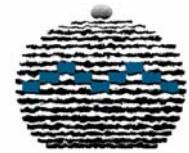


NEWS RELEASE



COOK INLET
T R I B A L
COUNCIL, INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Cook Inlet Tribal Council receives \$2 million award for Anchorage homeless

Anchorage, Alaska – Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc. (CITC) has been awarded a \$2 million grant from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to address substance abuse among Anchorage's homeless chronic inebriate population.

This award will launch the Transitions Project which will continue street outreach services implemented under a joint effort between the Municipality of Anchorage and Cook Inlet Tribal Council called the Pathways Program. Specifically, this project will create five residential treatment beds at the Ernie Turner Center for homeless chronic inebriates. The project plans to serve 68 individuals over a five year period.

The purpose of Transitions is to improve the lives of homeless individuals and families affected by alcohol and drug abuse by ensuring access to clinically sound addiction treatment. Addiction immobilizes homeless chronic inebriates in a cycle of public drinking, homelessness and visits to the local transfer station, preventing progress towards recovery. In Anchorage, a small number of alcoholics put strain on Anchorage's emergency care system. The intent of Transitions is to engage chronic inebriates on the streets and initiate detoxification services followed by case management and long-term residential treatment at the Ernie Turner Center. The length of stay for residential treatment will be six months followed by linkages to either permanent or transitional housing increasing the chances for long-term recovery.

"This grant will provide the necessary treatment beds for the homeless population, a significant existing service gap. Members of the chronic inebriate population do not integrate well into other residential treatment populations and this program will enhance their chances for sustained recovery," said Valerie Naquin, Cook Inlet Tribal Council Vice President of Development.

Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc. is a nonprofit, social service agency with a mission to work in partnership with Our People to develop opportunities that fulfill Our endless potential.

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