



TAĠIUĠMIULLU NUNAMIULLU HOUSING AUTHORITY

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HUD AWARDS FUNDING FOR UPGRADES TO “1st 29” MULTIPLEX IN UTQIAGVIK *Grant-funded project to make low-income rental housing safer and healthier*

UTQIAGVIK, Alaska – The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), in partnership with the Taġiuġmiullu Nunamiullu Housing Authority (TNHA), has been awarded funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to begin rehabilitation of a 29-unit multifamily affordable housing complex in Utqiagvik.

The two-story structure, built in 1977 and known locally as the “1st 29,” is the largest federally assisted rental property in the North Slope Borough at nearly 24,000 square feet. Its 29 units represent over a quarter of the 107 total rental units operated in Utqiagvik by TNHA for low-income Alaska Native and American Indian families. Located behind Barrow High School beside the town’s central lagoon, it is one of the most prominent residential buildings in the hub community of 4,500.

The grant, totaling almost \$1 million over three years, will be administered by ANTHC, with TNHA to receive \$647,500 of that for building upgrades. That will include replacing worn-out carpets with new, easy-to-clean floor coverings and improving ventilation and accessibility in apartment units, among other measures. ANTHC staff will provide evaluation, education, and access to healthy homes resources for building residents.

“We at HUD are committed to creating safer and healthier homes, which makes for healthy families,” said Colleen Bickford, director of the agency’s Alaska field office. “While we recognize that Alaskan communities face unique healthy-home challenges, we are confident TNHA and ANTHC will develop innovative and effective ways to create safer and healthier homes with these grant funds.”

HUD recently announced the funds as part of a [\\$319 million round of awards nationwide](#) aimed at protecting low-income families from lead paint and other safety and health hazards. The Utqiagvik partnership was one of six projects – four of which are in Alaska – selected for funding through the Tribal Healthy Homes Production Grant Program.

“We at ANTHC, along with our colleagues at TNHA, look forward to our continued partnership with HUD to provide healthier home environments for Alaska Native people living in rural and remote communities,” said AJ Salkoski, senior program manager at ANTHC.

“ANTHC’s Healthy Homes Program has done groundbreaking work with housing authorities and service providers across the state,” said Griffin Hagle, executive director of TNHA. “The support from HUD for their partnership with us is especially exciting because of the positive impact it will have on so many of the families we serve.”

ANTHC is a non-profit tribal health organization designed to meet the unique health needs of Alaska Native and American Indian people living in Alaska. TNHA is a not-for-profit regional Native housing authority serving the people of the Arctic Slope.

Major work is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2020. TNHA plans to leverage other sources of funding and partnerships to complete the project in multiple phases by 2023.