

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**

**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)**

**Grant Recipient: Wrangell Medical Center**

**Federal Tax ID: 92-0005700**

**Project Title:**

# Wrangell Medical Center - Medical Chemistry Analyzer

**State Funding Requested: \$ 161,710**  
One-Time Need

**House District: 2 - A**

**Brief Project Description:**

Funding for purchase of a chemistry analyzer for the Wrangell Medical Center.

**Funding Plan:**

**Total Cost of Project: \$323,420**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Other					\$161,710	09
Total					\$161,710	

*Explanation of Other Funds:*  
The Wrangell Medical Center will match the state funds if approved.

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Item is \$161,710 for purchase of a chemistry analyzer for the Wrangell Medical Center. The center is a 'critical access hospital' serving Wrangell, Thoms Place, and Meyers Chuck. They are the sole provider of laboratory tests for the area. The capacity to provide these services is critical to providing essential care for life, health, and safety.

Analyzer is used to detect stages in pregnancy and diagnose possible ectopic pregnancies or spontaneous abortions; measures prostatic specific antigens (PSA's) which detects enlarged prostates; examines thyroid stimulating hormones (TSH) to gauge different diseases of the thyroid; and has cardiac markers for the diagnosis of heart attacks. It allows for therapeutic drug monitoring and performs chemistry tests for basic diagnosis, among other functions. Their current chemistry analyzer is well beyond its life expectancy. Funding would replace the antiquated equipment with a new analyzer (Dimension Rxl Max Plus Integrated Chemistry System and Stratus CS Acute Care Diagnostic System) allowing the center to continue providing vital medical services to Wrangell and surrounding communities.

**Project Timeline:**

FY09

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

Wrangell Medical Center

*For use by Co-chair Staff Only:*

4:53 PM 4/29/2008

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: Noel Rea  
Phone Number: 874-7164  
Address: PO Box 1081, Wrangell, AK. 99929  
Email: nrea@wmcmail.org

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

**Capital Project Request:  
Critical Medical Equipment for a Rural Sole Provider Laboratory**

**Project Name:** Critical Medical Equipment for a Rural Sole Provider Laboratory, Wrangell Medical Center

**Location:** Wrangell, Alaska, Senate District A

**Amount of funding request:** \$323,420

**Total funding to complete project:** same as above

**Number of years to complete project:** Start: July 2008 – End: June, 2009

**Matching funds available:** \$161,710, Wrangell Medical Center

**Prior state appropriations received:** None

**Inclusion in the governor's proposed FY2009 budget:** No

**Other federal funds being sought:** None

**Public review process:** Project has been reviewed by the elected hospital board.

**Ongoing maintenance and operations costs:** Wrangell Medical Center will be responsible for providing ongoing maintenance and operations cost.

**Legislator submitting request:** Bert Stedman

**Project contact information:**

Noel Rea, CEO, Wrangell Medical Center. 907-874-7164. PO Box 1081 Wrangell, Alaska 99929

Palin Administration FY 2009 Funding Priorities: Focus on providing basic government services:

1. Life, health, safety
2. transportation
3. infrastructure
4. education

This project MEETS the FY 2009 Capital budget funding priority guideline.

Wrangell Medical Center is a Critical Access Hospital located on Wrangell Island, serving the Wrangell Borough (proposed), which includes Wrangell, Thoms Place, and Meyers Chuck. We are the only hospital in our service area; correspondingly, we are the sole provider of laboratory tests. The capacity to provide these services is critical to providing essential care for our residents: it translates to peace of mind for an expectant mother; early cancer detection for an at-risk patient; and the ability for a local elder to age-in-place.

Our greatest laboratory equipment need is for a chemistry analyzer (Dimension Rxl Max Plus Integrated Chemistry System and Stratus CS Acute Care Diagnostic System). Our current machine is on its ninth year, despite its life expectancy of 5 years. This is a critical machine for our facility, as approximately 85% of the labs provided in Wrangell are processed through this equipment. The analyzer is used to detect stages in pregnancy and diagnose possible ectopic pregnancies or spontaneous abortions; measures prostatic specific antigens (PSAs) which detects enlarged prostates; examines thyroid stimulating hormones (TSH) to gauge different diseases of the thyroid; and has cardiac markers for the diagnosis of heart attacks. It allows for therapeutic drug monitoring and performs chemistry tests for basic diagnosis, among other functions.

Instruments should seamlessly interface with our practice management system, where lab results are automatically entered into this database. Currently, our lab technicians are required to transfer lab results by hand entry. A patch would eliminate the possibility of human error during the data entry process.

cc: The Honorable Peggy Wilson, House District 2