

MH Treatment Based Special Needs Housing Program**FY2004 Request: \$400,000****Reference No: 37901****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Renovation and Remodeling**Category:** Health/Human Services**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Larry Streuber**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-1870**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2003 - 06/30/2008**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This program provides funding to develop special needs Trust beneficiary housing that is treatment based, and thus cannot be funded under AHFC because of statutory limitations.

Funding:	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	Total
AHFC Div	\$250,000						\$250,000
MHTAAR	\$150,000						\$150,000
Total:	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

This is the first year of the project.

Project Description/Justification:

The program provides funding to develop special needs housing that cannot be funded under AHFC because of statutory limitations. Funding for residential housing that requires a substantial treatment component or that houses individuals who have been remanded by the courts is prohibited under AHFC statutes. These funds will allow for the acquisition, development or rehabilitation of such needed facilities.

Special needs housing includes housing designed to meet the needs of persons with specific and special housing needs, including supportive services. Special needs housing projects under the AHFC grant program must also meet the definition of "residential housing" under AS 18.56.390(12). This definition restricts special needs housing to housing primarily providing dwelling accommodations. The Attorney General's Office has determined that when an ancillary use such as supportive services prevails over the primary purpose of dwelling accommodations, the facility ceases to be considered residential housing. The definition of "residential housing" also takes into account whether the occupants are free to come and go as they choose. If a person is compelled by law to remain at a certain facility, this level of compulsion and confinement often does not meet the statutory definition of "residential housing".

Because of the restrictive nature that the definition of residential housing places on the Special Needs Housing program with AHFC, many agencies that serve Trust beneficiaries do not qualify for funding under the AHFC program. The Department of Health and Social services is not constrained by this definition and would be able to fund programs in which treatment is an integral part of the housing accommodation, or where residents are legally compelled to reside at a facility.