

**AKIACHAK NATIVE COMMUNITY
GRANT13836527-PA#1-E/T**

Tribal Community and Justice Profile

Strengths

- Akiachak Native Community (ANC) is a Federally recognized Tribal government. The Tribe indicates three areas of crime and public safety problem(s) that the Tribe plans to address. Public safety in the community is affected by the lack of police presence and the lack of people applying to be a police officer.
- The applicant clearly describes the Tribe's overall state of public safety and indicates the crime and public safety problems. The applicant notes that alcohol and hiring and retaining police officers are issues.
- The applicant describes a desire to focus on decreasing alcohol and drug-related crimes in the community. The applicant notes one serious felony and how the Alaska State Troopers assisted with investigation efforts. The applicant is seeking additional officer positions in the application.

Weaknesses

- The services that are not available are not addressed.
- The applicant does not clearly describe the general form of the applicant's Tribal government.
- The applicant does not describe the Tribal justice system and how the three requested officers would combat crime beyond a physical presence or what the court process would be to reform subjects or reduce recidivism in the future. The applicant does not further discuss the community role the officer positions would improve upon.

Purpose Area 1 Narrative

Strengths

- The community has no identifiable tax base to support the Tribal government. Congress and the State of Alaska do not recognize the economic benefits from appropriating funds

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annually to provide sound and adequate policing for rural communities. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) are not the focus of this grant. However, the community will assist in any effort.

- The applicant discusses some current and previous efforts. The applicant discusses how rural officers respond to every call even though they work alone and have no back up. The applicant includes data from a 2021 crime report in Alaska. The applicant discusses the crimes of abuse of alcohol, domestic violence, sexual assaults, and serious assaults. The applicant provides a chart based on national averages.
- The applicant articulates a need to hire 3 officers for the community to increase patrol coverage for the citizens. The applicant notes with more officers, crime should decrease because it will be deterred with an increased visual presence of law enforcement. The applicant notes the low wages for police and discusses the need for grant assistance to pay the increased wages. A plan is included to continue with the compensation beyond the grant by compact funds and fundraisers to cover wages for at least an additional year. The applicant says few community initiatives or partnerships exist currently because of the lack of police staffing.

Weaknesses

- The project or program design and its planned implementation is not described. The evaluation efforts to conduct performance and data collection to measure impact and outcomes is not described. The applicant's capabilities and competencies are not described. The applicant discusses focusing on the unabated and ongoing crimes of domestic violence, sexual assaults, and serious assaults related to the abuse of alcohol but then states that the presence of law enforcement will take care of the problem.
- The Tribe's plan to comprehensively address the Tribe's public safety is to maintain a constant police force based on the national funded average for police at \$340 per resident. However, there is no assessment of the impact, if any, of the increase in police resources on other components of the criminal justice system.
- There is no detailed information about existing resources within the Tribe and community beyond a general statement about how the Tribe will combine grant funding and compact funding to establish a permanent police presence over the duration of the grant period of five (5) years. No partners, existing or potential, are identified. The sustainability plan is to begin a 5-year sinking fund to maintain their grant-funded officer with resources garnered from their community fundraising efforts. This approach does not seem very realistic.

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- The applicant does not discuss how to regain their interests. Future plans are discussed; however, they are not clearly presented in the application. The applicant does not clearly identify government and community initiatives that compliment or coordinate with the proposal. The applicant does not clearly discuss the five-year plan. The applicant does not fully describe if missing or murdered and indigenous people or human trafficking are problem focus areas.
- The applicant describes a need to hire 3 additional officers and cites a national average of police officers per community population. The table cited shows 6 officers for a population of 1200. The Akiachak Native Community has a population of 1200 and notes they have 5 funded full-time positions and 2 part-time positions. The demographic information provided actually notes the agency is operating with 7 full-time officers and no part-time officers. The applicant does not describe a need for the additional 3 positions beyond increasing officer presence. The community does not keep crime statistics, so it is unclear how success would be measured beyond more patrol hours. The applicant does not incorporate further community policing engagement initiatives with the additional officers.

Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative

Strengths

- The applicant clearly describes every category of expense listed in the Budget Detail Worksheet. The budget is cost-effective, complete, and allowable. The Budget Detail Worksheet presents a complete itemization of all proposed calls. The applicant draws a clear link between the activities proposed and the items included in the budget.
- The budget request is submitted for \$553,439, which is within the allocation for the department size. The applicant requests funding for 3 sworn officers and fills in salaries for three years. There is a request for one truck, one snow machine, one ATV, and includes police academy training for the three officers.

Weaknesses

- A budget narrative cannot be found.
- The applicant does not budget for three staff to travel to the new grant orientation meeting in year one of the award. The solicitation requires for two staff to attend.
- The applicant requests funding for five years of officers' salaries but does not complete funding computations for years four and five on the budget sheet, so the salary request is

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not accurate. There is no narrative regarding the vehicle, snow machine, or ATV to understand if this is replacing equipment or if this is newly added equipment. The applicant does not include any consideration for costs associated with equipping new officers with uniforms, radios, tools, etc.

Application Timeline

Strengths

- The timeline is attached to the application.
- A timeline is submitted with one entry line noting the hiring of three officers in October 2023 to improve community safety and the conclusion of the funding in September 2028.

Weaknesses

- There are no goals, activities, etc.
- Calendar dates are used.
- The timeline responsibility and expected completion of each task is not labeled with year 1, month 1, or quarter 1. The timeline does not detail a description of the project goals, objectives, activities, and completion dates.
- The timeline only has one entry and there are no program ideas or considerations for measuring the impact of the additional personnel or what is achieved with the additional vehicles purchased.

Summary

Strengths

- None noted.

Weaknesses

- It is clear that there is a need for this community but the criteria are lacking.
- The application is missing much of the information required by the solicitation. The application does not fully meet the requirements.

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- The applicant notes the community has concerns with alcohol-related crimes and the need to add more police to patrol the community. The applicant states they want to focus on domestic violence and sexual assault and decrease alcohol and drug-related crimes, but there is no mention of how the additional personnel would be utilized or how their time would be focused on these initiatives.
- The budget request is for \$553,439 but only includes a salary for three officers for three years, while the applicant requests funding for five years. The budget notes equipment purchases but it is not mentioned in any narrative of what the vehicle/equipment needs are for the police or how those vehicles will assist with policing initiatives. The applicant states the Tribe would try to pay for the positions beyond the five years but notes in the demographics provided that they are currently budgeted for five positions but have seven officers currently working at the time of the grant.
- If selected, the Tribe would need significant assistance with ensuring the budget allocations for salary are accurate and would need help with reporting and configuring a realistic timeline.
- There is a low probability of success in meeting the grant requirements without significant oversight.