Submitted by: Chair of the Assembly

at the Request of the Mayor

Prepared by: Mayor's Office For Reading: March 27, 2007

CLERK'S OFFICE
APPROVED
3-29-09

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR NO. 2007- 70

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUED STATE OF ALASKA FUNDING OF THE HUMAN SERVICES MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Human Services Matching Grant (HSMG) funds have traditionally been made available to larger communities due to the disproportionate demand generated by the needs of rural residents who come to hub communities to receive services; and as Anchorage serves as a such a hub community; and the social services funded by HSMG are frequently provided to persons on the move, persons in crisis, and persons in transition to and from rural communities; and

WHEREAS, since 1981, Anchorage has used the HSMG funding along with the required municipal matching funds, to provide social services through community-based non-profit organizations in an efficient and cost effective manner; and has assured accountability for the utilization of public dollars by administering a grant process that requires proof that the proposed use meets the statutory definition of essential human services, proof of need for services, expected outcomes and the methodology that will be used to produce those outcomes, evaluation plans, and demonstrated ability and expertise in delivering social services; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2007, grant funds were distributed to fourteen non-profit programs, including Abused Women's Aid in Crisis; Alaska Legal Services; Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center; Bean's Café; Campfire USA Alaska Council; Catholic Social Services St. Francis House, St. Francis Emergency Services, and Brother Francis Shelter; Chugiak Seniors; Covenant House Alaska; Food Bank of Alaska; Mabel T. Caverly Senior Center; and Salvation Army Older Alaskans program and McKinnel House; but was unable to fund several other worthy social and human service requests due to decreasing funds; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2006, highlights of HSMG services provided included: over 300,000 hot meals served, including 6,800 children's meals; 2,000 job referrals and placements; 120,800 bednights of emergency shelter to 5,372 individuals and 240 homeless families with children; response to 485 domestic violence calls on a 24-hour crisis hotline, resulting in emergency shelter for 175 women and 1,115 children; emergency shelter to 100% of area disaster victims within 2 hours, along with immediate food and medication assistance and crisis counseling to disaster victims; 70 dental prosthetics for low-income seniors, emergency dental care for 3,667 persons, and preventative dental services for 483 disadvantaged adults; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage, and Alaska at large, have one of the highest rates of domestic violence in the nation and the number of homeless families and children continues to grow annually; and

WHEREAS, the further reduction or loss of HSMG funds threatens to undermine the ability of local agencies to meet the growing needs of individuals and families with critical assistance and life-saving safety-net services; and

WHEREAS, Representative Mike Hawker, chair of the House Finance Budget Subcommittee on Health and Social Services, has indicated his strong support for continuation of the proven-successful model of local management of HSMG funds; NOW THEREFORE, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES: Section 1. To express its support for continued management of HSMG by municipalities, and to encourage the state legislature to continue to meet the social service needs of Alaskans by supporting local management and distribution of funds, in the interest of providing services in the most equitable manner. 5 I Section 2. To express its thanks to the Alaska House of Representatives Finance Subcommittee on the Health and Social Services budget, chaired by Representative Mike Hawker, for their support of the HSMG program. Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage and approval by the Anchorage Municipal Assembly. PASSED AND APPROVED by the Assembly this 27th day of March, 2007. Am Sulwan ATTEST: 

## **Content Information**

**Content ID: 004914** 

Type: AR\_AllOther - All Other Resolutions

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Title: IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUED STATE OF ALASKA FUNDING OF

THE HUMAN SERVICES MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.

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Date Prepared: 3/16/07 12:23 PM

Assembly Meeting 3/27/07 Date MM/DD/YY:

**Workflow History** 

Workflow Name	Action Date	<u>Action</u>	<u>User</u>	Security Group	Content ID
AllOtherARWorkflow	3/16/07 12:34 PM	Checkin	maglaquijp	Public	004914
MMStaff_SubWorkflow	3/16/07 3:50 PM	Approve	abbottmk	Public	004914
MuniManager_SubWorkflow	3/16/07 3:59 PM	Approve	leblancdc	Public	004914
MuniMgrCoord_SubWorkflow	3/16/07 3:59 PM	Approve	abbottmk	Public	004914

