Overview MicroEnterprise Grant

- Purpose of the grant
- Definition and Highlights of the Grant
- Who Decides? The Review Committee
- Support & Resources available for applicants
Purpose of the Microenterprise Grant

The grant attempts to increase access to self-employment opportunities for persons with disabilities who are Trust beneficiaries.
What is Microenterprise and the Grant?

• The grant funds are provided by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority for Trust Beneficiaries for the purpose of:
  – starting,
  – expanding, or
  – acquiring an existing business

  Awarded Statewide (communities large and small)

• A microenterprise has:
  – Required start-up costs of less than $35,000
  – Up to 5 employees
Grant Request Limits

• May request minimum $500
• May apply more than once up to maximum $10,000

Visit UAA CHD Microenterprise for more information
Who are Trust Beneficiaries?

Beneficiaries of the Trust include the following broad groups of Alaskans with:

- mental illness
- developmental disabilities
- chronic alcoholism and other substance related disorders
- Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia
- traumatic brain injuries
Types of Businesses Funded

- Artists (fiber, jewelry, paint, photography)
- Handyman/construction
- Interior/Exterior Painting
- Advertising agency
- Gardening - Aquaponics
- Tree trimming & Clearing Services
- Escorted youth Transport

- Taxi & Courier Service
- Computer drafting
- Pet Grooming Canine Obedience
- Hair / Nail Salon
- Recycling
- Technology education
- Rental/Rent Retreat Center
- Raising Alpacas
Grant Criteria

• Complete Application
• Provide a current Resume

• Proof of beneficiary status
  • Mental illness
  • Developmental disabilities
  • Chronic alcoholism and other substance related disorders
  • Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia
  • Traumatic brain injuries

• A Business Plan (applications over $1000)
• Requires a dollar for dollar match – documented
• Documentation/quotes for items requested
• DVR/TVR clients – must provide a release of information
Grant Review Committee

Review committee members are from:

- Governor’s Council on Disabilities and Special Education,
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation
- AK Small Business Development Centers,
- UAA – Center for Human Development,
- Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
What Makes a Good Application?

• A good business plan, good motivation & enthusiasm

• Realistic preparation – potential for success.

• Will this improve the quality of life of the applicant.
Supports & Resources
Business Plan Development

• The Business Plan is a roadmap for your business and paints a picture of your vision and your planning

• Resources for creating a solid Business plan:
  – Nina – Microenterprise Business Consultant
  – AK Small Business Development Center
  – Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
  – Online Resources
Other Application Resources

• Grant Information Manual
• Checklist of Documentation Needed
• Business Plan Template
• Business Plan Guide
• Financial Spreadsheet template
• AK Small Business Development Centers
• Agency supports – Care Coordinators/DSP’s, employment counselors etc.
Success Stories – Arts & Crafts!

Lori & Amber
Success Stories – Hair Stylists!

Elizabeth & Yvonne
Success Stories – Rebecca & Ian!

- Becca's Alpaca's
- KTV: Statewide grant helps Alaskans with disabilities become their own boss

Note: Ian's Game Paradise has moved to 5th Ave Mall
Microenterprise Recipients

- Jierum Duartes – ILI Custom Leatherworks
- Ian Clark – Ian’s Game Paradise
- Alex Schudel – Art by Alex
ILI Custom Leatherworks
Denali Graphics – 700 W. International Airport Rd, Ste B

- Denali Graphics - 700 W International Airport Rd Ste B
  - Limited hours: M-F 10A – 4P
Ian’s Game Paradise
5th Avenue Mall - 320 W 5th Ave #340
Art by Alex
Various shows & venues
Questions?
Contact Information

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Google - UAA Microenterprise grant (link)