

Institute for Community Alliances

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Alaska | Atlanta, GA | Boise City/Ada County | Iowa | Minnesota | Missouri | New Hampshire | North Dakota | Omaha / Council Bluffs | Northern Illinois | South Carolina | Vermont | Wisconsin | Wyoming

September 26, 2024

Attn – Important request for funding support of HMIS work for AHD funded agencies -

The Institute for Community Alliances (ICA) has provided services to the two Alaska Continua of Care (CoCs) since 2015, initially in a transitional role and then permanently in 2016. The Alaska team includes five full-time Alaskans with 20 years of HMIS and HUD experience.

ICA is committed to delivering in-depth expertise and custom solutions to help communities and agencies achieve their full potential. ICA is currently the designated HMIS Lead Agency for over 35 Continua of Care in 14 states. HMIS has been central to our work since 2003, and we are recognized as a leading provider of HMIS Lead services. CoCs, homeless services providers, and community stakeholders are our partners in creating a culture of robust data quality and identifying gaps in providing homeless services. As the HMIS expert, ICA can scale projects appropriately while leveraging a national network of resources, including best practices, proven community data management models, and a large circle of expertise beyond the ICA network. We recognize that data-driven decisions cannot be made without accurate and accessible data.

Outside of HUD requirements (document attached), additional state, federal, and local requirements necessitate the use of HMIS for data collection. However, ICA only receives federal funds through the HUD CoC grant. It does not receive funding from any state or local agency in Alaska. This includes the Anchorage Health Department (AHD). AHD gets federal funds for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program. ESG has a federal requirement to enter data into HMIS. AHD has also mandated projects to be enter data into HMIS without additional funding. We have included a list of all projects active in HMIS, and it indicates that AHD has 17 funded projects that are mandated to enter data in HMIS without additional funding being provided.

The HMIS lead budget has a shortfall of \$156,500.61 for this year's contract period. ICA and the AK CoC's respectfully request that AHD provide funding to support the HMIS duties are provided to your agency and your grantees.

Sincerely,



David Eberbach, Corporate Executive Officer