

AHFC Emergency Assistance Grants for Mental Health Trust Beneficiaries

FY2009 Request: \$200,000
Reference No: 43318

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Development

Project Type: Health and Safety

Location: Statewide

Contact: Les Campbell

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

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Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2008 - 06/30/2013

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project supports Mental Health Trust beneficiaries in maintaining homeownership or long term rental stability by providing gap or short term assistance. Assistance may be provided for an event such as structural repair or mechanical breakdown, or an event that may threaten the ability of the beneficiary to make mortgage, rent or utility payments. Funding is intended to supplement not supplant existing resources for home modifications, weatherization or rehabilitation programs.

Funding:	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
MHTAAR	\$200,000						\$200,000
Total:	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000

<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:

FY2008 \$200,000 Mental Health Trust funds.

Project Description/Justification:

The purpose of this program is to support beneficiaries in maintaining homeownership or long term rental stability by providing gap or short term assistance.

The projected outcomes are:

- To provide assistance for structural or major appliance breakdowns that may go beyond the financial reach of the homeowner, or life event that may threaten the ability of the beneficiary to make a mortgage or rent payment;
- To provide "gap" or "short term assistance" for MHTA beneficiaries;
- To supplement not supplant existing resources available for home modifications, weatherization or rehabilitation programs.

Emergency Assistance Grants for Mental Health Trust Beneficiaries – Mental Health Trust Authority (MHTAAR) funds for grants to support beneficiaries of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to prevent loss of housing that might occur due to unforeseen events such as institutionalization. It will allow beneficiaries to maintain homeownership or long-term rental stability by providing gap or short-term assistance. Assistance may be provided for any event like a structural or major appliance breakdown that may go beyond the financial reach of the homeowner, or life event that may threaten the ability of the beneficiary to make a mortgage or rent payment. Funding under this program is intended to supplement, not supplant, existing resources available for home modifications, weatherization or rehabilitation programs.

Program Description:

This program provides funds to support beneficiaries in maintaining homeownership or long-term rental stability by providing gap or short-term assistance. Assistance may be provided for any event like a structural or major appliance breakdown that may go beyond the financial reach of the homeowner, or life event that may threaten the ability of the beneficiary to make a mortgage or rent payment. Funds shall be used for "gap" or "short-term" assistance only. Funding under this program is intended to supplement, not supplant, existing resources available for home modifications, weatherization or rehabilitation programs. Grantees will need to document which other programs the recipient is eligible for and which have been queried for funding.

Eligible recipients are the head of household or co-head of household who is a person with a permanent physical, mental or developmental disability and is a "beneficiary" as defined by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. Household income must be less than 80% of the median income (adjusted for family size) as defined by HUD. The grantee will be required to provide appropriate file documentation to support the fact that the assisted household's income is less than the applicable limit.

Eligible program activities include:

1. Major appliance repair, i.e., furnaces, refrigerators, stoves and the cost of installation.
2. Only owner-occupied housing is eligible for major structural improvements, i.e., stairway improvements, repair fire damage, or some other improvement which is necessary for the continued use of the property by the eligible beneficiary as the result of an emergency or funding gap.
3. Short-term mortgage payments to facilitate the receipt of supportive services in an institutional setting that jeopardizes the recipient's housing situation.
4. Short-term rental assistance payments to facilitate the receipt of supportive services in an institutional setting that jeopardizes the recipient's housing situation.
5. Short-term utility payments.
6. Other activities approved in advance by AHFC.

Other conditions include:

- Fifteen percent (15%) of funds received may be used for administrative expenses by the grantee. Administrative expenses shall be billed as a percentage of program funds requested under Attachment C, Article Payments.
- Participants in the AHFC Home Choice Voucher Homeownership program have a priority for the use of these funds. A set-aside of \$50,000 will be maintained as part of the program's operation. If these funds are not used within six months of the start of each program year, then they may be reallocated to other participants.
- Project expenditures under \$5,000 may be approved by the grantee. Project costs between \$5,000 and \$10,000 must be approved in advance by the AHFC Program Manager. There is a maximum \$10,000 household limit.

Beneficiaries -- are defined as an eligible recipient of funding from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority.

Gap -- is defined as the amount of funding needed to complete an assistance activity that exists because the other sources of funding available are insufficient to complete the activity

Short-term -- is defined as a one-year period of time beginning with the date the recipient receives the initial payment of assistance.

Institutional Setting -- is defined as API, Corrections or a similar type facility.