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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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State disburses \$6.3 million to reduce alcohol abuse

Three-year federally-funded grants will build regional prevention teams around the state

ANCHORAGE, AK —Community coalitions statewide are invited to apply for six grants to develop comprehensive prevention programs targeting youth alcohol use, ages 12–20, and adult heavy and binge drinking, ages 21–44. The two age and behavior targets were chosen as those causing Alaskans the most harm, via accidents, homicides, suicides, crime, domestic violence and other categories.

The state grants are funded by a \$10.7 million federal Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant program awarded in 2009. Some funding will go to building state infrastructure, such as trainers and prevention resources, and evaluation of grantee performance. The Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health, is now accepting proposals from coalitions in both urban and rural areas of Alaska to provide services from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014.

The funding agent, the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, requires that grantees 1) be part of a community coalition; 2) provide a comprehensive array of promotion, prevention and early intervention strategies; 3) use data-focused, community-designed strategies that have proven effective; and 4) have clearly defined and measurable outcomes.

The request-for-proposal deadline is 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 17. Find details here: <http://tinyurl.com/akspfsig> and at www.hss.state.ak.us/dbh/prevention.

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