

# 2020/2021 Grant Recipients

Total Amount Awarded: \$557,051

## Grant Awards

### Statewide

#### **2-1-1 Texting System (\$10,000)**

*United Way of Anchorage*

Upgrade to 2-1-1 system to allowing texting interaction between 2-1-1 operators and individuals.

#### **Alaska Resiliency Initiative (\$25,000)**

*Alaska Children's Trust*

The Alaska Resiliency Initiative is a partnership of nonprofit, private, tribal and government organizations that promotes community empowerment to support and respond to the needs of individual families and children. Their goal is to advance the dialogue in our state on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), toxic stress in childhood and how communities can prevent ACEs and build resilience. To build community awareness across the state.

#### **All Alaska Pediatric Partnership (\$25,000)**

*Help Me Grow*

Help Me Grow is a unique, comprehensive, and integrated statewide system designed to address the need for early identification of children at risk for developmental and/or behavioral problems, and then to link these children and their families to community-based developmental and behavioral services and supports.

#### **Expanding Supports for Relative Caregivers in Alaska: VOA's Kinship Program (\$9,983)**

*Volunteers of America Alaska*

Alaska's Kinship Program is a one-of-a-kind support program for Alaskans raising relative children. The program offers services that promote the health and wellness of children and their relative caregiver. The program accomplishes this by providing a comprehensive array of services to each enrolled participant, including assessment of needs, health information and assistance, referrals to community service providers, respite, case management, financial assistance, newsletters, and support groups. The Strengthening Families approach is integrated within the support group curriculum.

#### **Girls Scouts of Alaska STEM Patch Series (\$3,000)**

*Girl Scouts of Alaska*

Girl Scouts of Alaska STEM Patch series meets the moment by creating a virtual webinar series that brings in female partners and scientists to do educational presentations for Girl Scouts. This

brings STEM to the Girl Scouts program while also platforming female STEM role models.

### **Heart Gallery of Alaska (\$10,000)**

*Beacon Hill*

The Heart Gallery of Alaska is a multi-media effort to advocate for the adoption of legally free youth living in foster care. The Heart Gallery website and print galleries are in three communities featuring strengths-based profiles of youth seeking permanency through adoption.

### **Kids Count Alaska (\$25,000)**

*Alaska Children's Trust*

KIDS COUNT Alaska is part of the Voices for Alaska's Children program at ACT. Voices is a grassroots community movement focused on continually raising awareness of the needs and challenges of children, youth and families throughout Alaska. KIDS COUNT Alaska is a project that supports the core component of fostering data. The mission of KIDS COUNT is to ensure child advocates, policymakers and the public have access to high-quality, unbiased data about child well-being.

### **Office of Youth Empowerment - Foster Youth Bill of Rights (\$10,000)**

*Facing Foster Care in Alaska - FFCA*

FFCA seeks to work on the passage and implementation of a Foster Youth Bill of Rights through our newly launched Office of Youth Empowerment (OYE). The idea of a youth bill of rights came from FFCA members who desire greater self-determination in planning for their futures, maintaining their health and safety, and having a voice in their court cases. The project includes youth working to secure the passage of the bill, and an education campaign to stakeholders once the bill is passed.

### **Parent Talk and Little Talk (\$10,000)**

*thread*

thread promotes Strengthening Families Protective Factors through education and family unit engagement. thread does this through events that facilitate a conversation with participants to build on their knowledge and strengths. Parent TALK brings professionals from around the community to share their knowledge.

### **Prevention and Education Youth Outreach (\$10,000)**

*Standing Together Against Rape - STAR*

This project will support resources for child wellbeing through age appropriate education materials, updating a new edition of "The Personal Safety Coloring Book". STAR distributes these materials to provide Prevention and Education Specialist with tools necessary to help keep our kids safe.

### **Prevention Month (\$5,500)**

*22 organizations*

Mini-grants to support local outreach during National Child Abuse Awareness month – April.

### **YBRS System (\$10,000)**

*State of Alaska – DHSS*

Support for the implementation of the annual Youth Behavior Risk Surveillance System.

### **Statewide Conferences and Outreach Activities (\$30,777)**

*Various Organizations*

- ACE's Connection
- Alaska Black Caucus
- Alaska Children's Alliance
- Alaska Coalition on Housing & Homelessness
- Alaska Public Health Association
- Beacon Hill
- Best Beginnings
- Camp Fire
- Children's Lunchbox
- Clare House
- Girls Scouts – Fairbanks
- Juneau Alaska Music Matters
- Native Youth Olympics (CITC)
- NW Children's Foundation
- Rural Alaska Honors Institute
- Spirit of youth
- Sprout Alaska
- The TEARS Foundation
- Tundra Women's Coalition
- Wrangell Institute for Science & Environment
- Women in Safe Homes
- Wrangell High School
- Youth & Elders Conference

## **Interior**

### **Loving Families (\$10,000)**

*Love in the Name of Christ – Love INC*

The Loving Families program takes in and provides for homeless families in the Fairbanks North Star Borough. The work of Love INC is to help families establish necessary behaviors and resources to provide for a child to develop physically, socially, and emotionally. By helping families meeting a child's basic needs, we are reducing child neglect and abuse. We connect parents with education and mentors to support the overall wellbeing and stability of households.

### **Mental Health First Aid Training (\$10,000)**

*SERRC – Alaska's Educational Resource Center*

Train up to 180 Alaskans in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA). MHFA is an internationally-

recognized, evidence-based, certificate course. Similar to CPR training where participants learn how to help someone having a heart attack, MHFA teaches participants how to identify and help people experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis.

### **Safe and Healthy Teens Child Advocacy Project (\$10,000)**

*Resource Center for Parents and Children*

RCPC will increase the support services offered through Stevie's Place Child Advocacy Center by supporting two full-time Family Advocates. There is a significant need for increased Family Advocacy services as the number of families served through Stevie's Place continues to grow. Family Advocates provide education and support in teaching children and their families about personal safety and healthy choices. The Safe and Healthy Teen project is designed to provide at-risk teens in our community with information about health and personal safety.

### **Women in STEM Afterschool Program (\$3,000)**

*Nenana Public Library*

Women in STEM Afterschool program creates reusable STEM kits that can be checked out of the Nenana Library to meet the distance learning needs of the moment, as well as provides a monthly STEM program afterschool. Each kit is paired with a book about a woman in STEM or women's contributions to STEM fields to encourage girls to develop STEM identities.

## **Northern**

### **Arctic Slope Native Association (\$24,775)**

*Healthy Families*

The Arctic Slope Native Association will be offering the Parents as Teachers Model to families across the North Slope. The four parts of the program are Group Connections, Resource Network, Personal Visits, and Child Screening. The Association will travel to communities and provide them with the curriculum, which will include the staff services in the communities, so the parents and children don't have to leave their communities to benefit from the program. The program will focus on parents who have older children or children in the juvenile system.

### **Kingigan Youth Activities (\$10,000)**

*Native Village of Wales*

The Native Village of Wales has determined that culturally-responsive programming is a nexus to the holistic wellbeing of their community's youth. The Kingigan Youth Group (KYG) achieves this by strengthening cultural identity and practice. Today our youth carry out tradition through our modern day of living: it is their intentions to ensure that our Elders vision of bringing back the dance and song continues. These activities for the Youth would allow them to learn to have respect to one another, fostering community resilience.

### **Maniilaq Association (\$20,681)**

*In the Spirit of the Inupiat Family Parenting Class*

The Maniilaq Tribal Services will be offering Healthy Parenting Workshops which are culturally

strength-based classes using resiliency as a survival recourse while connecting problem-solving resources at a family level before conflict arises. This curriculum follows the “In the Spirit of the Inupiaq Family” which emphasizes a set of 17 values followed by the Inupiat heritage. The classes will focus on teaching parents to realize and understand their own struggles in a way that presents a change in a positive and practical way, to then learn how to work around their personal struggles and to not promote struggles to their children.

### **Nome Community Center (\$17,875)**

*Parent to Parent Plus*

This project will be expanding parent education opportunities in the Nome area for members of the community that have recently been released from prison to the halfway house, mothers staying in the domestic violence shelters, young mothers and families staying at the patient hostel, and people searching for recovery at the day shelter for the homeless. Each class will be held at these locations people are staying in for their specific needs. The classes that will be offered are Parent Resiliency, Social Connections, Knowledge of Parenting, Concrete Support in Times of Need, and Healthy Social/Emotional Development. These classes offered are expanding from one class for at-risk kids to six.

### **Wellness Program (\$5,000)**

*Native Village of Kiana*

The Native Village of Kiana is determined to reduce the rate of suicide of their community through the projects in the Wellness Program. The projects are designed to address prevention by examining risk factors of abuse, neglect, and self-harm. The Wellness Program originated with the goal of suicide prevention by ensuring the safety of our children through education, engagement, and essential resources.

## **Southcentral**

### **A safe place for every child (\$10,000)**

*Kids Corps, Inc.*

This program is designed to build child resilience and social/emotional development through the Conscious Discipline Feeling Buddies curriculum. We plan to provide an intensive two day, hands on orientation to the curriculum. The program will also support the Disabilities and Mental Health Coordinator’s continuing education curriculum, to deliver the most current practicum recommended.

### **The ARE Smart Girls Rock STEM Program (\$3,000)**

*Alaska Resource Education*

The ARE Smart Girls Rock STEM program is an eight-week STEM camp for girls. Each day of the camp, there are short presentations introducing a new topic, followed by a fun, hands-on activity and a female guest speaker from that career field who speaks about her specific career.

### **Building Resilience and Breaking the Cycle of CAN, One Story at a Time (\$6,050)**

*Story Works Alaska*

Story Works Alaska supports in-school workshops that invite students to share stories of resilience, learning, and positive change. The core premise is simple: hold space for all voices and listen closely. But the results are profound: more than 97.5% of surveyed participants self-reported gains in protective factors known to amplify resilience, decrease risk behavior, and disrupt the destructive cycle of child abuse and neglect (CAN). This project aims to build off existing evidence as it addresses both those needs and opportunities.

### **Cordova Strengthening Our Parents (\$9,656)**

*Cordova Family Resource Center*

Will provide opportunities of continued support, skill building, and peer relationships, to minimize child abuse/neglect and increase resiliency within families. CFRC plans on doing this in three ways. First, by continuing to build on the exciting parenting skills classes co-facilitated by Sound Alternative and CFRC, to include one zoom parenting class and one lunch and learn class. Second, by offering Family Learning Activities each quarter of the year, focusing on a new topic each quarter. These activities include healthy family cooking, homework or home schooling help, stress relief through physical exercise, games, and crafts. Lastly, CFRC coordinates with the Office of Children's Services, the Alaska Court systems, or Tribal entities to provide supervised visitation.

### **Developing Youth through STEM (\$3,000)**

*YMCA of Alaska*

Developing Youth through STEM creates a STEM component as part of the YMCA Alaska afterschool program which focuses on girls. Developing Youth through STEM partners with organizations like Girls who Code to create fun technology programs.

### **Food Pantry (\$5,000)**

*Catholic Social Services*

Due to COVID-19, food pantries/banks across the state have seen a dramatic increase in need. These funds will further help meet the need of children and families.

### **Inspiring Girls to Reach for the (Sea)Stars (\$3,000)**

*Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies*

Inspiring Girls to Reach for the (Sea)Star builds on Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies' successful Science and Art Action Club program by offering virtual learning to youth and families in remote local communities, distributing STEM kits, and providing for extended learning and engagement. They piloted three multigenerational STEM workshops (in person & virtual) and include virtual presentations by women scientists and female Traditional Knowledge Experts as a way to engage more female mentors and role models.

### **Kenai Peninsula Community Care Center (\$10,000)**

*Strengthening Families Parenting Program DVDs*

The Strengthening Families DVD program is a parenting program designed to help high-risk parents and children establish happier and healthier family relationships, improve mental health,

and help lower youth alcohol and drug use, violence, and criminal behaviors. This grant will provide access to the DVD for families and/or youth in the residence facility's, foster families, in the Juvenile Justice or Children's Services, and members of small villages in Alaska. The DVD gives people access to eleven 30-minute skill-based lessons on strengthening families and child abuse and maltreatment. Users will have a monthly or weekly check-in meeting with counselors on topics they are learning about and how they are using the topics in the real world.

### **Parental Resiliency Project (\$9,342)**

*Covenant House Alaska*

The Passage House's Parental Resiliency Project will expand the current program curriculum to provide in-depth parenting skills through examining the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). The group program is designed to foster a strong support network of peers and will use evidence-based curriculum for learning activity. These workshops are organized to allow for maximum participation to minimize disruption of home-life at Passage House.

### **Safe Diapering for All Children (\$10,000)**

*Sprout Family Services*

Sprout will formalize and scale up the diaper bank by stocking up on an annual supply of diapers and supplies, disseminate information on safe diapering, and promote the diaper bank program. This action plan to address and support healthy infant hygiene will include holding a diaper drive, crowdsourcing donations both individually and through partnerships with manufacturers or retailers.

### **Sprout Family Services (\$24,775)**

*Relationship-Based Parenting*

Sprouts Family Services is planning to offer Circles of Security and Conscious Discipline trauma-informed classes focusing on social and emotional development, by educating parents about early childhood brain development. These courses will be offered quarterly throughout the year at the Sprouts headquarters; however, online streaming will be available for parents who aren't able to attend. The duration of each course is 7-8 weeks with a session per week. The goal of these classes is for parents and families to have an increased social connectedness and support in their community and intending to offer universal access to these classes for all parents within the region.

### **Sutton Youth Arts and Wellness Program (\$4,750)**

*Friends of the Sutton Library*

The Sutton Youth Arts and Wellness Program is a program for youth ages 11-16 that combines healthy living ideals with community engagement, volunteerism, arts, and cultural activities to foster a balanced group. Youth are empowered to take pride in their lifestyles, as well as improving the lives of those around them.

### **Virtual Afterschool at the Museum: Engineering (\$3,000)**

*Anchorage Museum*

Anchorage Museum has developed a virtual afterschool program over four weeks targeting underserved middle school girls. Each meeting includes an introduction to a STEM topic, background context, and a rapid prototyping activity that through hands-on engagement and experimentation fosters critical thinking skills and imagines multiple solutions to problems instead of one “right” answer.

**Youth Mental Health First Aid Class for OCS Foster Parents (\$10,000)**

*Camp Fire Alaska*

Provide a Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) course to Camp Fire Alaska parents with Office of Children’s Services (OCS) involvement at no cost to families and provide stipends for childcare. YMHFA is an eight hour long, interactive course designed to teach community members how to support an adolescent who is experiencing a mental health crisis. The course culminates in a certification that is nationally recognized and is valid for 3 years.

**Southeast**

**Juneau Coop Preschool Sustainability Program (\$10,000)**

*Juneau Community Preschool*

The Juneau Community Preschool Sustainability Program creates a positive and safe educational environment for children. The program will continue serving Juneau families with high quality preschool with opportunities for parenting education and support.

**Juneau Title I Elementary School Social Workers (\$10,000)**

*Juneau School District*

This project will fund three half time social worker/family advocate positions, one position each at Riverbend, Glacier Valley, and Harborview Elementary Schools.

**Marine Debris Engineering Club (\$3,000)**

*Sitka Sound Science Center*

The Marine Debris Engineering Club is a high school program for girls that devises innovative ways to contain Styrofoam so it does not break up when removing it from shorelines during beach cleanups. This project involves conducting marine debris cleanups on local islands, researching other marine debris removal inventions, designing, and building prototypes to collect and contain Styrofoam and other plastics, testing the designs in the classroom and in the field, and talking to and working with other female professionals in STEM fields.

**Providing Parenting Classes and Cultural Activities (\$24,718)**

*Sitka Tribe of Alaska*

The Sitka Tribe of Alaska will be offering three parenting curriculum classes. First: Fatherhood is Scared, Second: Motherhood is Scared, Third: healthy relationships. The Motherhood and Fatherhood classes are two separate 12 weeks classes each year, while Healthy Relationships are 32-week year round, available class. These classes will be supplemented with cultural nights to enhance the curriculum that will occur once per week. These classes were chosen because Sitka already has the necessary trained staff to teach these classes to strengthen families and relationships. By teaching parents to devote their best efforts into raising successful children, it



will help to stop the cycle of child abuse and neglect.

### **Raising Our Children with Kindness; Circles of Security (\$24,775)**

*AEYC-SEA*

Circles of Security is the primary curriculum used in Raising Our Children with Kindness Class. The class will be held in two-hour sessions, with a family style meal in the middle for parent networking. The class will focus on the sixth protective factor of increasing attachment and bond of parent and child. A second program used will be Fatherhood/Motherhood is Scared. This is a culturally based program with goals of strengthening Native American Families through safe and responsible fatherhood and motherhood to create the tools and passion for parents to take charge of their roles as parents and raise a healthy and happy family.

### **Supporting Families in Building Resilience (\$24,775)**

*Connections Community*

The community on Ketchikan will have access to two evidence-based parenting courses. The first, Circles of Security will focus on building parent capacity in child development knowledge and; expectations for parents to better understand the use of positive emotional support in connecting with their child, during stressful and positive times in life. The second class will be Parenting the Love and Logic used in supporting the emotional capacity of parents as they learn to communicate clear expatiations to their children. The Love and Logic program will also be used in the Ketchikan School District with teacher training days. The Circles of Security class will be offered for 12-16 sessions per year, while Love and Logic will be offered once per year with six sessions.

## **Southwest**

### **Family Engagement & Enrichment Program (\$21,616)**

*Bristol Bay Borough School District*

The program ReadyRosie is going to offer many mixed methods of parenting education and engagement for the communities in the Bristol Bay/King Salmon Area. ReadyRosie is an early education program tool used to help schools, families, and communities through the nation to bring access to family engagement and early learning resource in raising a family for parents and kids. The program will use the ReadyRosie resources in six parent education sessions with one class per session, which will include family-centered events on many different topics to meet each individual family's needs.

### **Light of St. Paul: Child Abuse Prevention (\$10,000)**

*Aleut Community of Saint Paul Tribal Government*

The Light of Saint Paul is an initiative started with a focus on community surrounding family and youth. Events promoted through the Light of Saint Paul will encourage family and youth to engage in healthy events, provide the means for them to build, develop and practice positive

social skills. Through engagement they will gain education, skills, and resources beneficial to ensure protection of children.

**Village Families – Better Together (\$5,000)**

*Old Harbor Alliance*

This project will allow our communities families to come together to participate in activities regularly. The Better Together project will include events that will provide a platform where issues of parent resiliency, parenting and children development, healthy social and emotional development will be discussed, and social support connections established. Families will learn to cook a healthy meal to continue healthy lifestyles in the home. Healthy recipes will be shared, and recipe books made with favorite recipes for all families.

**Village of Aniak Child Abuse & Neglect Community Event (\$9,990)**

*Village of Aniak*

Will host a three-day event using local and regional services to do presentations on topics that include parenting, alternative ways to discipline, communication skills, traditional parenting techniques, talking circles in the morning and bonding activities for parents and children.

**What You Do Matters (\$6,013)**

*Rural Alaska Community Action Program*

The Rural Alaska Community Action Program will give the community of Kodiak the opportunity of a What You Do Matters project. What You Do Matters is a project that serves families with children ages 0-6 and expecting mothers in Kodiak, that is open to families who aren't currently enrolled in the Kodiak Parents as Educators Program. This project will connect the Parents as Teachers program at an evening of learning, discussion, and community engagement following the What You Do Matters guidance from the Parents as Teachers curriculum.