

Applicant Name: Native Village of Afognak (NVA)

Purpose Area #3 Justice Systems, and Alcohol and Substance Abuse (BJA)

Purpose Area #3 Narrative (15-page limit including template text; answers should be double-spaced)

- 1. Identify one or more of the crime and public safety problems described in the Tribal Community and Justice Profile that the tribe plans to address through the proposed grant funding and describe the problem(s) with as much additional detail, including data, as necessary to clearly describe the nature and extent of the problem(s).**

The proposed grant funding would be used to address Kodiak's "steadily increasing" amount of drugs trafficking (Over 2.3 million dollars' worth of illegal drugs seized in 2014, which has proven to have increase the crime rates in Kodiak), our high rates of substance abuse for Alaska Natives (highest rate of any other race in the United States), our high suicide rates (Alaska is fourth highest in the nation), our disproportionate levels of incarceration from those of the general population (American Indian/ Alaska Native (AI/AN) make up 15% of the population yet we are 36% of the offender population incarcerated AI/AN in Alaska), our low attendance rates for our youth (Kodiak High School AI/AN students lowest rate of any other ethnicity on the Island), and our lack of culturally appropriate activities in Kodiak (Only 2 formal programs- Alutiiq Dancers meet once a week and Alutiiq Club meets twice a week). We do not have any culturally based evidence based substance abuse prevention programs in place on the Island.

- 2. Describe current or previous efforts, if any, to address the problem(s) identified in item #1 and state whether they were effective.**

Previously NVA has administered a Department of Justice (DOJ) Tribal Youth Program (TYP) and a Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse (IASA) grant, both of which held strategic planning efforts that were related to reducing substance abuse, decreasing truancy and increasing the

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amounts of cultural programs to the community. Through these grant we were able to create a strong network of community organizations that understand how important our youth to our Tribe and are willing to work with us by supporting our programs. They have been effective to address substance abuse as a whole to educate the community through community forums, through media, and to get feedback. Kodiak Police Department has recently been cracking down on the getting the drugs out of community. With their renewed effort Kodiak has seen the largest drug busts in the past 20 years during 2014. The community has been responsive in being proactive by seeking information. A great example of this was our most recent drug forum. It was held at the Kodiak High School with over 100 community participants. We worked to secure funding for the new Drunk Busters program with the Kodiak Police Department and were able to launch the program at the forum. We feel that with these partnerships, and the community awareness about the drug influx into the community is the perfect time for NVA to introduce an evidence based substance abuse prevention program to Kodiak.

3. Describe any current gaps in services related to the problem(s) identified in items #1 and #2 that will be addressed through this grant application.

Substance abuse prevention is clearly needed in Kodiak for our American Indian/ Alaska Native youth with the increase in illegal drugs coming into our community, the steady rise of crime and the high rates of substance abuse among AI/AN's. Our youth are a vulnerable population. They are more likely to abuse substances, become involved in crime, drop out of school, and commit suicide. The increase in drugs to Kodiak has a direct effect on our youth and the problems associated with that.

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There are no culturally based programs that address the unique needs of our AI/AN youth.

Studies show that there is a direct correlation between the increased connectedness of culture and the decreased amount of alcohol and drug abuse among AI/AN people

(<http://alaskanativeyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/Cultural-Practices-in-American-Indian-Prevention-Programs.pdf>). In order to be effective a program will need to combine ethnic and cultural components with other proven prevention strategies. The will create long term success by enhancing protective factors and mitigating risk factors in the lives of our youth.

We need evidence based substance abuse programs that are Tribal. Evidence based substance abuse programs have an increase chance of success, utilize existing resources saving both time and money, and are adaptable to our Alutiiq cultural needs. The program we have chosen was created by an American Indian Tribe but has been adapted for other Alaska Native Tribes (Huslia, Alaska) (<https://preventyouthhiv.org/content/why-should-your-program-use-evidence-based-program-model>). We have located this program through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) (<http://nrepp.samhsa.gov/ViewIntervention.aspx?id=102>).

4. Explain how your tribe identified and prioritized the problem(s) described above to be addressed through this grant funding.

Our experience administering the DOJ TYP and IASA grants have led to many discussions within our community through forums (eight total), meetings and partnerships. It is through these discussions that we have identified the lack of and need for substance abuse prevention programs that are evidence based and culturally appropriate. NVA has a successful history of providing

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quality culturally appropriate programs that are geared towards our youth. Through these experiences we have seen first-hand the importance of cultural connectedness and healthy lifestyle choices. However, given current statistics it has become apparent to us that there is still a gap in specifically addressing substance abuse prevention and suicidal tendencies.

5. Describe how the proposed grant-funded program will address the identified problems.

This proposed grant funded program will be used to acquire an evidence based substance abuse prevention program (Project Venture) that was created for AI/AN youth and that will be adapted it to fit the specific needs of our Kodiak youth. By utilizing this program we can effectively reduce the substance abuse rates use among our youth which will have a direct effect on the crime rates, suicide rates, and our high incarceration levels

(http://captus.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/capt_resource/ai_an_suicide_in_us_handout_sprc.pdf

f). Project Venture is a experiential youth development program that aims to improve the social and emotional competence that facilitates youths' resistance to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

A recent study expresses the belief that a possible cure for addictions can be done by putting addicts in positive social environments (<http://elitedaily.com/news/world/scientists-may-discovered-real-cause-addiction/915030/>). The study suggests that instead of arresting and jailing addicts that we decriminalized all drugs and invest in establishing healthy environments that provide opportunities for fulfillment and support. This program will address the problem by promoting healthy choices in a safe and supportive environment. The Project Venture approach is based on traditional American Indian values such as family, learning from the natural world, spiritual awareness, service to others and respect. This program is easily adaptable to the learning

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environment (versatile within the community) and can easily melded with the Alutiiq culture (created to be changed).

- 6. For each identified problem in item #1, identify the specific goals and objectives of the proposal that will be accomplished in 36 months. Provide details about the specific tasks and activities necessary to accomplish each goal and objective.**

Specific Goal: Reduce the number of American Indian/Alaska Native youth with substance abuse issues in Kodiak.

Objective 1 To attain the Project Adventure program, train for the curriculum and adapt to use at the Alutiiq culture and start implementation by end of first year.

The following activities will be done; Purchase Project Venture program, purchase both portable and physical ropes courses, build ropes course at Dig Afognak, and incorporate program to four Dig Afognak Camps.

Objective 2 Administer Project Venture program to one high school class and one middle school class and during four Dig Afognak cultural camps by the end of year 2.

The following activities will be done; Contact Kodiak Island Borough School District initial planning, incorporate into one middle and one high school classrooms, evaluate, change curriculum as needed, and incorporate program to four Dig Afognak Camps. The second year will be our initial test period in the middle school and high school. This will help to prepare us on how to handle teaching two more classrooms the next year.

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Objective 3 - Administer Project Venture program to two high school classes and two middle school classes and during four Dig Afognak cultural camps by the end of year 3.

The following activities will be done; Contact Kodiak Island Borough School District initial planning, incorporate into 2 middle school and 2 high school classrooms, evaluate, change curriculum as needed, and incorporate program to four Dig Afognak Camps.

7. Describe the management structure, staffing, and in-house or contracted capacity to complete each of the proposed projects, and any organizational changes that may result if funding is awarded. Include detailed information about existing resources within the tribe and the community that will help make this project a success.

Our Tribal Administrator, Melissa Borton manages our 11 tribal employees. She has over 9 years of experience as a Tribal Administrator with over 22 years of Tribal programs within our community. Melissa has shown her commitment toward our youth with the success of our long running cultural camps called Dig Afognak.

(b)(6) is our Development Director and will be directly responsible for the strategic planning, training and building of camp infrastructure. She will also be trained in the program and work with both schools and at our cultural camp. (b)(6) has a strong background with planning and is a Alutiiq member of Kodiak. Her education is in Tribal Government Administration. She has over 10 years' experience in tribal programs and has attended a Project Venture training previously.

(b)(6) is a Program Manager at Native Village of Afognak and administers the DOJ TYP program as well as our Indian Child Welfare Act program. She experience working with all of

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our partners and with the youth in our community. (b)(6) will also be trained in the program and will work within the school district for the implementation period.

Program Assistant (b)(6) works directly with youth in both our Cultural Camps and After School programs. She has years of experience working with partners, parents, instructors and youth. (b)(6) will be trained in the program and administer the program at our cultural camps.

The Tribe has current partnerships within the community including the Police Department, Alaska State Troopers, the Kodiak Island Borough School District, Juvenile Justice and other Tribes. We feel with our strong management structure, our partnerships within the Kodiak community and our reputation as a Tribe seeking unity among our people that this will lead to the project being successful.

8. Identify current government and community initiatives that complement or coordinate with the proposal and any partnerships that will be created or enhanced as a result of funding. Describe the roles of each identified partner. *Examples may be advisory boards, Tribal Leaders, nonprofits, private organizations, and regional relationships, etc.*

The Kodiak Island Borough School District has been a partner with NVA for both our DOJ TYP and our IASA grant programs. They continue yearly to partner with us on different things like the forums we organized and special events. Recently we partnered to bring Team Hollywood to Kodiak. Team Hollywood is a celebrity basketball team that promotes leadership and healthy lifestyles throughout the United States. This summer they came to Kodiak and were able to meet with all elementary schools, the Middle School and the High School.

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The Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA) is our local Native Non-profit health services association. They have a behavioral health department, child advocacy center that may provide the specialists that we need to create a program that has a clinical element. KANA has been one of our previous partners on our TYP and IASA grants.

The Kodiak Juvenile Justice's main case manager is Tim Luther. We have had discussions with them regarding their caseload and the proposed program. We have a letter of support from the Kodiak Juvenile Justice System attached.

NVA attends all of the Healthy Tomorrow Program meetings. Healthy Tomorrows was created by the Kodiak Providence Community Health Program to provide opportunities for Kodiak residents to make positive choices in their lives. We have secured a letter of support from Healthy Tomorrows that is attached.

The Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak currently has a Tribal Court. Recently they have started hearing juvenile cases for their own tribal members. Their goal is to start hearing cases from people of other Tribes on Kodiak. They are working on securing permission from other Tribes that want to let their youth cases be heard at the Sun'aq Tribal Court. NVA is in full support of having Sun'aq hear our youth cases. We are currently working on securing this agreement. We have secured a letter of support from the Sun'aq Tribe that is attached.

We have recently created a partnership with the local Kodiak Teen Court program in Kodiak. The Kodiak Teen Court is a very active program and prides itself on being a youth operated Court system. Kodiak Teen Court was excited about the partnership with our Tribe and have

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been willing to assist us with information. We have secured a letter of support from the Kodiak Teen Court that is attached.

We have a close relationship to the Alaska State Troopers on Kodiak Island. The Sargent of the Kodiak Post is Eric Olsen. Sargent Olsen is a local Alutiiq man with family stemming from our Tribe. Sargent Olsen has expressed his dedication to our Alutiiq people and the health and wellbeing of our youth.

The Kodiak Police Department Chief is Rhonda Wallace and the Kodiak School Resource Officer is Jeff Holden. Both Chief Wallace and Officer Holden have a strong partnership with our Tribe. The Kodiak Police Department approached our Tribe last year with the need for a Drunk Busters Program for the youth of Kodiak. NVA did all the fundraising for the program and successfully attained the program then handed over to the Kodiak Police Department. The Kodiak Police Department has written a letter for support for our program.

The Annual Koniag Region Roundtable is a gathering of all the Tribes, Native Corporations and Native Non-profits on Kodiak Island is an excellent time to get information or seek information from representation of the Tribal community on the Island. We can use this time to discuss needs and support.

9. Describe how the applicant will know if the program works and how success will be determined and measured. Describe how data will be collected and assessed to measure the impact of proposed efforts.

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We will know that our first success would be to introduce a culturally appropriate evidence based substance abuse prevention program into the Kodiak community. From that point our success will show with the amount of participation from our youth and our partners. We will see the success with the direct connection and feedback we get from our youth in both our cultural camps and the school district.

i. What will be measured?

We will measure the following; staff and partners trained to lead the curriculum activities, number of portable trainings done, number of school trainings done, number of students per activity, positive and negative feedback from all training, number of partners and parents involved, and substance abuse specific numbers from the Kodiak Student Risk Survey for the Kodiak School District.

ii. How will data be collected?

Data will be collected from surveys (youth, parents, partners), sign in sheets, and committee meeting notes. We will get the most recent Kodiak Risk Survey from the Kodiak Island Borough School Districts website.

iii. Who is responsible for collecting the data?

The Program Manager will be responsible for the collecting the data. She will have an assistant that will help compile it. If additional assistance is needed the Development Director will assist the Program staff with the collection.

iv. How is success defined?

Success is defined by the increased youth participation in the activities and ultimately a decrease in substance abuse incidence in our community. It will also be defined by actually having a new

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program that is implemented in the community and the feedback from administering the curriculum.

10. Describe how evaluation, collaborative partnerships, or other methods will be used to leverage ongoing resources and facilitate a long-term strategy to sustain the project when the federal grant ends.

A part of the long term strategy is that we can adapt to meet the needs of our youth and therefore can change as the circumstances or environment changes. A part of this adaptation is could be to meet the needs of the general population of Kodiak. Once we become efficient in teaching the curriculum we can open it up to train other entities for a nominal fee.

NVA has been working on a Tribal wide Economic Development plan to use at camp for leadership and team building retreats. We envision our camp becoming a place where companies, groups and or families will pay for the service to have a nurturing, safe environment where they can work on leadership and skill building activities. Project Venture is the perfect program to offer as a part of the “Cultural camp experience.” Our camp has grown significantly (new kitchen/mess hall this summer) in preparation to start our economic programs that will sustain program funding for our Tribe.

i. Describe any challenges you anticipate in sustaining the program beyond the grant funding.

A challenge could be lack of community involvement; however NVA has a proven track record for maintaining community partnerships. An additional challenge will be long-term financial sustainability; this will be something that we address throughout the planning process through economic development planning.

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11. Address the tribe's need for financial assistance and the inability of the agency to implement the proposed plan without federal funding. This should be linked to the needs identified in the Tribal Narrative Profile.

As stated previously our Tribe is working on economic development that will diversity our revenue and allow for discretionary funding to expand programs or create ones. In recent years federal grant funding has become increasingly competitive and as a result tribal staff availability continue to decline. Without funding to attain Project Venture, the training equipment and the adequate tribal staff administration of program we cannot effectively provide a program that will be successful for our AI/AN youth in Kodiak.

12. If you are requesting funding in multiple purpose areas, is the receipt of BJA Purpose Area #3 funding required for the implementation of any other purpose area being requested? If so, explain. *Examples of this may be requesting an officer from BJA Purpose Area #3 and equipment for that officer from COPS Office Purpose Area #1.*

If we were to get funded for both Purpose Area #3 and #9 we will recruit for a Program Manager for Purpose Area 3.