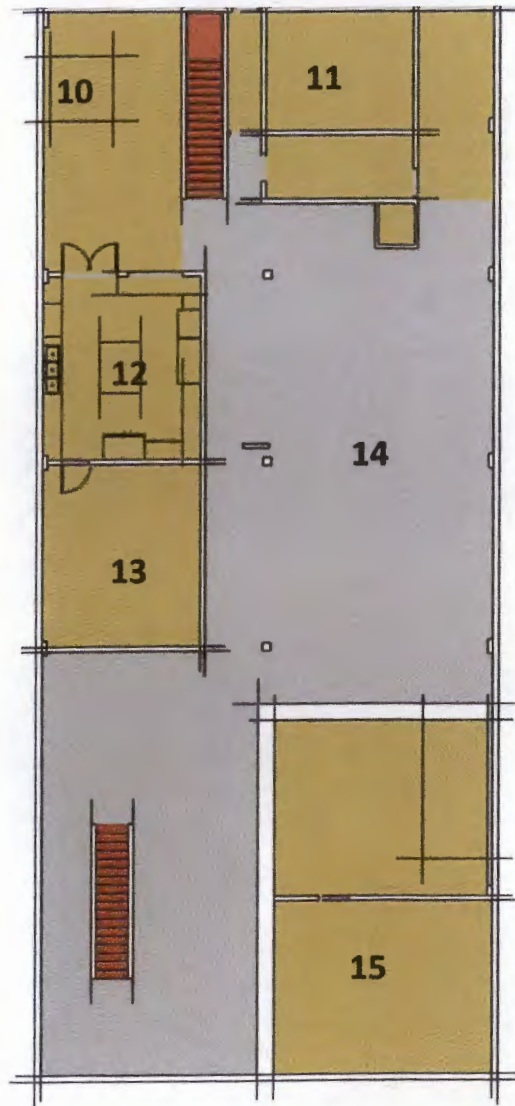
BUILDING RENOVATION PLANS :: Entry Level



BUILDING RENOVATION PLANS :: Entry Level Event Setup



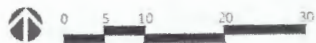
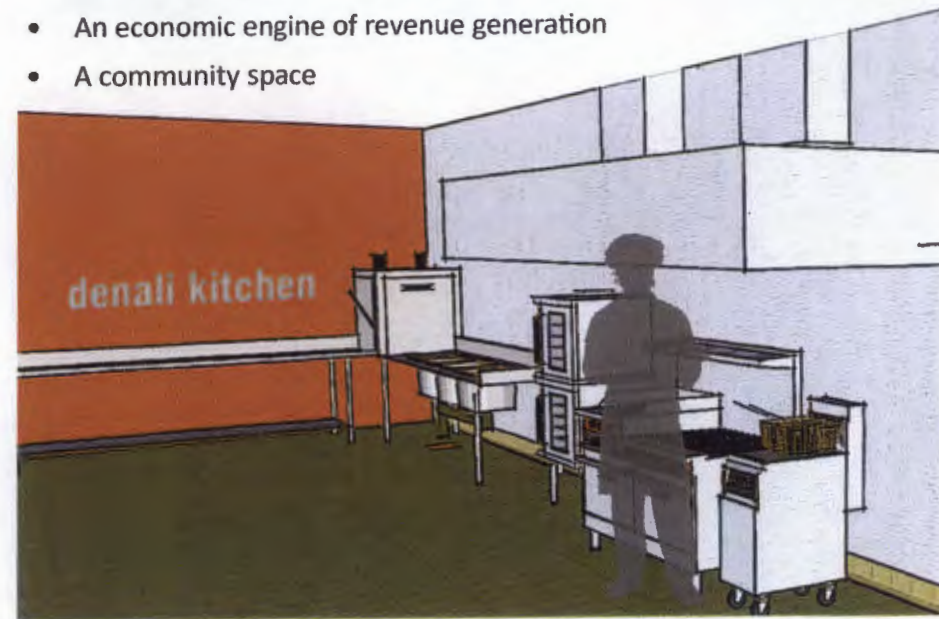
BUILDING RENOVATION PLANS :: Basement Level



- 10 existing elevator
- 11 mechanical/electrical
- 12 commercial kitchen
- 13 kitchen storage area
- 14 rental storage area
- 15 tables and chairs storage

COMMERCIAL KITCHEN

- A training place
- A support space for events
- A rental space for outside caterers
- An economic engine of revenue generation
- A community space



PROJECT BUDGET

1. Interpreter Services: \$35,000

This cost includes estimated services for 2 years (583 hours @ \$60/hr) of communication support for the project team, the Board, the committees and volunteers throughout the completion of the renovation and the formation of a social enterprise.

2. Building Purchase: \$645,000

This cost includes the purchase price of the building.

3. Closing Costs: \$68,500

This cost includes closing fees, a title search and legal services associated with the building purchase.

4. Project Management/Social Enterprise Development: \$175,000

This cost includes:

- Denali Deaf Community Center Project Manager: \$75,000 for 2 years = \$150,000
- Misc. Consulting Services, Assents Management and Foraker: \$10,000
- Deaf Space Design Consultation with Gallaudet University: \$15,000
- In Kind support of \$50,000 is provided by L Van Vactor Social Enterprise Consultant

5. Tenant Improvements: \$1,025,831

Tenant Improvements to the existing 11,000 SF, two story building include a new entry vestibule and doors, upgrades to finishes, upgrades to the lighting systems, upgrades to the existing bathroom, creation of meeting rooms and offices spaces, renovation to an existing office space, renovation and expansion to the existing café and kitchen, the addition of a commercial kitchen, creation of storage units and a façade renovation.

6. Construction Contingency: \$102,583

A 10% construction contingency provides for overages, changes in pricing, shipping or other unforeseen expenses.

7. Architectural/Engineering Fees, Permits, and Inspections: \$149,581

This cost includes fees for the completion of the construction documents to renovate the building, as well as continued facilitated community meetings. The fee also includes estimated costs for the permit for construction and inspections throughout the construction process.

8. Fixtures, Furnishings & Equip & Signage: \$ 150,000

This cost includes office and meeting room furniture, café furniture, art, equipment for operations, technology, event furniture, indoor and outdoor signage.

9. Administration: \$140,000

This cost includes an Administrative support staff, bookkeeping, auditing, office, insurance, legal and construction insurance.

10. Deferred Maintenance Cost: \$100,000

This cost includes maintenance of the roof and heating and plumbing systems

Total Estimated Project Cost: \$2,591,495

LETTERS OF SUPPORT



3330 Arctic Blvd, Suite 101 Anchorage, AK 99503 TEL: (907) 563-2599
ATLA is a public non-profit 501(c)3 agency which provides assistive technology solutions for Alaskans with disabilities

February 26, 2014

Dear Aaron,

Assistive Technology of Alaska (ATLA) is sending this letter of support expressing our full endorsement and commitment to the future Denali Deaf Community Center (DDCC). ATLA see everyday the tremendous need for assistive technology and social services to support Deaf and Hard of Hearing folks in our Alaskan communities. As well, there is an ongoing need for community education throughout Alaska. The DDCC is greatly needed and will assist in helping to fix a broken service system by enhancing communication and community participation for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in our communities.

Sincerely,

Mystie Rail, Executive Director



Denali Deaf Community Center
Mr. Aaron Stribling, President, Board of Trustees
223 East 5th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Stribling,

Access Alaska, Inc. is sending this letter of support expressing support for the Denali Deaf Community Center (DDCC).

As a provider of Independent Living Services we see every day the tremendous need of social services support for individuals who are deaf & hard of hearing in Alaskan communities. We also encounter the ongoing need to increase accessibility to said services through information and education.

The DDCC will provide a much needed facility allowing individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing to have a place to go, congregate, receive information, services, communicate with peers and participate fully in our community.

Access Alaska, Inc. is looking forward to partnering with the DDCC to enhance services and support for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing into the future.

Sincerely,

Kerry L. Turnbow
Acting Executive Director
Access Alaska, Inc.

Anchorage
1217 E. 10th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 907.248.4777
Fax: 907.248.0639
Toll Free: 800.770.4488
TTY: 907.248.8799
VP: 888.808.1496

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Phone: 907.479.7940
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Toll Free: 800.770.7940
TTY: 907.474.9819
VP: 888.971.2832

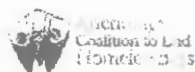
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Kenai
Physical:
33680 Community College Dr.
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Mailing:
PO Box 454
Kenai, AK 99611-0454
Phone: 907.262.4956
Fax: 907.262.4936
Toll Free: 888.260.9336

www.accessalaska.org
info@accessalaska.org
facebook.com/access_alaska

WEB: atlaak.org | FAX: (907) 563-0699 | TOLL: (800) 723 - ATLA | TTY: (907) 561-2592

LETTERS OF SUPPORT



Aaron Stribling
Board President, DDCC
223 E 5th Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501

March 7, 2014

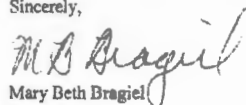
Mr. Stribling:

This letter is written in support of the future Denali Deaf Community Center (DDCC). The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH) sees this as a valuable service particularly to those experiencing homelessness and who are at risk of homelessness.

There are many ASL users in the homeless/at risk community who would benefit from the services provided by the DDCC. It is a very important bridge to accessing services, trust and independence. At the 2014 Project Homeless Connect (an annual event run by ACEH), an ASL interpreter's services were utilized by a number of individuals. This assistance allowed the hearing impaired clients to maximize the services at the event. Said one observer: "It was powerful to witness."

ACEH would like to wish the DDCC much success. If there is an opportunity for ACEH to further support your efforts, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,


Mary Beth Bragiel
Chair

P.O. Box 243041 Anchorage, AK 99524 * (907) 222-7309 * www.anchoragahomeless.org



Catholic
Social Services

1710 East 20th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99508 • (907) 222-7300 • Fax (907) 255-1091 • www.csanlaska.org

Brother Francis Sheher

Charlie Elder House

Clare House

Family Disability Services

Homeless Family Services

Pregnancy Support &
Adoption Services

Refugee Assistance &
Immigration Services

St. Francis House

Aaron Stribling
Board President, DDCC
223 E 5th Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501


March 7, 2014

Mr. Stribling:

This letter is written in support of the future Denali Deaf Community Center (DDCC). Catholic Social Services serves a number of hearing impaired individuals through our eight programs. Day to day activities can be difficult for this population. For deaf individuals who are also homeless or on the verge of homelessness, the obstacles can seem insurmountable. The support that the DDCC will offer to this community will be invaluable.

Thanks to you and the other DDCC Board members for taking on the task of this important work.

Sincerely,


Susan H. Bomalaski, PhD, LPC
Executive Director

Providing Help
Creating Hope



LETTERS OF SUPPORT



2221 East Northern Lights Blvd., Suite 108
Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone 907-562-7019
Fax 907-344-7284
VP 866-915-9716

February 1st, 2014

Denali Deaf Community Center
Mr. Aaron Stribling, President, Board of Trustees
223 East 5th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Aaron,

The Board & staff of Alyeska Vocational Services (AVS) are sending this letter of support expressing our full endorsement and commitment to the future Denali Deaf Community Center (DDCC).

AVS, as contractors for the AK Bridges Deaf Navigator Program, see every day the tremendous need for social services to support deaf in our Alaskan communities. As well, we encounter the ongoing need for community education. The DDCC seems profoundly necessary, and will contribute towards helping to fix a broken service system by enhancing communication & community participation for deaf in our communities.

Sincerely,

Bill Munson
Executive Director
Alyeska Vocational Services

For more information about the project:
website: www.alaksadeafcenter.org
email: alaskadeafcenter@gmail.com
Video Phone: 907-268-5520
Communications: media.denalidcc@gmail.com

RE TPS 62205 ROSSIA for St Nicholas Preservation

Richard Dauenhauer
3740 N. Douglas Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801
586-4708

I'm here to ask the house finance committee to restore to the budget as much as possible of TPS # 62205: ROSSIA, Request for preservation work at St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church. This was dropped from the Senate version.

I realize that given the current financial situation, it is unrealistic to hope for all of the \$50,000 request, but I hope that some of it can be restored.

This would demonstrate State support for preservation of an important historic site in Juneau, a block from the Capitol, and a major visitor destination. Even a small amount of legislative support would help us raise additional matching funds.

I have additional background information on the project if you would like me to leave it with you.

Thank you for inviting public testimony.

TPS # 62205: ROSSIA Request for Preservation Work at St Nicholas Orthodox Church
Additional and Background Information

TPS # 62205 is a request for help in restoring the historic St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church in downtown Juneau, one block from the Capitol, now in its 120th year.

Requested funds will be added to funds from the Rasmuson Foundation and will be used for summer 2014 activities:

- replacement of the chapel foundation
- seismic upgrades on the rectory foundation
- improved site drainage to mitigate moisture that has put the foundation in jeopardy.

We are not asking for support of any religious functions of the church, or for any operational expenses, but only for historic preservation efforts that are beyond the financial capability of our small parish.

The Church Building

Built in 1893 at the request of the Juneau Tlingit community and consecrated in 1894, St. Nicholas Church is one of the ten oldest buildings in Juneau, and has been in continuous use for its original purpose for 120 years. The Church has a long history of supporting community projects. Fr. Andrew Kashevaroff (pastor 1913-1944) was a founder and first curator of the Alaska Historical Museum and Library.

St. Nicholas is a major tourist destination, attracting thousands of visitors from around the world as a living presence of the historic past of Alaska's capital city. Parish volunteers keep the church open on a regular schedule and offer guided tours to visitors May through September—five months of the year, during the tourist season, when we have 3 to 5 cruise ships in port most days. Guests are always welcome, and special tours for individuals or groups can be arranged by appointment.

The church architecture and historical furnishings are unique, including rare nineteenth century Russian icons as well as recent ones by Juneau iconographer Charles Rohrbacher. St. Nicholas Church has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973, and in 2009 was identified by the Alaska Association for Historic Preservation as one of the top ten most endangered historic properties in the State. It has been one of the principal and most enduring representatives of the Russian Colonial style of architecture in Alaska from 1894 to the present. To lose this landmark due to neglect and decay would be to lose a local iconic landmark, and it would be Juneau's loss.

ROSSIA, Inc.

Our parish is partnering with ROSSIA, Inc. (Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska), whose mission is dedicated to preserving the historic Russian Orthodox churches throughout Alaska, and the historic articles, icons, and furnishings therein. ROSSIA, Inc. is a non-profit, non-sectarian 501 (c) (3) organization based in Anchorage. ROSSIA was established in 2002 by a group of Alaskans who recognized the historic and architectural importance of Alaska's Russian Orthodox churches. ROSSIA, Inc. has a long track record and most recently completed the restoration of the church in Kenai. Projects are being initiated on Kodiak Island and in southwest Alaska, among other areas.

ROSSIA has been active in St. Nicholas restoration for ten years (2003-2013), beginning with initial assessments and planning, and gradually implementing projects. In recent years, we raised \$65,000 in funding through a \$50,000 grant from the State of Alaska, \$10,000 in grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and numerous private donations directly to ROSSIA or through the St. Nicholas Church preservation account and the Juneau community-based Friends of St. Nicholas organization. In July 2012, our Tier 1 request to the Rasmuson Foundation was awarded in the amount of \$18,215, which supported our efforts to reinstall the bell tower over the Narthex. The bell tower was removed in 2007 due to excessive rot and was on blocks in the yard until its restoration and replacement in November 2012. Touch-up trim and painting were completed in spring of 2013. The historic rectory was re-roofed in 2013.

A few months ago, the Rasmuson Foundation awarded a grant to ROSSIA that includes significant funding for St. Nicholas: church foundation/drainage (\$118,500), historic rectory roof replacement (\$71,250), and fire suppression installation (\$70,550). ROSSIA, Inc. is requesting \$50,000 in total project funds from the State of Alaska, which will be added to funds from Rasmuson Foundation. As noted above, summer 2014 activities are replacement of the chapel foundation, seismic upgrades on the rectory foundation, and improved site drainage to mitigate moisture that has put the foundation in jeopardy. In addition to major support noted above, we also receive significant community support. In February 2014 we received a \$10,000 donation from APIRT (Aleutian Pribilof Island Restitution Trust).

The Church and Alaska Native Language and Culture

Throughout its history in Alaska, the Orthodox Church has supported Alaska Native language and culture, and championed bilingual education. In Southeast Alaska the Church was a pioneer in fostering Tlingit literacy and translating scripture and liturgical materials into Tlingit, in contrast to those missionaries who banned it not only in church use, but also in the educational system in Alaska. St. Nicholas Church operated a school at the turn of the 20th century, and the schoolhouse is prominent in early photos, but disappears from the record after 1917. Tlingit remains in regular use as a liturgical language at St. Nicholas Church, and Yup'ik and Aleut are used as well.

Throughout the American period the Orthodox Church in Alaska has supported Alaska Native political action in defense of indigenous possession and use of the land. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Church used its official channels to report and protest local abuse of power to the highest levels of American government. The Orthodox Church brotherhoods were a significant model for the design and traditions of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood, most visibly in the adoption of the *koogéinaa* as a ceremonial sash, but in many conceptual aspects as well.

Update: March 2014. Contact Richard Dauenhauer, 586-4708
richard.dauenhauer@uas.alaska.edu

ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

501(c) (3) Non-Profit Tax Exempt • P.O. Box 20130 • Juneau, Alaska 99802 • (907) 586-1023



JUNEAU ALASKA | FOUNDED 1894

February 2, 2014

Representative Muñoz
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Room 421
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Muñoz:

Please accept this letter in support of a state funding request from ROSSIA, Inc., (Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska) of \$50,000. toward much needed drainage and foundation work on the St. Nicholas Church in Juneau.

St. Nicholas Church, in partnership with ROSSIA, continues to seek funding for preservation work on this historic church. The church and its adjacent "old rectory" are historic and cultural landmarks of Juneau, on the National Register of Historic Places, are listed as one of ten most endangered buildings in Alaska and both buildings severely need drainage and foundation work to preserve these buildings. Built in 1893, with the community support of many Tlingit leaders, nearly 700 of the 1,500 native Alaskans in town were baptized; and continues to be an important part of the cultural heritage of Juneau. Today, St. Nicholas has an active parish and the church remains in use for regular, weekly services. Throughout the summer and by appointment in the winter, the church is open for tours. St. Nicholas church is an important part of the Juneau community including its appeal to tourists throughout the world.

I encourage your support of this request so that this important restoration work continues.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Erickson, Parish Council President

ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

501(c) (3) Non-Profit Tax Exempt • P.O. Box 20130 • Juneau, Alaska 99802 • (907) 586-1023



February 2, 2014

Senator Egan
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Room 9
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Egan:

Please accept this letter in support of a state funding request from ROSSIA, Inc., (Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska) of \$50,000. toward much needed drainage and foundation work on the St. Nicholas Church in Juneau.

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I encourage your support of this request so that this important restoration work continues.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Erickson, Parish Council President



January 31, 2014

Ms. Sheri Buretta
Chairperson – ROSSIA, Inc.

Please accept this letter in support of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church in Juneau in their preservation efforts with ROSSIA, Inc. (Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska). A grant from the Alaska State Legislature will assist in financial necessary restoration and preservation efforts to this church.

The restoration and preservation of Juneau's only Orthodox church (and the oldest continually functioning Orthodox church building in Southeast Alaska) will assure its continued presence as a visitor attraction and opportunity for education regarding the Russian presence in 19th-century Alaska. This unique structure and the central location of St. Nicholas make it a popular stop on city walking and driving tours and greatly adds to the unique flavor of downtown Juneau.

To lose this landmark to neglect and decay would be to lose a local iconic landmark, and it would be Juneau's loss.

The Juneau Convention & Visitors Bureau urges the Alaska State Legislature to approve grant monies for ROSSIA, Inc. so St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church will continue to flourish.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wojzeschke

President/CEO

Juneau Convention & Visitors Bureau



February 6, 2014

To The Legislative Body of the State of Alaska
Juneau, Alaska

It has come to our attention that an appropriation request is being submitted to the Legislature by the Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska (ROSSIA) organization for work to St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Juneau. Immediately needed work to the Church includes the replacement of the foundation of the chapel and site drainage improvements. As the principal non-profit, statewide organization advocating and promoting preservation of historic sites and structures in Alaska, the Alaska Association for Historic Preservation (AAHP) wishes to convey its strong support for ROSSIA's funding request.

With well over two hundred years of tradition in Alaska, the Russian Orthodox Church has left an historic imprint over much of our state, and many of its churches continue to be a vital part of communities throughout the state. Six church properties are listed as National Historic Landmarks, the nation's highest category of recognition for historical significance, and twenty-three are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Beyond these twenty-nine listed properties, another half dozen or so have already succumbed to the ravages of time and harsh Alaskan weather and will go unrecognized due to their advanced loss of material integrity. A full list of church properties is available at www.rossialaska.org/churches.

The importance of this legacy is illustrated by a variety of Russian Orthodox church properties such as St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Juneau, St. George the Great Martyr Church on St. George Island, Presentation of Our Lord Chapel in Nikolai, St. Nicholas Chapel in Igiugig, and Transfiguration of Our Lord Church in Pilot Station, to name a few. These properties continue to actively represent a vital part of Alaskans' historical and spiritual culture, particularly in many of our smaller bush communities.

Over the past ten years, ROSSIA has proven itself to be an organization that is very capable of planning and executing important restoration and preservation projects. Their most recent project at Holy Assumption Church in Kenai successfully implemented some much needed structural repairs that were funded, in part, by a federal grant.

Recent successful rehabilitation work done on several National Register churches - St. Nicholas Church in Juneau, Ascension of Our Lord Chapel in Karluk, St. Sergius of Radzoneh in Chuathbaluk, Old St. Nicholas Church in Eklutna, and Saints Sergius/Herman of Valaam Church in Nanwalek - serve as examples of the good work of ROSSIA.

We believe ROSSIA's funding request will be well used to implement further work at the Holy Assumption Orthodox Church in Kenai, a National Historic Landmark.

AAHP appreciates your sincere attention to this request.

Kind regards,

Anne Elise Pollnow, AAHP President

ROSSIA has been active in St. Nicholas restoration for ten years (2003-2013), beginning with initial assessments and planning, and gradually implementing projects. In recent years, we raised \$65,000 in funding through a \$50,000 grant from the State of Alaska, \$10,000 in grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and numerous private donations directly to ROSSIA or through the St. Nicholas Church preservation account and the Juneau community-based Friends of St. Nicholas organization. In July 2012, our Tier 1 request to the Rasmuson Foundation was awarded in the amount of \$18,215, which supported our efforts to reinstall the bell tower over the Narthex. The bell tower was removed in 2007 due to excessive rot and was on blocks in the yard until its restoration and replacement in November 2012. Touch-up trim and painting were completed in spring of 2013. The historic rectory was re-roofed in 2013.

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Throughout its history in Alaska, the Orthodox Church has supported Alaska Native language and culture, and championed bilingual education. In Southeast Alaska the Church was a pioneer in fostering Tlingit literacy and translating scripture and liturgical materials into Tlingit, in contrast to those missionaries who banned it not only in church use, but also in the educational system in Alaska. St. Nicholas Church operated a school at the turn of the 20th century, and the schoolhouse is prominent in early photos, but disappears from the record after 1917. Tlingit remains in regular use as a liturgical language at St. Nicholas Church, and Yup'ik and Aleut are used as well.

Throughout the American period the Orthodox Church in Alaska has supported Alaska Native political action in defense of indigenous possession and use of the land. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Church used its official channels to report and protest local abuse of power to the highest levels of American government. The Orthodox Church brotherhoods were a significant model for the design and traditions of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood, most visibly in the adoption of the *koogéinaa* as a ceremonial sash, but in many conceptual aspects as well.

Update: March 2014. Contact Richard Dauenhauer, 586-4708
richard.dauenhauer@uas.alaska.edu

TPS # 62205: ROSSIA Request for Preservation Work at St Nicholas Orthodox Church
Additional and Background Information

TPS # 62205 is a request for help in restoring the historic St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church in downtown Juneau, one block from the Capitol, now in its 120th year.

Requested funds will be added to funds from the Rasmuson Foundation and will be used for summer 2014 activities:

- replacement of the chapel foundation
- seismic upgrades on the rectory foundation
- improved site drainage to mitigate moisture that has put the foundation in jeopardy.

We are not asking for support of any religious functions of the church, or for any operational expenses, but only for historic preservation efforts that are beyond the financial capability of our small parish.

The Church Building

Built in 1893 at the request of the Juneau Tlingit community and consecrated in 1894, St. Nicholas Church is one of the ten oldest buildings in Juneau, and has been in continuous use for its original purpose for 120 years. The Church has a long history of supporting community projects. Fr. Andrew Kashevaroff (pastor 1913-1944) was a founder and first curator of the Alaska Historical Museum and Library.

St. Nicholas is a major tourist destination, attracting thousands of visitors from around the world as a living presence of the historic past of Alaska's capital city. Parish volunteers keep the church open on a regular schedule and offer guided tours to visitors May through September—five months of the year, during the tourist season, when we have 3 to 5 cruise ships in port most days. Guests are always welcome, and special tours for individuals or groups can be arranged by appointment.

The church architecture and historical furnishings are unique, including rare nineteenth century Russian icons as well as recent ones by Juneau iconographer Charles Rohrbacher. St. Nicholas Church has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973, and in 2009 was identified by the Alaska Association for Historic Preservation as one of the top ten most endangered historic properties in the State. It has been one of the principal and most enduring representatives of the Russian Colonial style of architecture in Alaska from 1894 to the present. To lose this landmark due to neglect and decay would be to lose a local iconic landmark, and it would be Juneau's loss.

ROSSIA, Inc.

Our parish is partnering with ROSSIA, Inc. (Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska), whose mission is dedicated to preserving the historic Russian Orthodox churches throughout Alaska, and the historic articles, icons, and furnishings therein. ROSSIA, Inc. is a non-profit, non-sectarian 501 (c) (3) organization based in Anchorage. ROSSIA was established in 2002 by a group of Alaskans who recognized the historic and architectural importance of Alaska's Russian Orthodox churches. ROSSIA, Inc. has a long track record and most recently completed the restoration of the church in Kenai. Projects are being initiated on Kodiak Island and in southwest Alaska, among other areas.

Project Title: ROSSIA Inc. - Preservation Work for St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

TPS Number: 62205

Priority: 1

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Grants to Named Recipient (AS 37.05.316)

Federal Tax ID: 71-0879791

Grant Recipient: ROSSIA Inc.

FY2015 State Funding Request: \$50,000

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

St. Nicholas Orthodox church has civil and structural design drawings in hand to replace the chapel foundation, seismically upgrade the rectory foundation and improve site drainage to mitigate moisture problems in both buildings. Partners and community members are in support with financial and in-kind assistance.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$168,500
Funding Already Secured:	(\$118,500)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	(\$50,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

Explanation of Other Funds:

Rasmuson Foundation (2013) - \$118,500

Structural design - foundation and drainage:

National Trust for Historic Preservation (2013) - \$5,000

Parish donations (2013) - \$5,000

Rasmuson Foundation (2013) - \$3,300

Rasmuson Foundation (2012 - \$18,215 & 2013 - \$141,800).

Aleutian Pribilof Islands Restitution Trust (2013 - \$10,000).

National Trust for Historic Preservation (2010 - \$5,000).

Alaska Association for Historic Preservation (2010 - \$4,000).

State of Alaska (2012 - \$50,000).

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

History and background:

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in downtown Juneau is a landmark like no other in Juneau, with few like it in Alaska. It represents some of the oldest remaining structures in Alaska and holds a place on the National Register of Historic Places. Built in 1894 and with an active parish today, it holds 120 years of history, culture and worship in Alaska. To lose this landmark because of neglect and decay would be a significant cultural and historical loss to Juneauites, Alaskans, and travelers interested in historical, cultural and educational tourism.

We are entering a critical point in the preservation of St. Nicholas. Phase one of the work has been completed, with the help of Rasmuson Foundation, partner organizations, the State of Alaska, and individual donors (see funding sources and dates above). This work included the preservation assessment, inspection of the foundation, re-roofing of the rectory and narthex, reconstruction of the bell tower support beams, and refurbishment and reinstallation of the bell.

St. Nicholas is "shovel ready" for phase two, including 1) the repair and replacement of the foundation and improvements for adequate site drainage, and 2) the design and installation of a state-of-the-art fire suppression system.

ROSSIA, Inc. is requesting this CAPSIS grant to share expenses for foundation repair and replacement and site drainage at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Juneau. We have dedicated funds from Rasmuson Foundation to begin this work.

Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska (ROSSIA), Inc., is an Alaskan non-profit whose mission is to preserve Alaska's Russian Orthodox Churches and Iconography. We have successfully administered several State of Alaska grants, including a 2013 grant for preservation work on Holy Assumption Orthodox Church in Kenai. Our work is of the highest quality in historic preservation; it is a model in collaboration between historic architects, parishioners, Native organizations, and anthropologists; and the vast majority of work is contracted to Alaskans.

Specifics on Foundation Repair/Replacement and Site Drainage:

Inadequate site drainage has been affecting the foundations of both the St. Nicholas Chapel and rectory for many years. The soil is so moist it has jeopardized the foundation. The chapel lacks an adequate seismic connection between the building and foundation. The piers do not have footings and are not secured to the foundation posts.

This project is very timely because ROSSIA received funding from Rasmuson Foundation in order to begin the work to replace the unstable foundation supporting the chapel and assist with site drainage improvements. The critical first step of structural design was completed in 2013 through a \$5,000 grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which was matched with \$5,000 from the Parish of St. Nicholas.

With the help of the State of Alaska request in this application, foundation repair/replacement and site drainage improvements can proceed in tandem, which will minimize disruption to the site and enable us to coordinate archaeological monitoring for ground disturbing activities.

Budget detail:

Total Project Cost: \$168,000

Rasmuson dedicated funds for this specific project from 2013 Tier II award: \$118,500

State request: \$50,000

Project Timeline:

Planning and design:

Ground breaking - April, 2014

Dirt work - Summer, 2014

Project completion and clean up - Fall, 2014

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

St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Sheri Buretta
Address: 19530 Wingham Circle
Eagle River, AK 99577
Phone Number: (907)227-0595
Email: sburetta@chugach-ak.com

This project has been through a public review process at the local level and it is a community priority.

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church – Juneau



Built in 1893 - National Register of Historic Places

ROSSIA, Inc and St. Nicholas parish successfully restored and reinstalled the bell and frame over the narthex in November, 2012 and re-roofed the rectory in 2013.

Working together, ROSSIA, Inc and the St. Nicholas parish have made a plan and are poised for the bulk of preservation work to begin.

ROSSIA, Inc. is requesting \$50,000 in total project funds from the State of Alaska, which will be added to funds from Rasmuson Foundation.

Funds will be used for

- replacement of the chapel foundation
- seismic upgrades on the rectory foundation
- improved site drainage to mitigate moisture that's put the foundation in jeopardy

Please support grant application TPS # 62205, ROSSIA, Inc.
Preservation Work for St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Contact: Richard Dauenhauer 586-4708 for further information

ROSSIA

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX SACRED SITES IN ALASKA

Sheri Buretta,
Chair

Dorothy Gray,
Treasurer

Rebecca Shaffer,
Secretary

Tara Bourdukofsky

Ana Dittmar

Andrew Guy

Vanessa Norman

Skye Sturm

Ex officio:

Bishop Elect,
Archimandrite David,
Chancellor and
Administrator, Diocese
of Sitka and Alaska

December 2, 2013

Greetings to you from ROSSIA!

Our organization is grateful for many blessings this year, and we thank the organizations, parishes, community members, and professionals supporting ROSSIA's work as we move into our next decade.

ROSSIA was successful in securing two major grants to support our work in the historic preservation of Russian Orthodox churches and iconography. Many thanks to Rasmuson Foundation for the Tier 2 grant and to the State of Alaska for its designated legislative funding! With these two grants of \$495,000 and \$230,000, respectively, we have moved forward with a large portion of work on Holy Assumption in Kenai and St. Nicholas in Juneau.

Grant funds for Holy Assumption in Kenai were designated for the construction of a mechanical outbuilding, which is nearing completion. This building houses mechanical components for the church, including a fire suppression system, a restroom, and a gift shop. Construction of the outbuilding began this summer and contractors are currently painting the interior. Completed work to-date includes design, excavation, sidewalks, foundation, roofing, wall framing, rough in for the fire suppression system and drywall. We're looking forward to inviting you to a ribbon cutting this Spring!



New mechanical outbuilding for Holy Assumption

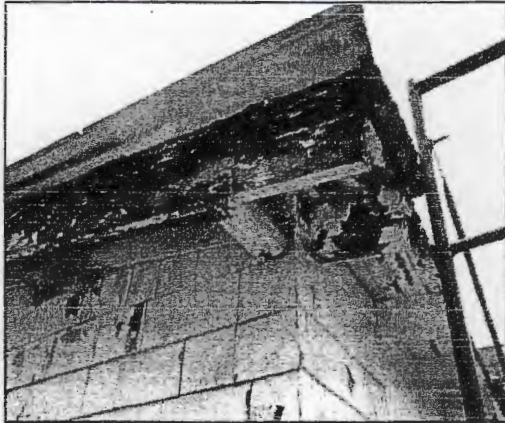
P. O. Box 212315 • Anchorage, AK 99521-2315 • www.rossialaska.org

Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska



ROSSIA Inc. is a 501(c)(3) U.S. tax exempt organization

St. Nicholas Orthodox church and rectory rank among the oldest of Alaska's historic properties, and St. Nicholas is on the National Register of Historic Places. We are happy to announce the preservation design and construction work at St. Nicholas is officially moving into phase 2, with the re-roofing of the rectory complete, and work in the wings to replace the foundation, improve site drainage, and begin work on the installation of a state of the art fire suppression system.



St. Nicholas rectory roof in poor condition



New roof on the St. Nicholas rectory

We are so pleased that the work toward our mission is continuing with the help of Rasmuson Foundation, the State of Alaska, and the continued technical assistance from the National Park Service. But we could not even begin our work without the support of our community and parish members. Alaska's Russian Orthodox Churches are some of the oldest existing buildings in our state. Many are in active use and in grave states of disrepair. Our plans for work are driven by history and the elements, and our time for restoration is now.

Preservation needs are many, and the following are included in our immediate plans:


- Completion of fire suppression systems in Holy Assumption and St. Nicholas
- Replacing the foundation for the St. Nicholas chapel
- Condition Assessment and recommendations for treatment for Ascension of Our Lord Chapel in Karluk
- Design and installation of a fire suppression system for Holy Ascension in Unalaska

We invite you to join with us in this important work by making a financial contribution to ROSSIA, Inc. Donations can be made by mailing a personal check or by credit card through our website www.rossialaska.org/support.

Many thanks for your generosity and support!

Sincerely,
ROSSIA, Inc. Board of Directors

P. O. Box 212315 • Anchorage, AK 99521-2315 • www.rossialaska.org

Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska 

ROSSIA Inc. is a 501(c)(3) U.S. tax exempt organization

Re: K-20 STEAM Education Component of BAKLAP
Capital Budget Item: Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation, Production
One-time completion funding request for \$700,000

Testimony submitted by Jan Dawe, Co-Director of BAKLAP, and
Director, K-20 STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) Education Component
April 15, 2014

THIS PACKET INCLUDES:

Pages 1-2: BAKLAP Program Highlights

Pages 3-6: CAPSIS Information

BENEFITS IF BAKLAP'S K-20 STEAM EDUCATION PROGRAM RECEIVES COMPLETION FUNDING:

- 1) COMPLETION OF THE TASKS THE LEGISLATURE REQUESTED SINCE THE PROJECT WAS FUNDED IN 2012

(SEE K-20 STEAM EDUCATION TABLE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS PACKET FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE-ASSESSMENT RESEARCH PROJECT)

- 2) COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT WILL PLACE ALASKA IN A LEADERSHIP ROLE FOR THESE TYPES OF SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS ON A NATIONAL LEVEL

(SINCE BAKLAP WAS FUNDED, THE PROJECT HAS BEEN FEATURED ON A NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION WEBPAGE; STAFF HAS BEEN INVITED TO SPEAK AT SEVERAL STEM EDUCATION CONFERENCES AS WELL AS HELP ORGANIZE A NATIONAL CONFERENCE, BECAUSE)

CONSEQUENCES IF BAKLAP'S K-20 STEAM EDUCATION PROGRAM DOESN'T RECEIVE COMPLETION FUNDING:

BAKLAP is 100% grant-supported. Without BAKLAP funding to bring the project's work to its planned completion, BAKLAP's K-20 STEAM Education component will cease to function. The development of curriculum kits as the carrier of the OneTree's activities and lesson plans, and an assessment study to help the state develop performance-based educational standards will be terminated. The teacher-researcher group would not be able to continue its work. The project's robust and rigorous outreach efforts, would fail.

In brief, further consequences would include:

- o Cessation of educational research on performance-assessment for Alaska
- o Loss of K-12 professional development courses
- o Loss of development of new university service learner course
- o Loss of national leadership in the STEM to STEAM community
- o Teachers and students revert to older, less effective educational methods.

Parts 1 and 2 of the BAKLAP project:
Accomplishments (BAKLAP 1) and priorities (BAKLAP 2) for each funding increment

The two tables below:

- The upper one for the Forest and Biomass Research component of the project.
 - The lower one for the Education (= K-20 STEAM Education) component of the project.
- compare accomplishments made to date by “BAKLAP 1” with the first increment of the overall BAKLAP (Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation Production) project, with priorities for “BAKLAP 2” which will only move forward if the completion funding currently sought is appropriated.

In each table, the columns refer to:

- **BAKLAP 1** (left hand column): accomplishments made during the first 21 months of the project. BAKLAP 1 is working with the first increment of funding received (\$1 million of the original project proposal of \$1.7 million; or ±60% of the anticipated project need for 5 years)
- **BAKLAP 2** (right hand column): priorities for the remainder of the project, if the \$700K currently proposed in CAPSIS, is appropriated via the capital budget during the 2014 legislative session.

Forests and Biomass	
BAKLAP 1	BAKLAP 2
Has conducted the first systematic assessment of forest regrowth on state harvest units in Alaska’s boreal forest since statehood.	Will support the completion of analysis and publication of the regeneration results.
Has relocated several important older research plots and recovered data from them.	Would allow remeasurements and updated analysis of these forest management facilities. This will document for the first time how much biomass managed forests can produce decades after being established.
Has uncovered important information about forest insect effects on growth.	Will use this information to develop tools to anticipate and predict the effects of insects on future forest yields.
Is identifying which state forests management practices produce acceptable tree regrowth.	Will compare costs and identify which state forest management practices produce an acceptable return on the investment.
Has identified the how and where recent environmental change is improving and or decreasing tree growth.	Will analyze the results and provide practical advice to foresters.

Education	
BAKLAP 1	BAKLAP 2
Has formed partnerships with 12 schools, more than 30 teachers, and has become an important part of the curriculum for nearly 1000 K-12 students.	Will use the results of this extensive experience to develop a model curriculum and teacher training materials.
Has stimulated students at all grade levels and helped them develop new abilities to learn and study.	Will conduct a systematic, evidence-based assessment of the effectiveness of its unique approaches.
Has brought a new group of university students from natural resources into elementary and secondary education as service learners.	Will develop new courses with Schools of Education to cross-train pre-service teachers in science content and teaching methods.
Has received national recognition for its innovative “whole-system” approach to education.	Will provide the support to package its educational successes for wider use across the country.

2014 Legislature

TPS Report 61904v1

Agency: Natural Resources**Project Title:****Project Type:** Planning and Research

BAK LAP: Upgrade Forest Research Installations for Wood Biomass Energy, Products, Science Education.

Project Sponsor(s):

Representative Isaacson

Representative Kawasaki

Senator Bishop

Senator Coghill

House District: Fairbanks Areawide (1-5)**FY2015 State Funding Request:** \$700,000**District Priority:**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Boreal Alaska - Learning, Adaptation, Production (BAK LAP) - Updating state forest research installations to define best management practices to meet new forest product demands, particularly wood biomass energy. Concurrently implement Project OneTree Alaska for teaching K-12 math and science concepts by developing full-scale forest field facilities and project-based curriculum.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$2,166,486
Funding Already Secured:	(\$1,466,486)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	(\$700,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

Funding Details:

FY 2013 \$1,000,000 Capital Budget

Funding Details:

PHASE I - Establishment and initial survival: \$488,454 (\$395,454 State of Alaska capital appropriations in 1983, 84, 85, 86 and 90).

PHASE II - Survival and early growth: \$200,000 (USGS revegetation scientist, 75% of time for 4 yrs).

PHASE III - Proof of concept: Relocation, georegistration, and canopy closure: \$367,438 (USGS and UAF)

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

This is a proposal for a \$700,000 capital appropriation from the Alaska Legislature to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, to be contracted to the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, University of Alaska Fairbanks. The purpose of the "Boreal Alaska Learning, Adaptation, and Production" (BAK LAP) project is to:

1. Upgrade Alaska forest research facilities, to improve the value of Alaska's forests in meeting the rapidly expanding demand for wood energy biomass in a changing environment, and to
2. Improve STEM teaching and learning outcomes by developing a model integrated K-12 curriculum based on hands-on experiences with the Alaskan boreal forest through

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

inquiry science and art.

On September 20, 2013 the BAKLAP investigator team (Dr. Glenn Juday, Dr. Jan Dawe) conducted a 4 hour field investigation and report to the Alaska Interior Legislative delegation on project BAKLAP (see agenda -- Table FE X). At the end of the 2012 legislative session that funded BAKLAP at 60% of the requested amount, which represents the current appropriation of \$1.0 mill. The legislators involved directed the BAKLAP proposers to conduct the project for a year and then report back for an evaluation of the project and the proposal for its completion. BAKLAP became fully operational in fall of 2012, so fall 2013 represented the 1-year milestone for reporting and evaluation.

Several legislators commented that the research being done and the data being collected would be extremely helpful in documenting to critical federal agencies Alaska is managing its forest resources in a responsible, beneficial, and sound scientific manner.

Project Description

BAK LAP will be carried out by two principal developments:

Updating and repurposing state forest research installations and establishing species trials. This upgrade will define and verify management techniques that best meet new forest product demands, particularly wood biomass energy, despite a shifting environment.

Integrating and implementing OneTree Alaska in K-12 classrooms and common garden trials. OneTree Alaska expands Alaska's K-12 standards-based science curriculum through collaborations among K-12 schools, the University of Alaska, and rural and urban communities with hands-on science learning and entrepreneurial skill development.

Research and Adaptation Facilities. The upgrades to state forest research installations will consist of new measurements, geo-referencing, permanent markings, and database development on a network of plots and stands previously established by state capital appropriations in the 1980s. The state of Alaska is principally responsible for providing these forestry facilities in boreal Alaska because the federal government terminated its main forestry research lab and program twenty years ago. Species and management practices that were appropriate for the circumstances of decades ago when the installations were established have not been verified for the new products and environment of today. Collecting these measurements and conducting evaluations will provide the basis for defining best management practices for the new products, especially biomass, in today's shifting environment. These facilities are essential to achieve local self-reliance in energy production using wood biomass and to avoid forest management practices likely to fail in Alaska's changing environment.

Education and Outreach Infrastructure. OneTree Alaska was originally designed as a short-term community outreach effort to demonstrate the diversity of products that could be produced from a single birch tree, and has become a much acclaimed partnership for teaching integrative K-12 curriculum. In OneTree Alaska, students learn by making products from forest resources and participating as citizen scientists in common garden (tests or trials of trees) research efforts.

The real-world experiences of working with trees and making products from them engages students and produces superior learning and retention of math and science skills, an area where Alaska educational outcomes are lagging. The demonstration phase of OneTree Alaska, which employs best educational practices for science and math, has generated a great deal of interest from communities, school districts, teachers and researchers. BAK LAP represents the next step in development of a full-scale set of facilities and project-based curriculum, aligned with federal and state science standards, and designed to meet 21st century workforce needs. BAK LAP was conceived as the perfect opportunity to address two

critical state needs in one integrated project.

Budget

BAK LAP is a program to integrate researchers, educators, and forest managers with local forest using communities and biomass energy production. BAK LAP will be implemented in two components (1) Research and Adaptation (RAD) and (2) Education and Outreach (EOR). Both components involve direct interactions and linkages among schools, forest managers, and scientists. The BAK LAP program is based on a four-year time horizon. The budget is front-end loaded to rapidly identify best management practices from state forest research facilities for wood energy biomass and to broaden the impacts of OneTree Alaska's science education and entrepreneurial programs.

The appropriation to DNR will support a contract with the University of Alaska Fairbanks' (UAF) Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, which has a long history of establishing forest research facilities with DNR. The Experiment Station is responsible for data collection and analysis for a network of state forest research facilities including forest growth and yield, regeneration, and forest health. OneTree Alaska has been developed and implemented through UAF's School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences and collaborations with numerous educators and volunteers. Once the state of Alaska funds the basic support for these facilities and measurements, a number of state priority needs will be met. In addition, this appropriation will establish a strong platform for obtaining larger, competitively funded education and research grants that will use and expand the basic work and facilities.

BAK LAP will be led by Dr. Glenn Juday (Professor of Forest Ecology UAF), who directed the successful Rosie Creek Fire Research project funded by a previous state capital appropriation in cooperation with DNR. The EOR and RAD components will be managed by Drs. Janice Dawe and Thomas A. Grant III, respectively. The BAK LAP appropriation request totals \$700,000, approximately equally divided between the EOR and RAD components. As a contract with a state agency, state regulations provide for a 25% indirect cost recovery for UAF.

Personnel items include RAD work led by the Research and Adaptation Scientist and the following support staff: Forest Products Scientist, Tree Ring Specialist, two summer field technicians, and one graduate student in forest measurements.

The EOR work component includes a OneTree Alaska Program Director and the following support staff: Project Manager, two Lead Educators, and limited salary support for an Art Director, two Curriculum Development Co-Leads, Lead Trainer for summer teacher institute, and a Data Management Specialist. BAK LAP work will be performed on state-owned forest lands, in schools, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The travel budget provides support for on-site work at schools, collecting data at research facilities, meetings with state officials, and presenting results at scientific meetings. Services and supplies include classroom rental fees and insurance, research and tree measurement instruments, plot markers and aerial imagery, and hiring consultants with expertise in forest products.

Project Timeline:

Year 1 (FY 2013) - 40%
 Year 2 (FY 2014) - 25%
 Year 3 (FY 2015) - 25%
 Year 4 (FY 2016) - 10%

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

UAF, Alaska Division of Forestry, school districts

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Glenn Juday
Title:	Professor of Forest Ecology
Address:	4837 Palo Verde Avenue Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
Phone Number:	(907)479-3765
Email:	gpjuday@alaska.edu

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☐ Yes ☒ No

*Chris Maish
Chris Christensen
Michelle Risk =
Fiscal notes for UAF
Brian Rogers /cm*

Attached are photos of additional churches where ROSSIA restoration is also in progress, or the initial project stages are projected.

Saint Sergius of Radonezh Orthodox Chapel – Chuathbaluk



Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, AK,3-CHUA,1—1
Saint Sergius of Radonezh Chapel (NPS, HABS)

Built in 1900 – National Register of Historic Places

Original logs used for a reconstruction in 1955

Goal of ROSSIA, Inc. is to see this church restored to its original beauty and preserved for use by the community of Chuathbaluk.

Funds needed for

- assessment, design, construction, and icon restoration
- immediate stabilization of the roof and foundation

Old Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church -- Eklutna



<http://www.stnicholaseklutna.org>

Built circa 1870 - National Register of Historic Places

Iconostasis remains intact with the original icons

Goal of ROSSIA, Inc. is to see this church restored to its original beauty and preserved for the community of Eklutna.

Funds needed for

- assessment, design, construction, and icon restoration
- immediate stabilization of the roof, foundation, and bell tower

Ascension of Our Lord Chapel -- Karluk



Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, AK,12-KARLU,1-5
Ascension of Our Lord Chapel (NPS, HABS)

Built in 1888 - National Register of Historic Places

Closed in 2006 for health and safety issues

Goal of ROSSIA, Inc. is to see this church restored to its original beauty and preserved for use by the community of Karluk.

Funds needed for

- assessment, design, construction, and icon restoration
- immediate stabilization of the roof and foundation
- upgrades to the electrical system

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church – Kenai



Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, AK,9-KEN,1-A-2
Holy Assumption Russian Orthodox Church (NPS, HABS)

Built in 1896 - National Historic Landmark

Principal and most enduring representative of Russian culture in
Southcentral Alaska

ROSSIA, Inc and the Holy Assumption parish have worked together to
complete the following:

- secured the building to foundation and stabilized rotten log walls and
- repaired the front porch and developed an accessible entry into the church.
- constructed an outbuilding to house mechanical room, restroom and gift shop
- begun work on fire suppression system

Saints Sergius and Herman of Valaam Church -- Nanwalek



<http://dioceseofalaksa.org>

Built in 1870 and rebuilt in 1930 - National Historic Site

Active parish and community committed to the historic preservation of their church.

Goal of ROSSIA, Inc. is to see this church restored to its original beauty and preserved for use by the community of Nanwalek.

Funds needed for

- assessment, design, construction, and icon restoration
- immediate stabilization of the roof and foundation

Saint Michael's Cathedral – Sitka



Southern Methodist University, Central University Libraries, DeGolyer Library

Built in 1840 - National Historic Landmark

Seat of the Diocese of Sitka and Alaska

ROSSIA, Inc and St. Michael's parish have successfully completed projects concerning accessibility and the state of the bell and belfry.

Working together, ROSSIA, Inc and the St. Michael's parish are poised for the bulk of preservation work to begin.

Holy Ascension Orthodox Church – Unalaska



Holy Ascension Orthodox Church – photo from Creative Commons: Brendan Minish

Built in 1896 – National Register of Historic Places

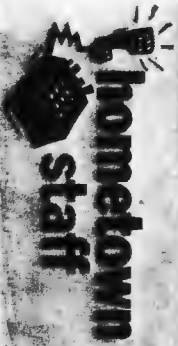
Goal of ROSSIA, Inc. is to see this church restored to its original beauty and preserved for use by the community of Unalaska.

Funds needed for

- assessment, design, construction, and icon restoration
- fire suppression

This 5 million contained in AB 119 and added to Capital Budget Bill would help alot of People who have ben sick, abused and have their trauma childhood and adult stories. It's ben 28 years I have housed Poor People and helped them get on their feet, several years I have worked with Partners for Progress, Wellness Court and Mental Health Consumers Net. Paid alot will be our 10 year anniversary of Back To Work Network. When I saw other Conferences costing hundreds. I learned how to put on the best

event to help primarily 20 more
their feet, Nancy Neelman top supervisor and
Mandi Oriskany Employment Security Specialist for
Department have always given my conference state clearance.
Tomorrow you will receive 3 flyers for 3 models of events
already done that can be implemented. Sep 21st, 2009 we
had 28 homeless, drug, alcohol and drug addicted people. After
receiving counseling, haircuts, make up, career fair and
like new clothing many of them returned to working career show and entertain
ment. My on site hands on learning of Regina's House
has taught me AA, Detox are mandatory 1st steps.
Monthly conferences can reach larger numbers and give
proper counseling, get understanding and be entry to society.
I have 5 inches of Binders with references, Patrons, Volunteers,
donors and make over experts. Sincerely Regina



ROSE COX
Hometown Editor
257-4468, rosc@adn.com

JANE SZABO
Community Development, Schools Roundup
257-4337, jane@adn.com

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HOMETOWN

Job fair positions women to succeed

■ **OPPORTUNITY:** Two-day event offers chance to leave desperate straits behind.

By **ROSE COX**
Anchorage Daily News

When Regina Mantoufel encounters women who are homeless, on welfare or making a living as prostitutes or strippers, she sees desperate people who are just one good job opportunity away from getting control of their lives.

Mantoufel (pronounced "Mon-toy-ell") worked as a dancer at area adult clubs in the '90s to put herself through college. The voice of experience rings true when she talks about missed opportunities and the degrading circumstances she sometimes found herself in.

Her approach to solving the problems these women face begins with a personal understanding of the psychology that lands them in difficult positions in the first place and proceeds to the practical — a pair of low-heeled dress shoes, a wool blazer, a good haircut, a well-written resume.

To that end, she and other like-minded individuals have organized a two-day job fair that touches on the basics and then some.

The event offers information from job counselors to help



placement and training agencies. Women prepare for traditional and non-traditional jobs, resume writing workshops and information on how to get a general equivalency degree and apply for college grants. But it takes an extra step toward reality when it comes to landing a job.

Following the workshop on resume writing, participants will write their own. Mock interviews will alert participants to expected etiquette. The agenda includes makeup demonstrations and haircuts for those who need them. Numerous people have donated career clothing and shoes.

In addition to promoting the fair through job and learning centers, organizers have targeted under-age strip clubs and homeless centers, handing out fliers in bars and providing them to agencies that provide programs for women.

Mandi O'Driscoll, employment security specialist for the Department of Labor, routinely encounters people in desperate straits at the Anchorage Job Center in Midtown. She and other staff members will lead workshops Monday on getting and keeping a job.

"Women in particular have issues that need to be resolved before they can even think of finding a job," she said, such as how they're going to feed their children

Regina Mantoufel, left, has organized a job fair for young women. Diana Stewart, right, has been volunteering with the Rock to Work Closet sorting clothes.

today, who's going to watch them while they're at an interview, how they're going to get an outfit to wear for the interview.

"If you're worried about basic survival skills, those needs need to be met before you can get a plan to change your life," O'Driscoll said.

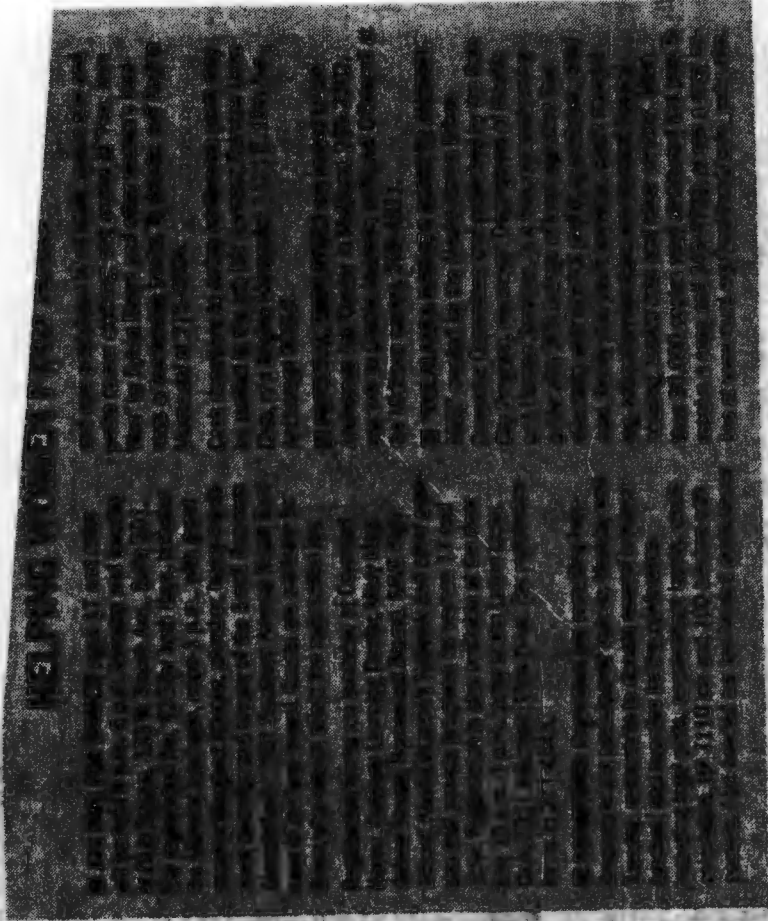
Searching for a job is time-consuming and stressful at best, she said.

"And I think people lose hope, too. There's nothing in the world like looking for a job, putting your best self out there and getting rejected. If you have other issues, it makes it extremely difficult."

Mantoufel hopes this job fair leads to others geared specifically toward women in peril.

"Nobody has held a conference and invited these women," she said. "Then they say, 'Why do they fall through the cracks?' I'm breaking that circle."

■ Daily News reporter Susan Cox can be reached at susan@adn.com.



LOCAL FOLKS

Donald R. Rogers, MD, PC
Forensic Pathology

921 Old Klatt Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99515

(907) 349-9104

15 April 2014

To: Members of the House Finance Committee

From: Don Rogers, MD

Subj: Partners for Progress \$600,000 grant

Dear Representatives Neuman, Edgmon, Holmes, Costello,
Munoz, Thompson, T. Wilson, Hattenberg, and Hawker:

Several months ago, Partners for Progress - the group that promotes wellness courts - started a project in association with Alaska Native Justice Center and Nine-Star Employment called Partners Reentry Center. Our goal is to reduce recidivism and, therefore, reduce the cost of incarceration. The experiment needs to run for several years, however, before success can be proven. The response thus far has been very encouraging.

I urge you to appropriate next years \$600,000 grant. The Senate Finance Committee included this item in SB119. Please keep it in the House version,

Sincerely yours,
Donald R Rogers, MD



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
Committee name

Committee on SB 119, dated 4.14.2014
Bill/Subject

≡ No money for Susitna Dam proposal ≡

I want to commend the Senate Finance Committee for removing the ~~supplemental~~ funding for Susitna Watana proposed dam, from the Supplemental Budget.

I continue to support NO Funding for the proposed dam on the Susitna, but rather use those monies for projects that are more socially, economically & environmentally sensible.

Signed:

Sheryl Salasky

Testifier

Self

Representing (Optional)

PO Box 196 Talkeetna AK 99676
Address

907 733.2402
Phone number

Thank you



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
Committee name

Committee on Bill 119 - Sustana/Watana dated 4-14-14
Hydroelectric Dam
Bill/Subject

I am coming to this public hearing (Wasilla, Alaska) to present my opposition to the allocation of \$10,000,000 to fund development of the Sustana-Watana Hydroelectric Project. Local sentiment is decidedly against this development, as I'm sure our State Representatives and Senators are well aware. My understanding is that the Alaska State Senate has declined funding the development, and recommend that the committee follow this wise and responsible action.

Thank you for considering this.

Signed: Mary Ellen Osland
Testifier

Visitors Run Coalition
Representing (Optional)

1150 S. Colony Way, Ste. 3 - Pmb 172
Address

907-746-3489
Phone number

I would like to OBJECT and OPPOSE any appropriation for the so-called Juneau Access.

1. This began as the Juneau Road and later became the Juneau Access Project.

In the very beginning, the people of the City of Juneau voted AGAINST this road and in fact, at the second time when the vote was taken—it was said that: "This Vote is for ALL-TIME," Also, Haines and Skagway people also voted against this road.

2. It's really SLICK POLITICS to put this project into the APPROPRIATIONS—when the people of the three cities directly impacted by it are left-out of hearings for this so-called project.

A Project that they're opposed to and seeking funding? Where are the TASK FORCES for this so-called project? Why doesn't the legislature go to these three areas and get testimonies? ~~Is it too hard to do?~~ Is this streamlined-Democracy? I've looked for hearings like this before and saw signs "Invited Testimony Only." Is this the DEMOCRATIC PROCESS? Why NOT get the copies of the actual VOTES that the people cast against the Road?

3. Even later, when this became the Juneau Access project people still opposed it.

There's also a film that was made against this Road, or Project, whichever you care to call it.

(INSTEAD OF ROADS)

4. The voters Statewide also voted for IMPROVED FERRY SERVICE and never got it.

WHEN is this going to happen? There's a song by Johnny Mathis called "The 12th of Never" Is this when Alaska Voters will get IMPROVED FERRY SERVICE? ON THE 12th of NEVER? Is this what it means when a Lawmaker takes an Oath of Office to SUPPORT and DEFEND the Constitution? I thought the Constitution represented the people.

5. There was also a study done in 2002 that showed that 75% of the people wanted better road maintenance rather than new roads.

6. There are places where roads are really NEEDED like King Cove, I'm NOT opposed to that. Politicians are totally oblivious of the geography of this so-called project and they can't understand the people's opposition to it.

Signed, Albert Judson

Registered Voter

Albert Judson
340 W. 12th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Comments in the Public Record re BAKLAP:
Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation, Production

A CAPSIS Project to Upgrade Forest Research Installations
for Wood Biomass Energy, Products, Science Education

One-time Need CAPSIS Funding Request for FY2015

Fiscal agent: Department of Natural Resources/Division of Forestry

Submitted to the House Finance Committee
During public testimony on the capital budget

April 14, 2014: 5:30 pm hearing

By Janice Dawe
Co-Principal Investigator of BAKLAP-
Director, BAKLAP's K-20 STEAM Education Component
jcdawe@alaska.edu
907-388-1772

April 14, 2014

Dear **Legislative Information Offices,**

I want to make the following comment part of the public record. Please circulate my comment to the House Finance Committee and the Interior Alaska Delegation.

Please continue to fund BAKLAP. I was born and raised in Alaska, but I went out of the state for college and graduate school. In 2010 OneTree invited me to return to Fairbanks to teach art and science to educators and k-12 students. I loved doing germination experiments with students of all ages and teaching sculpture, painting, drawing, weaving and engineering. I was so inspired by the program that I decided to become a classroom teacher myself. I completed a Masters of Education at UAF and now I teach Kindergarten and First Grade at Arctic Light Elementary. I continue to incorporate ideas from OneTree in my classroom and I volunteer for the program. Currently my class is germinating Tamarack, measuring growth, counting leaves, and making scientific illustrations. If not for OneTree I may well have stayed in New York and never have become a teacher. OneTree connects hundreds of students to meaningful art and science (that aligns with and expands far beyond the mandated state standards). Please continue to support this program by including it in the capital budget.

Sincerely,

Jesse Hensel

via email message to the Fairbanks LIO

jesse.hensel@gmail.com

April 3, 2014

Dear Senator Kelly,

I am writing a letter of support and commendation for the BAKLAP Program. I recently graduated from the University of Alaska — Fairbanks with a degree in Natural Resource Management. Since that time, I have had the privilege of working with the BAKLAP program in conducting research, facilitating outreach, and participating in education programs with local schools. BAKLAP highlights some fundamental lessons I learned in college — namely the importance of natural resources and our dependence upon them, and the necessity of interacting with, incorporating, and educating the local community. BAKLAP has provided me with the unique opportunity of incorporating what I have learned at UAF into important, real world scenarios.

I lastly want to speak to the importance of biomass in Alaska. As you know, our demands on our environment are changing, particularly with respect to how we heat our homes and use the energy that enables us to live in this wonderful State. In addition, our environment is dynamically changing in ways that we know, and ways that we don't know. As someone who has spent the last several years conducting research in Alaskan forests at the State and federal level, I can attest to the important work that BAKLAP provides with respect to biomass and our State's future.

Senator Kelly, this is a difficult year full of budget demands and constraints. However, I think it is in the State's best interest to see the BAKLAP program through to completion. It has done wonderful things for our State and will continue to do so to its completion.

Thank you for your time,

Ryan Jess

3/28/14

Dear Senator Kelly,

I am writing you to voice my support for continued capital budget funding of BAKLAP (Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation, Production) project which uses OneTree Alaska as the model for its K-20 STEAM education component. As manager of the University of Alaska, Institute of Arctic Biology greenhouse, where many of the project trees are cultivated, I have the opportunity to see first-hand the dedication and commitment of the OneTree staff, as well as the engagement and scientific curiosity exhibited by the student participants in the program. The opportunity for young students to express their innate curiosity while learning the principles of disciplined scientific inquiry will be extremely valuable in their immediate education, and ultimately valuable in their personal and economic opportunities as well educated adults.

I am well aware that state revenues are declining and budgets must be trimmed. However, in analogy to personal financial situations when belt tightening needs to be done to deal with economic realities, one occasionally will find opportunities of such obvious value that it still makes sense to invest now to gain (save) much more in the future. The funding of BAKLAP is one such opportunity which will pay huge dividends for the students, and contribute to the future economic viability of the state. There is no doubt that education is a gateway to economic success. I hope you will agree with me on this. Thank you for taking my opinions into consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Wright
PO Box 476
Ester, AK 99725

4 April 2014

Dear Senator Kelly,

I am writing on behalf of the submitted BAKLAP capital appropriation that is being considered for inclusion in the state's Capital Budget. I understand this is a challenging budget climate for state projects, but I encourage you and fellow legislators to fund this important program to completion.

Wood biomass energy is increasingly vital to Alaskan communities and economies, and we Alaskans need a sustainable foundation to raise the next generation's biomass fuel. The Alaska Constitution Article VIII, Section 4 mandates the management of our natural resources for sustained yield, and BAKLAP has a demonstrated capacity to bring young Alaskans, state agencies, and the University together to ensure we as a state meet this responsibility.

As a current UAF student in forestry, I also see the growing importance of our forest resource every day through my classes, research, and interactions with forestry professionals. I've learned of many areas that require more investigation, especially determining how best to grow wood biomass sustainably. BAKLAP's efforts to integrate past experiments together and provide valuable new scientific research are an important framework for ensuring we can meet current and future needs.

As the legislative session draws to an end, I urge you to consider continuing investment in Alaska's renewable energy future. I hope you and your colleagues in the Senate support this program.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Andrew Allaby

2626 Gaia Lane
Fairbanks AK 99709
317-471-9267

Dear Senator Pete Kelly,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am a graduate student at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks in the Peace Corps Masters International program through the School of Natural Resources and Ag Science. I am currently in Mexico receiving training for my Peace Corps assignment, but I appreciate your help in allowing me to provide input. Please print out this email for your record, as I cannot send postal mail at this time.

Though I am currently on assignment in Mexico, I spent all of my time at UAF working with BAKLAP (Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation, Production) as a service learner, then as a student worker. As a service learner I aided in teaching K-20 STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) Education to six local elementary and middle school classes. Last summer I became a student worker through BAKLAP funding and helped develop materials for the fall semester.

BAKLAP has also been an important funding source for my schooling and has allowed me to work on a project that marries my interests of engineering, natural resource management, and environmental education. I have a bachelor's degree in material engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and worked in industry for two years as a metallurgical engineer. I decided that I wanted to pursue a different career path in natural resource management and enrolled at UAF for graduate school.

At UAF I learned more about the resources available in interior Alaska, and current environmental education initiatives occurring in Fairbanks. I was able to participate in Tapping into Spring which is a workshop, funded by BAKLAP, that educated local K-12 students in the science and practice of making birch syrup. This was particularly interesting to me and I started looking for ways to expand upon this program.

Using funding from BAKLAP I constructed a reverse osmosis unit for use in the Tapping into Spring program. Reverse osmosis units are critical in the syrup making industry and provide countless opportunities for local students to learn about science, math, natural resource management, and engineering. Students are very excited to learn about science in a fun and hands on way, especially when they are allowed to do actual research projects. Additionally, spending time getting to know our local forests better increases their interest in our local ecosystem and pride in Alaska. This tool will be used, starting in the spring, to educate local students and expand upon the existing Tapping into Spring curriculum.

Though I will not be in Fairbanks for the next two years, I am finding ways of using my Peace Corps experience as a learning opportunity for local students. I am currently partnering with Chris Pastro of Randy Smith Middle School to bring the environmental education I am learning here into her classroom. Chris Pastro is one of the many teachers who participate in BAKLAP funded projects, and she is excited about the cultural and scientific learning opportunities that this partnership will provide.

I appreciate your time in reading this email and hope that you recognize the value in environmental education and decide to provide the rest of the funding to BAKLAP.

Thank you,
Tricia Kent

Margo Klass, Box 83657, Fairbanks, Alaska 99708, 907-451-9119

March 31, 2014

Dear Representative Kawasaki,

I'm writing in support of continuing the work of BAKLAP (Boreal Alaska – Learning, Adaptation, Production) with completion funding via a capital budget appropriation.

From my perspective as part of the K-20 STEAM Education team, the results of BAKLAP 1 are significant, tangible, and successful:

- We have worked with over 850 K-12 students and 40 K-12 teachers so that STEAM education as it relates to resource management, research, and living in Interior Alaska has an active, hands-on role in the school curriculum.
- We have developed customized lesson plans, blended learning platforms, entrepreneurial activities, professional development courses, and numerous tree growth experiments.
- BAKLAP's 'service learning' model, which places university undergraduate and graduate students in K-12 classrooms, has doubled the number of students BAKLAP can reach.

My personal connection to the work of BAKLAP involves arts education. I have collaborated with BAKLAP's teacher development programs, the STEAM Institute, and Boreal House Art & Science Center in creating ways in which the goals of BAKLAP are made visible through the arts. The "A" in STEAM not only gives students, teachers, and community members a way to embody the science and learning in tangible form, it also provides a vehicle to allow others to see and learn from the experience. In 2015 we will mount a major community based exhibition in Pioneer Park's Bear Gallery, successor to the highly successful but smaller exhibit, "Celebrating OneTree" in 2010. We have every expectation that this event will literally exhibit the huge step forward in public awareness and knowledge of issues surrounding long-term sustainable stewardship and will offer another means of assessment of learning outcomes with the STEAM approach to education.

This is a time of significant financial constraints, to be sure, so appropriations have to be made wisely. I believe the completion funding of BAKLAP 2 would be an appropriation that is highly cost effective, with results that will contribute significantly to natural resource management and education.

Sincerely yours,

Margo Klass
BAKLAP, STEAM K-20 Education Team

April 3, 2014

Dear Senator Pete Kelly,

I am writing in support of BAKLAP completion funding via a capital budget appropriation. I am a middle school teacher in Fairbanks, Alaska. Today and yesterday I took my classes outside to begin the "Tapping into Spring" project by the OneTree BAKLAP program. Before leaving the classroom, students made clinometers and discussed the significance of the 45/45/90 degree triangle. Then, students donned snowshoes and took a jaunt to the back corner of our school property to choose a tree for tapping this spring. Students estimated the height of the tree using the clinometer. They took DBH measurements (diameter at breast height) and sketched the tree. They also wrote descriptions of the tree. OneTree BAKLAP scientist, Zac Meyers, demonstrated how to take a core sample and how to use the laser clinometer! Students were taking basic measurements that foresters use in the field! All students were engaged and working in teams. Our learning targets were accomplished. It was a memorable hour of "hands-on" learning. But the learning will not stop here. It is a springboard for science and natural resource education for each of these students.

This is just one example of the quality educational experiences I have been lucky to share with my students through the BAKLAP program. My students currently have 39 birch seedlings growing in the classroom. They have been observing the trees as they came out of dormancy and designed an experiment with the seedlings. Their experiment focuses on changes in growth using three different watering treatments. OneTree BAKLAP scientist Jan Dawe guided students as they determined variables, demonstrated measurement and data collection protocols, and discussed phenology and climate change issues. The results have been stunning. The three water treatments yielded very interesting results! Students are in the final steps of sharing their findings.

These experiences give my students a real connection to the boreal forest. They conduct real research! They use inquiry and connect with scientists who are working with natural resources and biomass energy research.

I understand the many financial challenges you are facing in legislative funding. However, I urge you to support BAKLAP completion funding. I have seen the difference it can make in the most valuable resource we have—our children. Thank you for your consideration. With the completion funding via a capital budget appropriation, I hope future students will be able to have authentic science and natural resources learning experiences that BAKLAP can help provide.

Sincerely,
Chris Greenfield-Pastro
PO Box 83812
Fairbanks, AK 99708

March 29, 2014

Dear Senator Kelly,

I am a teacher of over twenty years in the Fairbanks North Star Borough. I am writing on behalf of BAKLAP/One Tree. Fortunately, I have had three years of experiences with the One Tree program and I feel that funding this only helps me do my job better.

As an educator, I believe in teaching our children about their place. Alaskans are proud of where we live and if I can teach my second and third graders about the boreal forest in a meaningful way, then I do this. One Tree has added depth to my teaching in these ways. My first year, we calculated when a birch tree went to sleep for the winter by performing a scientific study called "bud burst". It was fascinating to for the children to understand just what was happening inside the tree to prepare for the winter. My second year, many children wanted to test germination rates of birch seeds. We had four different seeds from four different mother trees and we took data and grew trees. We made this a class science fair project, won our school's science fair and won a special award at the district fair. This year, we are even more involved. We have started a two-year study on determining if birch tree siblings share resources to help each other grow.

This experiment is also being replicated at Tanana Middle School and UAF. Our data are showing that similar results. Not only that, but our project received the Doug Schamael Award, the highest award at the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District *Interior Alaska Science Fair 2014* on May 29.

Our students are truly doing great science!

Sincerely,

Ronda Schlumbohm

Ronda Schlumbohm
Salcha Elementary
8530 Richardson Hwy
Salcha, AK 99714
907-488-3267

March 28, 2014

Dear Senator Kelly,

I know the Senate is working on the capital budget and I urge you to please continue funding for BAKLAP (Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation, Production) and its K-20 STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) Education component. I realize that this is a tough year with significant financial constraints, but I can't say enough about how wonderful these projects are and what a valuable asset they are to our community and a fantastic opportunity for our students.

I have personally been involved in the K-20 STEAM program through the One Tree project for a few years. My students have had hands-on experience with the boreal forest that surrounds them through a variety of activities. Through these activities they have come to understand that the local environment plays an important part in their lives. They have also seen how their local forest is related to the circumpolar region and climate change. Through art, writing, craft and scientific inquiry, my students have gained an appreciation for their local habitat, and will hopefully go on to become responsible stewards with regard to it's sustainability.

I look forward to bringing this program into my classroom year after year. My students look forward to these lessons as well. I thank you for your efforts and hope that you will continue to fund this program. It is well worth the effort!

Sincerely,

Barbara Sivin

Pearl Creek Elementary
Fairbanks, AK
907-479-4234