

**Application Period Opens:** Saturday, May 1, 2021

**Application Deadline:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 by 5:00 PM AKST

**Grant Award Range:** \$500 - \$3,000

**Online Application:** [www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=alaska](http://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=alaska)

### ***Eligibility Criteria***

The Jessica Stevens Community Foundation (JSCF), an Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation (ACF), seeks applications from qualified, tax exempt 501(c)(3) organizations (or equivalents, such as Tribal entities, schools, and faith-based organizations) that support charitable organizations and programs in the **Upper Susitna Valley** area. Grants will promote healthy communities and support a broad range of community needs, including compassionate health care, innovative education, community enrichment, active enjoyment of the natural environment, and arts and cultural expression.

**Ineligible organizations or activities:** Individuals, for-profit, 501(c)(4), 501(c)(6), and non-Alaska based organizations, private or family foundations, state and federal government agencies, and ad hoc groups without a tax exempt legal status are not eligible for competitive grants. Applications for religious indoctrination or other religious activities, endowment building, deficit financing, fundraising, lobbying, electioneering, or activities of political nature will not be considered, nor will proposals for ads, sponsorships, or special events (e.g., fundraisers, endowment building), and any proposals which discriminate as to race, gender, marital status, sexual preference, age, disability, creed, or ethnicity.

**Exceptions:** In selected cases, projects undertaken by organizations that normally fall outside the above guidelines may be able to receive funding. Examples include faith-based organizations whose proposal impacts the broader community, and units of government whose proposal extends beyond the traditional governmental functions that impact the broader community.

**Fiscal Sponsorship:** Ineligible organizations may be able to receive funding for projects if they seek support from a qualified organization who is willing to provide fiscal sponsorship. Fiscal sponsors must agree to take legal and fiscal responsibility for accepting grant funds from JSCF on behalf of the ineligible organization. A letter from the fiscal sponsor must be submitted with the application for the project to be considered. Please review the fiscal sponsor letter template at the end of this document for a full list of requirements.

Grant projects must be completed within one year of an award and are subject to the grantee completing an online grant agreement signifying acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant. A final grant report must also be submitted online by the assigned due date. Due dates and the forms to submit for these follow-ups can be found by logging into the online grant system.

### ***Evaluation Criteria***

The JSCF Grants Committee is composed of a volunteer Advisory Board and other community members. The committee strives to facilitate a competitive process that is fair and transparent, and all eligible applications are reviewed and evaluated using a scoring matrix by each committee member.

Preference will be given to applications which have the potential to impact a broad range of Upper Susitna Valley area residents. Applications should detail measurable and achievable outcomes and demonstrate other sources of support, collaboration, and/or cooperation. Applications should also address the sustainability of the proposed program or project for which funding is desired.

Evaluation criteria include but are not limited to: the overall merit of the project, the ability of the organization to successfully complete the project, the clarity and measurability of the project's goal, the feasibility of the time frame given for completion of the project, and the number of people served.

### ***Application Requirements***

**Grant applications must be submitted online by 5:00 PM AKST on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 using the link provided above and on the JSCF website ([www.jessicastevenscf.org](http://www.jessicastevenscf.org)) when the application period opens on Saturday, May 1, 2021.**

Any overdue grant reports or other follow-ups for previous grant awards from ACF and JSCF must also be submitted using the online grant system ([www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=alaska](http://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=alaska)) prior to the deadline for the current application to be considered. Due dates and the forms to submit for these follow-ups can be found by logging into the online grant system.

### ***Questions?***

Please direct **general questions** to JSCF's Program Manager, Christie Seay, at: [cseay@alaskacf.org](mailto:cseay@alaskacf.org). Please direct **eligibility and technical questions** about the online grant system to ACF's Affiliate Program staff, at: [affiliate@alaskacf.org](mailto:affiliate@alaskacf.org) or 907-334-6700.

***Fiscal Sponsor Letter Template***

[Name of Fiscal Sponsor Organization]  
[Address]  
[City, ST ZIP Code]

[Name of Sponsored Organization]  
[Address]  
[City, ST ZIP Code]

[Date]

Jessica Stevens Community Foundation  
PO Box 436  
Talkeetna, AK 99676

Dear Jessica Stevens Community Foundation,

This letter certifies that [Name of Fiscal Sponsor Organization] (the “Sponsor”) has agreed to be the fiscal sponsor for [Name of Sponsored Organization] (the “Applicant”) who submitted a grant application to the Jessica Stevens Community Foundation, an Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation (the “Foundation”), for the “[Name of Project]” project.

By signing this letter, Sponsor agrees to the following:

- Sponsor will take responsibility for accepting and dispersing any grant funds that are awarded to Applicant by the Foundation in support of the aforementioned project.
- By accepting any grant funds on behalf of Applicant, Sponsor certifies that (1) no tangible benefit, goods, or services were provided to anyone connected with Sponsor, and (2) this grant will not be used to satisfy the payment of any pledge or other financial obligation on behalf of the donor(s) per Section 6115 of the IRS Code.
- By cashing any grant checks, Sponsor guarantees the grant funds received will be used solely for the purposes approved by the Foundation.
- Any use of grant funds for purposes other than those specified in the grant application and the terms and conditions of the grant award must have the prior approval of the Foundation.
- The Foundation reserves the right to require the return of grant funds if it deems that Sponsor or Applicant have not complied with the agreed use of funds, or any law or regulation affecting the grantee, grant, or the Foundation.

Sincerely,

[Authorized Representative Signature]

[Authorized Representative Name]  
[Authorized Representative Title]