Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Coronavirus Nonprofit Relief Fund?
The State of Alaska has set aside $35 million from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to specifically support nonprofits in Alaska adversely affected by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) has partnered with The Alaska Community Foundation (ACF) to establish the Coronavirus Nonprofit Relief Fund (CNRF) with the set aside funding. Eligible organizations are encouraged to apply to ACF for grants from CNRF.

What types of organizations are eligible?
A variety of Alaska nonprofits are eligible to apply for funding from the Coronavirus Nonprofit Relief Fund (CNRF) including public charities, faith-based organizations providing social services to the broader community, veteran's groups, tribal organizations, and local governments. Additionally, to be eligible, organizations must have experienced either a loss of income caused by required closures and/or cancellations of services/programs associated with the pandemic or have incurred or will incur expenses in direct response to the pandemic in one or more of six categories:

- Medical expenses
- Public health expense
- Payroll expenses
- Covid-19 compliance expenses
- Economic support
- Other

What types of organizations are not eligible to apply?
Individuals are not eligible to apply. Nor are state or federal government agencies, for-profit businesses, organizations dedicated to advocacy, or private nonprofits.

What types of costs can be covered by grants from CNRF?
Per the CARES Act, funds may only be used to cover costs that are necessary expenditures incurred due to COVID–19 public health emergency between March 1 and December 30, 2020 and were not accounted for in the State of Alaska's budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020. Funds are intended to be used for immediate response to the pandemic and cannot be used to finance long-term infrastructure purchases or renovations that are focused on recovery.

How much funding can a nonprofit receive from CNRF?
Grant awards through this program will generally range from $25,000 to $1,000,000. The total grantmaking allocation for this program is $35,000,000 for all three rounds of funding, with estimates of...
$20,000,000 available in the first round, $10,000,000 available in the second round, and the balance available in the third round.

What is the timeline for the CNRF grant process?
Grant applications are due by 5:00 PM on July 29 for Round 1, August 26 for Round 2, or October 14 for Round 3. Award announcements should be expected within two weeks of each closing date. Funds must be expended, and final reports filed by December 30, 2020.

What is the difference between the CNRF funding and that available from AK CARES from AIDEA/Credit Union 1?
The funds available from CNRF are specifically for nonprofits and for use as outlined above. More details can be found in the application guidelines.

If my organization received funding from AK CARES or PPP, can I also receive funds from CNRF?
Yes, organizations can receive CARES Act funding from multiple sources, but the funding cannot be duplicative. Requests from CNRF cannot include funding received through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Economic Injury Disaster Loan emergency advance program (EIDL), AK CARES small business loans or other CARES Act-sourced funding.

Where can applications and instructions be found?
Go to www.Alaskacf/CNRF.org for details on application guidelines and the on-line grant application form.

Who should I contact if I have more questions?
First, please carefully review the application guidelines. If after that, you have questions, please contact either Penney Champney at pchampney@alaskacf.org or Jessie Lavoie at jlavoie@alaskacf.org or 907-249-6616.