



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Northwest/Alaska - Alaska State Office
VECO Alaska Building
Office of the Community Builders
949 East 36th Avenue, Suite 401
Anchorage, AK 99508-4399
www.hud.gov/local/anc

April 24, 2003

Dear Faith-Based Participant,

President Bush has encouraged Federal agencies to promote his faith-based and community initiatives agenda, and Governor Murkowski and Lt. Governor Lemman have stepped forward to assist in Alaska. To this end, the State of Alaska and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development have agreed to work cooperatively, coordinating efforts whenever possible.

HUD has a long history of working with faith-based and community groups. The Alaska Field Office has been working with small and large faith-based organizations since the Stewart B. McKinney Act was instituted in 1988. Over the years, that relationship has evolved as needs and responses to those needs have changed. Today, we work with organizations ranging from the tried-and-true Catholic and Lutheran Social Services and Salvation Army, Anchorage and Fairbanks Neighborhood Housing Services and Habitat for Humanity, to smaller, individual churches and church groups and neighborhood organizations such as community councils and Housing First, a local housing non-profit in Juneau.

HUD is the primary source of funding throughout the state for affordable housing. Our key partners in this effort are Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, the State's Department of Community and Economic Development and the regional housing authorities. Within Anchorage, our key partner is the Municipality of Anchorage. Last year, HUD brought nearly \$715 million into the state to fund a variety of programs.

HUD's grant funds:

- Provide operating subsidies to housing authorities
- Provide homeownership and rental assistance for low-income Alaskans
- Develop and redevelop communities;
- Encourage economic development;
- Create and perpetuate affordable housing for seniors, the disabled and the low-income;
- Administer mortgage insurance programs; and
- Bring training programs to build capacity in our communities.

The majority of HUD's competitive grants are advertised each year through a SuperNOFA – a Super Notice of Funding Availability. Senior and disabled housing, economic development, university partnership, and housing counseling programs, as well as many others, are included in this SuperNOFA. The FY 2003 SuperNOFA was advertised Monday, April 21, and is currently open for applications. You can get additional information on HUD's Website at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm>, or call the Alaska HUD Office at (907) 271-4663.

Working together, we can address the critical issues of our communities – help the homeless and the disabled, house the low-income, and provide opportunities for economic and community development. It will take the efforts of a cohesive and committed partnership to make a difference. We can do it.

Sincerely,

Gail West

Gail West
Faith-Based Liaison

