



Fairbanks Nonprofit Retrofit Pilot

–Strengthening Alaska’s Nonprofits through reduced energy costs–

Nonprofits provide essential community services that can otherwise slip between the cracks of government and the private sector. These services are vital to residents of Interior Alaska who face a harsh climate and high energy costs. While several programs exist to improve the energy efficiency of buildings in the residential, commercial, and public sectors, none specifically target the nonprofit sector.

The main hurdle for nonprofits is navigating the many processes and resources needed to reduce energy costs, such as energy auditing, financing, and construction. While a nonprofit may be eligible for a few existing energy programs, none of them offer comprehensive assistance through each step of the decision-making process. This pilot seeks to develop a clear path for nonprofits to reduce energy costs and focus more on their mission.

Key Partnerships

Denali Commission
Rasmuson Foundation
Rural Community Assistance Corporation
Foraker Group
Cold Climate Housing Research Center

The strength of this partnership is the mutual goal of the Denali Commission, Rasmuson Foundation, the Rural Community Assistance Corporation, Cold Climate Housing Research Center and the Foraker Group to improve quality of life for Alaskans.

Goals

- Strengthen Alaska nonprofits by reducing energy costs
- Increase mission delivery among nonprofits who participate
- Repayment of the loan(s) from energy savings
- Determine if the pilot project warrants becoming a program

Outcomes

- Retrofit 10 nonprofits in Fairbanks over three years
- Reduce energy costs by 33% (target)
- An annual “Outcomes Report” that demonstrates the cost of retrofitting, energy saved in first winter, and incorporates feedback from nonprofits on how savings have impacted their functionality
- Inform the energy rating community of actual retrofit construction results based on AkWarm software modeling

Resources

- Key providers: Denali Commission operations funding, Rasmuson Foundation capital for retrofit financing, RCAC loan administration, Operations Manager at CCHRC, private donations, energy auditors, subcontractors, suppliers, educators and nonprofit volunteers
- Key participants: nonprofit organizations in Fairbanks with building owners who best meet pilot criteria
- Location: Coordinated at CCHRC by the pilot Operations Manager

