



## Recognizing Alaskan Leadership: Rural Leader Journey

Alaskans face unique challenges given the landscape and distances between communities. This is particularly true for rural communities, where feelings of isolation are all too common. The Alaska Community Foundation and Rasmuson Foundation are invested in strong leaders across the state but we recognize the unique challenges of leading in rural communities. This program is designed to recognize our rural leaders and provide these professionals with the opportunity to step away from their jobs, rejuvenate, and refresh so they can more effectively lead, and to connect with other rural leaders to develop a supportive network.

14 round trip airplane tickets have been generously donated by Alaska Airlines, eligible for travel to any of their destinations (with the exception of Cuba). The Alaska Community Foundation (ACF) will work with Affiliate Community Foundation Advisory Boards and partner Community Foundations to award these tickets to 14 deserving rural nonprofit and tribal leaders as recognition of their exemplary service and achievement. Additionally, recipients will be invited to participate in quarterly teleconferences over the course of a year to share insights learned during their time away, discuss methods for achieving overall balance between competing responsibilities, and develop a network of supportive colleagues in rural Alaska.

**Applications will be accepted until May 17, 2017 at 5:00 PM.**

### Who may apply for the Rural Leader Journey Initiative?

- Applicants must be an Alaska resident.
- Applicants must be the CEO, Executive Director, or Tribal Administrator of their organization.
- The applicant's organization must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tribal entity, or equivalent organization located in Alaska.
- The organization must be located in a rural Alaska community. **Organizations/applicants located in current Affiliate and partner Community Foundation communities are eligible.**

If you have questions about eligibility requirements, please call The Alaska Community Foundation at (907)334-6700.



## How do I apply?

Applications can be submitted via email to [grants@alaskacf.org](mailto:grants@alaskacf.org). A complete application includes the following:

1. A one-page letter from the applicant detailing why he/she deserves the award. The letter should address topics such as:
  - a. Why are you seeking this award?
  - b. How will time away from work benefit you? Your organization?
  - c. Where do you see your career five years from now?
  - d. What motivated you to becoming involved in the nonprofit/tribal sector?
2. Resume/CV of applicant
3. A one-page letter of endorsement/support from the organization's Board of Directors, a community stakeholder, a client, an employee of the organization, or peer in the field.

## What is the application deadline?

Complete applications must be submitted by **Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 5:00 PM**. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Applications may also be mailed if an applicant does not have sufficient access to the internet; please call The Alaska Community Foundation (907)334-6700 for details.

## What are the selection criteria?

There are a number of factors taken into consideration, but award decisions will be made primarily based on the benefit of the award to both the organization and the individual. Organizations in rural Alaska, largely inaccessible by roads, and those in communities with Affiliate or partner Community Foundations will be given preference.

## When must travel be booked?

Travel must be booked within a year from date of issue of the vouchers. However, you can travel for up to one year from date of booking. For example, if a traveler books their travel September 2017, they have until August 2018 to complete their travel. Travel must be round trip. Travel must be on Alaska Airlines/Horizon Air flights. Travel on vouchers does include Dutch Harbor and certain Sky West flights operated for Alaska Airlines. Travel vouchers cannot be re-issued for any reason.

All bookings go through the Alaska Airlines commercial desk and recipients will need to provide the original vouchers in order to complete the booking. This process can take up to two-weeks to complete, depending on when the commercial desk receives the travel vouchers.

## Who can I contact with questions?

If you have questions about the program, please contact Katie St. John at The Alaska Community Foundation at (907)334-6700 or [kstjohn@alaskacf.org](mailto:kstjohn@alaskacf.org).