

## **Social and Economic Development Strategies for Alaska (SEDS-AK) Program Areas of Interest**

Examples of SEDS-AK projects include, but are not limited to, the following:

***Social Development:*** Projects that develop and implement culturally appropriate strategies to meet the social service needs and well-being of Native Americans. Examples include the following:

- *Addressing Mental Health*
  - Promoting safety, resilience, and protective factors necessary to foster positive mental health, reduce incidences of suicide and substance abuse and respond to the effects of historical trauma.
  - Community outreach, education programs, and coordination that support the prevention of substance abuse, including opioid addiction, smoking, and vaping.
- *Native Arts and Culture-* Developing or enhancing activities that promote, preserve, and/or restore Native culture and arts.
- *Nutrition and Health*
  - Promoting increased knowledge and participation in activities that promote access to healthy foods, active lifestyles, the reduction of obesity, and other healthy-living habits.
  - Promoting improved access to care and quality of care through coordinated local and regional approaches and supporting environmental health.
- *Community Safety and Security*
  - Developing or enhancing community-based initiatives to protect the community from external threats and reduce physical insecurity, violence, and crime.
  - Developing and coordinating services to assist Elders and people with disabilities by helping them to reach increased independence, productivity, and integration within the community.
  - Developing strategies, tribal codes, awareness campaigns, training, or education opportunities, reporting procedures, data collection systems, partnerships with law enforcement, and other activities that support work to end human trafficking.
  - Supporting safety, resilience, data improvement, and protective factors that reduce incidences of MMIP in rural and urban Alaska Native villages and communities.
- *Strengthening Child and Family Well-being*
  - Incorporating culturally relevant strategies to strengthen families and promote family preservation, fostering the well-being of children including supporting early childhood education programs and life skills, training for youth leadership and development.
  - Supporting stable and high-quality, culturally appropriate childhood education programs; creating early childhood education jobs; and improving community-wide planning and coordination of early childhood programs.
  - Improving the well-being of youth through life skills training, leadership development, workforce development training, mentoring programs, cultural connectedness, educational enhancements, and juvenile crime prevention.
- *Two-Spirit/LGBTQ+ -*Planning, developing, and coordinating culturally relevant programs and services designed to serve Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer individuals, and families.

***Economic Development:*** Projects that promote the creation of a sustainable local economy to enhance the economic independence of Native people. Examples include the following:

- *Agriculture-* Creating, developing, or enhancing agricultural enterprise and sustainable farming projects with a focus on distribution at local and commercial markets.

- *Asset Building*- Increasing availability of effective financial education and other asset- building strategies for individuals and families.
- *Economic Infrastructure*- Addressing economic infrastructure needs that will strengthen business development and job creation in Native communities. Development of tribal code or court systems for purposes of economic development, including commercial codes, training for court personnel, and the development of non-profit subsidiaries or other tribal business structures.
- *Energy-related activities*-Projects that promote traditional energy activities and practices that support conservation and help to mitigate the high costs of the purchase, transportation, and storage of fuel in Alaska Native villages, especially strategic energy plans that have been identified in approved strategic energy plans. Examples include projects to implement renewable energy resources at the village-level, such as bioenergy, geothermal, hydropower, solar, wind, or other methods appropriate to the geographical location
- *Entrepreneurship and Microbusiness*- Promoting entrepreneurial development through business incubators and other activities that support businesses and market the availability of local products or services.
- *Master plans for Community and Economic Development*- Conducting the necessary planning and/or research to support achievement of long-range economic development goals. Examples may include establishing a separate division to administer economic development programs or performing gap or value-added analyses to identify strengths and weaknesses in the local economy. Strengthening an organization's capacity to deliver programs that promote economic development and security.
- *Native Community Financial Development Institutions* – The development of Native community development financial institutions, including training and administrative expenses.
- *Subsistence Lifeways*- Enhancing subsistence and agricultural activities to retain or revitalize traditional Native food sources and practices.
- *Tourism*- Planning or developing resources, services, and businesses that promote travel, recreation, tourism, or branding to tell the history of Alaska Natives. Projects may utilize the arts or other cultural resources to promote economic development as a means to revitalize Alaska Native communities.
- *Workforce Development and Career Pathways*-
  - Developing activities that promote short- and long-term job creation by supporting targeted training of individuals to develop new technical skills, secure new credentials, and gain experience that will lead to jobs created and increased earned income.
  - Using multi-sector partnerships with entities such as Tribal Colleges, workforce development agencies, social service providers, and employers to develop workforce training programs that respond to local employers' hiring needs.

**Governance:** Governance is defined as increasing the ability of Alaska Native tribal governments to exercise local control and decision-making, and to develop and enforce laws, regulations, codes, and policies that reflect and promote the interests of community members. Examples include the following:

- *Administrative and Program Management Capacity Building*-Planning and financial management capacity building to strengthen effective and accountable planning and management of village-level government operations and programs such as the creation or enhancement of judicial systems, housing authorities, or other tribal departments. **(For Alaska-specific SEDS Projects, ANA will consider funding core administrative capacity building projects at the tribal government level if the village does not have governing systems in place.)**
  - *Governmental or Organizational Administration*- Developing and amending tribal constitutions, by-laws and codes, and council or executive branch policies and procedures to improve the regulatory, judicial, and administrative infrastructure of Alaska Native tribal governments; supporting and enforcing business and investment transactions, contracts, and property rights;

rights and procedures addressing family and child welfare issues; and enhance intergovernmental relations, including clarifying tribal jurisdiction.

- *Leadership Skills*-Enriching and strengthening the management and organizational capacities of tribal governments, governing boards, tribally owned enterprises, and community leaders.
  - *Self-Governance Infrastructure and Planning*- Building the capacity and infrastructure to enter into self-governance compacts and other arrangements with funding agencies to take advantage of administrative flexibilities to more effectively operate programs.
- *Comprehensive Intergovernmental Strategies*- Developing comprehensive intergovernmental strategies involving tribal, state, and federal governments to meet the needs of community members.
  - *Emergency Preparedness*- Planning and coordinating emergency response services within the community and with state and local governments to protect against acts of nature and other catastrophic events such as floods and hazardous material exposure.
  - *Federal Recognition Planning*-Support to tribes during any stage in the process of seeking federal recognition.
  - *Technology Infrastructure*- Establishing and implementing village-level information management systems for effective and efficient administration of tribal governments and governing boards.