

ETC Grant Center News

Monthly Update from the Environmentally Threatened Communities (ETC) Grant Center

Issue 9, February 2018



ALASKA NATIVE
TRIBAL HEALTH
CONSORTIUM



Chefnak houses, public buildings, and critical infrastructure are threatened by accelerating erosion and flooding. The house at the far right of this picture is home to nine people and may be impacted by erosion this summer. Chefnak is working with the ETC Grant Center to locate funding for new houses, a Head Start building, and to relocate other infrastructure. Photo taken December 2017.

Community Profile: Chefnak, AK

Chefnak is a community without potable water located in the Lower Kuskokwim river delta. Houses, public buildings, and critical infrastructure are threatened by erosion and flooding. The barge landing is no longer functional and needs to be rehabilitated or relocated. The fuel tank farm is vulnerable to flooding and is in need of relocation. The Head Start building regularly floods and is threatened by erosion.

In December, ETC Grant Center staff traveled to Chefnak to meet with City, Tribal Council, and Village Corporation members to learn about their environmental threats and make a plan for locating funding. Since then, the ETC Grant Center has been working closely with Chefnak, the US Army Corps of Engineers, Division of Community and Regional Affairs, other agencies, and contractors to address the communities' needs.

Current Funding Opportunities

I. [Economic Development Administration Public Works Program](#)

Eligible Projects: Traditional public works projects, including water and sewer systems improvements, business incubator facilities, expansion of port and harbor facilities, skill-training facilities, and brownfields redevelopment.

Eligibility: Indian Tribes or a consortium of Indian Tribes.

Due Date: Open application period.

Amount Available: Award floor: \$100,000; Award ceiling: \$3,000,000

You may obtain more information [here](#).

The Grant Center can help with:

- Identification of funding opportunities
- Writing grant applications
- Grant management technical assistance

Examples of ETC Issues:

- Receding shoreline
- Loss of or damage to homes
- Damaged or destroyed critical infrastructure
- Relocation
- Health and safety concerns

ETC Grant Center Eligible Communities¹

Akiak	Koyukuk
Alakanuk	Kwigillingok
Allakaket	Lime Village
Chefnak	McGrath
Chevak	Napakiak
Clarks Point	Newtok
Deering	Nulato
Dillingham	Nunapitchuk
Emmonak	Port Heiden
Eyak	Saint Michael
Golovin	Selawik
Hughes	Shaktolik
Huslia	Shishmaref
Kivalina	Teller
Kotlik	Unalakleet
	Utqiagvik (Barrow)

1. ETC Grant Center priority shall be given to the 31 communities identified in GAO report 09-551 as threatened by flooding and erosion.

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Current Funding Opportunities, continued

2. [USDA Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants](#)

Eligible Projects: This program helps eligible communities prepare for, or recover from, an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water.

Eligible Projects: Construct waterline extensions, repair breaks or leaks in existing water distribution lines, address related maintenance necessary to replenish the water supply, and construct a water source, intake or treatment facility.

Eligibility: Federally recognized Tribes, nonprofit organizations, most state and local governmental entities.

Due Date: Applications for this program are accepted year-round.

Amount Available: Water distribution grants up to \$150,000; water source grants up to \$500,000.

Grant Tips

Seven Questions to Ask Before Seeking Grant Funding:

1. Does your organization have a vision, mission and purpose statement? It is so important to make the vision, mission and purpose easy to understand and communicated consistently in the community.
2. Do you have committed Board members? Board members should understand their roles and responsibilities in providing fiscal oversight.
3. Do you have an operating budget in place? Have you established an estimated budget to determine how much your organization needs to raise on a consistent basis to be in operation?
4. Are you reviewing your bylaws on a regular basis? What about a conflict of interest policy?
5. Do you have a policy in place for managing your grant awards?
6. Do you have the qualified staff and volunteers in position to implement your funded programs and services?
7. Last, but not least, what is your long-term sustainability plan? Are there any other funding sources you are seeking for your project?

Relevant News

[Trump Administration removes climate change from federal websites](#)

[Extreme weather events caused \\$307 billion in damage in 2017, the United States' costliest year yet](#)

[Arctic sea ice hits record lows off Alaska](#)

[A simple but daunting roadmap for keeping global warming below 2°C](#)

About the Environmentally Threatened Communities Grant Center:

The Center was established with a Denali Commission grant to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and provides grant support to rural Alaska communities experiencing infrastructure impacts associated with environmental threats such as flooding, erosion, and melting permafrost.

ETC@anthc.org | (907) 729-2418 | 4500 Diplomacy Drive, Ste 520, Anchorage, AK 99508