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Commissioner

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Department of Commerce,  
Community, and  
Economic Development

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

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### DCRA Announces Food Security Grant Program Awardees

**Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Anchorage, AK)**— The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED), Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA), has announced the distribution of \$1,500,000.00 to respond to emergency food security needs in Alaska’s most vulnerable communities. Through a FY24 appropriation (HB268) signed into law on June 28, 2024, by Governor Mike Dunleavy, thirty-four (34) underserved communities have been awarded grants through DCRA’s Food Security Grant Program (FSGP). These funds will be used to purchase bulk food, pay for shipping costs, and provide administrative support to arrange food delivery. In many of the awarded projects, food will be distributed regionally to multiple communities through a central grantee. All FSGP grantees will distribute food throughout the coming year.

“Food security has been an area of focus throughout my administration,” said **Governor Mike Dunleavy**. “This program is intended to alleviate the most immediate need, and efforts to implement long-term solutions to food security in Alaska will continue to be a priority.”

DCRA pursued the opportunity to distribute emergency food security funds in the spring of 2024 following Governor Dunleavy’s directive to the Department of Health to distribute funds to alleviate food security needs. DCRA works directly with rural and underserved communities frequently and holds strong working partnerships with municipalities of all sizes, making DCRA well-positioned to engage with the intended recipients to facilitate immediate funding.

“I appreciate the efforts of our team members at the Division of Community and Regional Affairs,” said **DCCED Commissioner, Julie Sande**. “They worked to quickly solicit, review, and score applications in order to be able to provide this critical funding to some of our most vulnerable Alaskan communities. These funds will directly benefit individuals and families who are facing food shortages across Alaska. While there is still work to be done in our effort to ensure food security, this announcement is a much-needed boost for communities, especially as we head into the fall and prepare for winter.”

Throughout the development of the Food Security Grant Program, DCRA identified that there are resource needs in multiple food security areas such as data gathering, growing the capacity of partner organizations who are direct providers like food banks and food pantries, and supporting the infrastructure needs of communities to safely store and handle food; however, the emergency need is for basic access to food.

The awardees and amounts are listed below:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
Native Village of Savoonga	\$103,500.00
Umkumiut Native Village	\$34,322.00
New Stuyahok Village	\$33,263.00
Village of Aniak	\$33,263.00
Chalkyitsik Village Council	\$5,000.00
Native Village of Marshall	\$33,286.00
Native Village of Kwgillingok	\$38,640.00
Prince of Wales Islands Food Bank	\$103,500.00
Circle Tribal Council	\$20,700.00
City of Saint Mary's	\$23,502.00
Native Village of Tununak	\$33,264.00
City of Shishmaref	\$81,160.00
Kotzebue Church of God	\$75,000.00
Copper River Basin Resource Council	\$56,100.00
City of Chefornak	\$75,000.00
Native Village of Dot Lake	\$5,000.00
Copper River Basin Regional Housing Authority	\$75,000.00
Native Village of Kotzebue	\$75,000.00
Bethel Community Services Foundation	\$74,546.00
The Salvation Army	\$73,500.00
Native Village of Unalakleet	\$49,695.00
Nome Community Center	\$42,000.00
Gulkana Village Council	\$1,500.00
Healy Lake Village	\$5,000.00
City of Port Lions	\$32,530.00
Southeast Alaska Foodbank	\$75,000.00
Upper Susitna Food Pantry	\$70,895.00
Nenana Native Association	\$20,272.00
Big Lake Community Food Pantry	\$32,500.00
Mat-Su Food Bank	\$75,000.00
Blood N Fire Ministry of Alaska	\$25,410.00
Cook Inlet Housing Authority	\$7,500.00
Polynesian Association of Alaska	\$5,000.00
Friends In Serving Humanity (FISH)	\$5,152.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,500,000.00</b>

DCRA's Mission: Helping Alaska's communities build sustainable economies and a means of self-governance.

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