

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Haven House, Inc.****Federal Tax ID: 27-3085950****Project Title:****Project Type: Planning and Research**

# Haven House, Inc. - Planning for Reentry and Transitional Housing Program

**State Funding Requested: \$30,000****House District: Southeast Region (1-5)**

Future Funding May Be Requested

**Brief Project Description:**

|                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Program planning for an evidence-based reentry program and transitional housing for women released from prison. |
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**Funding Plan:**

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Project Cost:           | \$35,000          |
| Funding Already Secured:      | (\$5,000)         |
| FY2013 State Funding Request: | <u>(\$30,000)</u> |
| Project Deficit:              | \$0               |

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Board of Directors of Haven House, Inc. seeks funding to develop and document our business plan to provide supported and structured living opportunities to foster healing and self-sufficiency for women coming out of prison in Southeast Alaska. We will obtain professional consulting services to review the literature, speak with stakeholders, interview subject matter experts, plan the Haven House program, develop a business plan and draft operating policies and procedures.

The resulting program documentation, business plan, and draft policies and procedures will position Haven House Inc. for success in grant applications and private fundraising. The business plan will provide a foundation for grant applications, fundraising and future public and private sector funding. It will pave the way to establish the operations necessary to address our tremendous community needs.

Haven House Inc. is a Foraker Group partner. We will continue to seek their advice with respect to organizational development, capacity building, fundraising, and operational policies and procedures. We will also collaborate as closely as possible with the Alaska Prisoner Reentry Task Force and related stakeholders.

Note that this request is for planning the project and does not include operations or construction.

The Alaska Prisoner Re-Entry Task Force made the need for a project like Haven House clear in its Five-Year Prisoner Reentry Strategic Plan for 2011-2016: "Over the last decade, Alaska has experienced rapid growth in its prison population... Incarceration is expensive. As of January 2011, it costs the state \$49,800 per year (or \$136.00 per day) to incarcerate one prisoner... 95 percent of prisoners are eventually released from prison in Alaska... two out of three prisoners returned to

custody within three years of their release... much more needs to be done. In Alaska there is a paucity of affordable housing and when such housing is available, individuals with criminal convictions are not eligible. Additionally, many felons are precluded from employment by virtue of statutes, regulation and policies that make it impossible for people with felony convictions to work... Alaska currently does not have the capacity to provide substance abuse treatment to the many Alaskans who require such treatment both within and without the criminal justice system... The faith-based mentor programs would benefit from additional state support. Citizens from the faith community provide much of the mentorship required to help newly released prisoners turn away from the negative influences that lead back to prison. Without the stabilization that comes from access to housing, employment, sober/mental health and positive peer supports, individuals do what they do best -- revert back to old patterns."

Thirty-year (plus) prison volunteer, Ellen Campbell wrote, "Women released from prison need help. To successfully mainstream into society, women need a safe haven where they can focus on healing their lives... begin to change their lifestyles... address the drug and alcohol abuse that initially sent them into prison. The safe haven we construct will address those issues while providing safe shelter."

Recognizing these disturbing facts and years of observation suggest that we need new approaches to corrections and rehabilitation. Haven House Incorporated, established 2010 under the leadership of Ellen Campbell, is a 501(c)(3) corporation and a faith-based organization.

### Project Timeline:

This request will fund consulting services, develop a business plan, draft operating policies and procedures and include production costs for publications by the end of 2012. We anticipate securing operating funding in the first half of 2013 and accepting our first clients in the summer of 2013.

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

Haven House, Inc.

### Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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 Title: President  
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 Juneau, Alaska 99801  
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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority?  Yes  No

## Haven House, Inc.

*Haven House is a faith-based organization providing supported and structured living opportunities to foster healing and self-sufficiency for women coming out of prison.*

**TARGET:** To provide a home for women exiting from the correctional system with a faith-based life style, fellowship, support and resources to transition to a full, productive life in the community.

- Women who earnestly desire change are not required to make a statement of faith for admission into Haven House, but they must agree to participate in the Haven House programs.
- Women will be provided a support system at Haven House and from the greater community, with counseling and/or substance abuse treatment, life skills training and employment coaching, that will enhance and strengthen self-esteem and healthy choice. To foster self-sufficiency, the women will share in the chores and responsibilities of communal living and will be provided food and shelter for up to a year.

**NEED:** Thirty-year prison volunteer, Ellen Campbell wrote, “Women released from prison need help. To successfully mainstream into society, women need a safe haven where they can focus on healing their lives...begin to change their lifestyles...address the drug and alcohol abuse that initially sent them into prison. The safe haven we construct will address those issues while providing safe shelter.”

Each story of a woman transitioning out of prison is different, but incarceration is a clue that each one was already failing to cope with life’s challenges. On release from prison their situation is dire as they face the familiar demons – inadequate skills, substance abuse, unrealistic expectations, abusive relationships, poor self-esteem. In addition, they are now stigmatized as criminals, farther behind economically, and less competitive in job markets. Upon release, many return to their past associations and behaviors and the cycle begins again.

According to the Alaska Judicial Council report “Recidivism in Alaska” published in 2007, 66% of offenders return to the correction’s system within three years. The study also found that offenders were arrested for most of their new offenses within the first year after release, particularly during the first six months. Haven House in Juneau will provide women leaving prison an alternative to returning to the lifestyle that led to incarceration.

**FINANCIAL:** Haven House’s immediate need is funding for qualified staff to join the mission and to obtain a home for the women. Grants and fundraising will help meet expenses. The women will also be making contributions from their earnings to cover living expenses.

**STATUS:** Haven House Inc. is a public charity and is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3). The Board is networking to establish community partners. Information is being sought on programs, local resources and agencies to assist Haven House.

**ACTION:** Haven House is a community effort and we need your support so please let us know how you can help. Our email is [HavenHouseJuneau@gmail.com](mailto:HavenHouseJuneau@gmail.com) or by mail at P.O. Box 20875 Juneau, Alaska 99802.

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### Estimated Haven House Budget

