

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.****Federal Tax ID: 92-0033876****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. - Kodiak Head Start Bus Acquisition

State Funding Requested: \$45,000
One-Time Need**House District: 35 / R****Brief Project Description:**

Acquisition of a new school bus for the Kodiak Head Start program serving 40 children between the ages of 3 and 5 years old.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$71,640
Funding Already Secured:	(\$6,640)
FY2014 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$45,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$20,000

*Funding Details:**2012 Rural Alaska Community Action Program \$6,640 secured; 2013 Rasmuson Foundation \$20,000 requested.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Kodiak Head Start program currently provides daily bus transportation to 40 children who are 3-5 years of age, allowing them access to valuable early education resource that would be otherwise inaccessible. Daily bus transportation includes door to door pick-up at each home for 20 children in the morning class and 20 children in the afternoon.

Safe, dependable transportation is imperative to Head Start families, children, and RurAL CAP. Working parents rely on the provided transportation and many of the families served by the Kodiak Head Start do not have access to nor own a reliable vehicle. By providing transportation by bus, the Head Start facility reports greatly improved attendance of Head Start children.

Traveling to Head Start children's homes requires the bus to use gravel roads and deal with rough street and weather conditions including potholes, ice, snow, and extensive rain. The daily transport in the harsh weather has taken a toll on the bus, which is now nine years old and has 47,326 miles as of February 1, 2013.

Buses typically have an 8-10 year life span when used in milder climate conditions in the lower 48. Due to its age and the daily impact of harsh weather conditions, the Kodiak bus is experiencing regular maintenance and operation challenges, resulting in suspended service due to breakdowns and repairs. These repairs are costly and increasingly hard to mitigate. Additionally, the interior of the bus is wearing out and passenger and driver seats are disintegrating. On the exterior, the bus is succumbing to the harsh weather and several areas are rusting out.

**\$45,000
Approved**

The bus is ready to be retired and replaced by a more reliable vehicle. While used buses may sound like a more affordable option, used buses in the market are often being sold because they have become problematic, they do not come with warranties, and when the RurAL CAP Procurement Department recently researched potential options, they found that the current stock is extremely limited and without warranty.

We are requesting state funding to match RurAL CAP's cash contribution and the Rasmuson Foundation's Tier 1 funding to purchase a new bus for use at the Kodiak Head Start.

Project Timeline:

January 2013 Bids solicited from vendors
 February 2013 Vendor selected
 July 2013 Bus ordered from vendor
 October 2013 Bus received and operational in Kodiak

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: David Hardenbergh
 Title: Executive Director
 Address: 731 E. 8th Avenue
 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
 Phone Number: (907)279-2511
 Email: dhardenbergh@ruralcap.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No



Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.
Kodiak Head Start

419 Hillside Drive

Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Phone: (907) 486-4963 Fax: (907) 486-6150

January 29, 2013

Rural Alaska Community Action Program
Debi Baldwin
731 East 8th Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Regarding: The Kodiak Head Start bus

Kodiak Head Start would like to be considered for the purchase of a new school bus. Our current bus is 9 years old and has at times been out of service for one week or more at a time due to repairs.

Each year has taken a toll on this bus since we travel door to door to pick up and drop off our preschool children. We have 20 children in the morning class who use this bus to and from school and another 20 children in the afternoon with the same services to and from school.

We are going into areas that are not on city maintained streets often just to get to the children's houses. The bus travels through gravel, potholes, ice, snow and rain. If we did not have the bus the parents would find it a true hardship to transport their children. Many children are with grandparents while the parents work and many of these elders do not drive.

Another concern that we have is that as this bus gets older and more worn the seats and the padding is wearing out. The driver's seat is worn and does not have the support needed anymore. Our main concern is that our program remains supported and is able to continue to serve our many families in the best and safest possible way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Salomon".

Kim Salomon -On Site Coordinator

Kimberly Katelnikoff- Parent Committee Chairperson Kodiak Head Start

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly Katelnikoff".

Cc: Senator Gary Stevens, Kodiak
Rasmuson Foundation



Quality Equipment

Sales & Service L.L.C.

••(907) 349-1363••

RAY BELANGER

GENERAL MANAGER

February 1, 2013

Rural Alaska Community Action Program
PO Box 200908
Anchorage, AK 99520

Attn: Bill Ellis

Re: New Thomas Built Bus

Per your request for pricing on a new Thomas Built Bus, please review the following proposal on our 2013 Minotour DRW 051MS Thomas School Bus, seated for 28 children.

We are confident that this unit will meet all of your needs. This unit will meet all (FMVSS) Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, 2005 National School Bus and 2011 State of Alaska standards in force at this time.

FOB Kodiak, AK

\$71,640.00

Optional Items included in the above price:

- 6 Extra Mud and Snow tires studded, mounted on wheel
- Ped Lights
- Wheel Chains and Chalks

Thank you for allowing Quality Equipment Sales & Service the opportunity to continue providing you with our Thomas Built Buses.

This Quote # 262350-A is good for 30 days.

Thank you,

Ray Belanger
General Manager

11801 South Gambell - Anchorage, AK 99515 - Phone 907-349-1363 Fax 907-349-2332



Kodiak Head Start Bus
2004 GMC Thomas
47,326 miles

01/31/2013



01/31/2013



01/31/2013