



2022 ANNUAL MEETING PACKET

AGENDA • 2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES • ANNUAL REPORT



Nome Eskimo Community



Nome Eskimo Community

AGENDA

2022 ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2022 • 5:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Edna (Becka) Baker, President

2. ROLL CALL

Naomi Minix, Administrative Specialist

3. INVOCATION

Pastor Bertha Koweluk, United Methodist Church

4. INTRODUCTION OF STAFF & GUESTS

Marie Tozier, Acting Executive Director

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 6, 2021

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Marie Tozier, Acting Executive Director

• Door prize: \$25 Airport Pizza Gift Certificate

B. Stephanie Blanning, Finance

• Door prize: \$25 Airport Pizza Gift Certificate

C. Human Resources

• Door prize: Bering Tea, One Drink Gift Card

8. PROGRAM REPORTS

A. Dawn Warnke, Tribal Services

• Door prize: \$25 Amazon Gift Card

B. Theresa Kenick, Housing

• Door prize: \$25 Airport Pizza Gift Certificate

C. Lola Tobuk, Family Services

• Door prize: Bering Tea, One Drink Gift Card

D. Keegan Bourdon, Youth Services

• Door prize: Kawerak Sweatshirt, Size Small

9. TRIBAL MEMBER QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

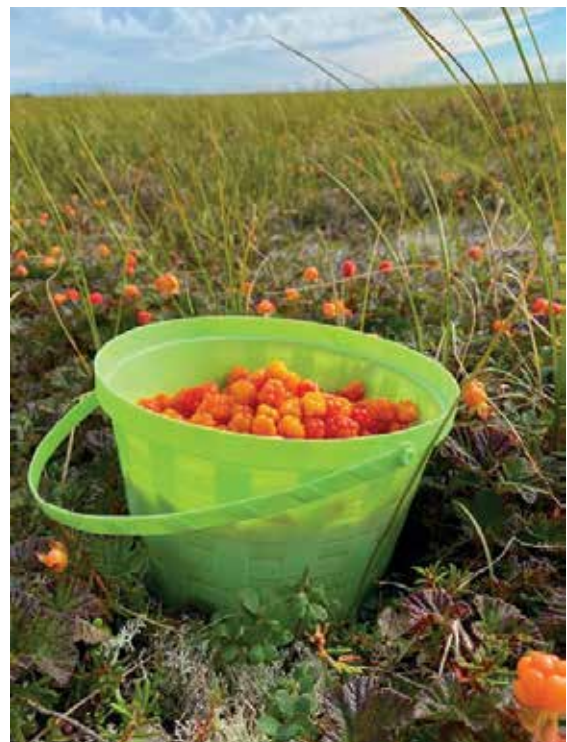
• Door prize: 15,000 AK Air Mileage Certificate

10. 2022 ELECTION RESULTS

11. TRIBAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

• Door prize: 40,000 AK Air Mileage Certificate

12. ADJOURNMENT





MINUTES
NOME ESKIMO COMMUNITY
2021 ANNUAL MEETING
11/6/2021

I. CALL TO ORDER – Tribal Council President Gloria Karmun called the meeting to order at 10:16 A.M.

II. ROLL CALL – Shelby Sinnok, Youth Services Manager conducted roll call. A quorum was established as follows:

<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Gloria Karmun	✓		
Mary David	✓		
Amber Otton	✓		
Shane Smithhisler	✓		
Kevin Bahnke	✓ (10:26)		
Edna Baker	✓		
Shannon Greene	✓		

III. INVOCATION
Pastor Bertha Koweluk provided invocation.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF STAFF & GUESTS – Staff Present: Tiffany Martinson, Executive Director, Shelby Sinnok, Youth Services Manager, Naomi Minix, Office Assistant, Stephanie Blanning, Accountant, Toni Smith, Accounting Specialist II, Cathy Lyon, Human Resources Manager, Theresa Kenick, Housing Specialist, Bivers Gologergen, Forman, Keegan Bourdon, Youth Services Specialist, Lola Tobuk, Family Services Director, Cory Jackson, ICWA Specialist II, Jady Otton, ICWA Specialist I, Adrienne Dickson-Bahnke, Case Manager, Allaryce Agloinga, ICWA Specialist II and Emily Weyiouanna, Administrative Specialist. Guests: Bertha Koweluk, Charles Fagerstrom, Connie Irrigoo, Dawn Warnke, Debra Peacock, Jason Evans, Sharon Sparks, Susie Delgado, Marlene Mack, Mary Jane Litchard, Melody Olanna, Tyler Dann, Alicia Iyatunguk, Allison Johnson, Carolyn Crowder, Teresa Trigg, Rhonda Sparks, Jason Omedelina, Sherry Otton, Josephine Bourdon, Janice Doherty, Hattie Keller and Penny Olanna.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion was made by Mary David and seconded by Shane Smithhisler to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
a. November 2, 2019

1 b. November 7, 2020

2
3 **MOTION:** A motion was made by Mary David and seconded by Amber Otton to approve the
4 meeting minutes as amended as a block. The motion passed.

5
6 **VII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 7 a. Executive director
8 b. Finance
9 c. Human Resources

10 **VIII. PROGRAM REPORTS**

- 11 a. Tribal Services
12 b. Housing
13 c. Family Services
14 d. Tribal Resources & Transit
15 e. Youth Services

16 **IX. TRIBAL MEMBER QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

17
18 **Tyler Dann:** Thanked the Tribal Council and staff for providing the reports. I have a
19 much better understanding for the Nome Eskimo Community. Can you provide us with
20 an update of the Port project?

21
22 **Jacob Martin:** Provided an update.

23
24 **Tyler Dann:** I appreciate all that you do, I encourage you to coordinate with other
25 communities that might be a good approach.

26
27 **Josie Bourdon:** Is there any consideration to maintain/fix the road to Fort Davis?

28
29 **Tiffany Martinson:** I took down some notes, I would like to bring this discussion to
30 NEC's Tribal Transportation Committee.

31
32 **Shane Smithhisler:** Are you referring to the road to Fort Davis area?

33
34 **Rhonda Sparks:** Thanked Youth Services for helping with tutoring at the ACSA middle
35 school. Is there any effort to recruit foster parents within NEC tribal members? Lola
36 pointed out the need for Native foster homes.

37
38 **Lola Tobuk:** Answered the question.

39
40 **Rhonda Sparks:** Can family services promote cares act funds for NEC foster kiddos to
41 ensure the kids have the resources?

42
43 **Lola Tobuk:** Absolutely.
44



1 **Mary David:** Lola, you mentioned the need for Alaska Native foster homes, has the state
2 foster care payment changed? Has the State considered some type of additional
3 payment with recruitment. Thanked Lola for all her years of service.
4

5 **Lola Tobuk:** Thanked Mary David for her question. I am not familiar with the payment
6 structures. I can't really answer the question on the payment amount. I know that those
7 subsidy amount has changed. There is a possibility Cory Jackson might be able to
8 answer the question.
9

10 **Cory Jackson:** I know in the past year; the payments have changed depending on the
11 location. I know the foster care childcare has gone down.
12

13 **Lola Tobuk:** OCS doesn't seem to listen.
14

15 **Gloria Karmun:** Has there been any discussion about tribes taking of?
16

17 **Lola Tobuk:** By taking over services, by taking over an office we would have to remove
18 children. Even Kawerak is reluctant to take over. Primarily, the state is open to that, but
19 tribes and have a lot of work.
20

21 **Rhonda Sparks:** Thank you guys, I want to thank Lola, it was very informative. As a
22 foster parent for 10 years. Mary, you raised a good point about raising pay. I will bring
23 this to my mom, Sharon Sparks to see if she can advocate. I have kept my kids home
24 because they are not vaccinated, to keep them safe.
25

26 **Mary David:** Just to add Rhonda, maybe you can advocate for childcare.
27

28 **Cory Jackson:** There is an ERS payment for foster parent.
29

30 **Bertha Koweluk:** I don't know if this is the right place to ask, a lot of young kids in our
31 community are getting in trouble. I know we have a group of kids. Do we take an active
32 troubled kid?
33

34 **Tiffany Martinson:** I would like to touch base with the community on keeping kids
35 busy during the summer.
36

37 **Carolyn Crowder:** What are your long-term plans to build infrastructure for tribal
38 members for housing, jobs and healthcare?
39

40 **Gloria Karmun:** Thanked Carolyn for her comments. The Tribal Council is always open
41 to ideas, you can always call me or send your suggestions to Tiffany who can pass them
42 along. We are always open to suggestions.
43



1 **Janice Doherty:** With the \$1.2 Trillion dollar Infrastructure package, H.R.3684, that was
2 passed last night, what does NEC plan on doing with their portion of this funding? "The
3 passage of H.R. 3684 marks a pivotal and historic step in addressing critical
4 infrastructure issues in Indian Country. The bill contains more than \$15 billion in direct
5 funding for Tribal Nations and an additional \$146.3 billion in competitive grant and
6 cooperative agreement funding opportunities Tribal Nations and Tribal organizations
7 are eligible to receive."

8 This information was received by the NCAI Now newsletter. Thank you for sharing my
9 question with our Tribal members.

10
11 **Tiffany Martinson:** One area we are focusing on is broadband in Nome. We are also
12 looking at 3D housing in Nome. There has also been sewer and water in Nome. We are
13 working with other entities as well.

14
15 **Hattie Keller:** What is being done with the CARES/ARP funding?

16
17 **Tiffany Martinson:** We were able to spend the CARES act funds fully. With the ARP we
18 are planning on doing strategic planning.

19
20 **Gloria Karmun:** I hope your questions, concerns were answered. We are always open
21 to your ideas.

22
23 **Penny Olanna:** There is a definite need for internet usage in keeping up with school
24 assignments and classes, also college courses being taken by Nome Eskimo youth, the
25 need for adequate internet assistance is really needed, to ensure student success rates
26 and graduation requirements. As a parent, we need to be able to keep up and allow for
27 students to perform successfully throughout the pandemic.

28
29 **X. 2021 ELECTION RESULTS**

30
31 **Gloria Karmun presented the voting results.**

32
33 **Mary David: 170 votes**

34 **Chugie Farley: 140 votes**

35 **Amber Otton: 124 votes**

36 **Jeannie Kost: 57 votes**

37
38 **MOTION:** A motion was made by Edna Baker and seconded by Shane Smithhisler to
39 approve the election results as presented. The motion passed.

40
41 **XI. INFORMATION ON ELDER AND YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES TO THE TRIBAL**
42 **COUNCIL**

43
44 Tiffany Martinson gave an update on the elder and youth representative.



1
2 **XII. TRIBAL COUNCIL COMMENTS**

3
4 **Mary David:** Thanked the staff for hosting and putting the meeting together. It was
5 great to see members for out of town. I would like to thank Amber Otton for her
6 services to the tribal council. Congratulations to Chugie. I would like to thank those who
7 voted for me. It is a real honor to serve.

8 **Amber Otton:** Congratulations to Mary David and Chugie. I trust that the tribe will
9 continue to serve well. Thank you for sticking around. Great job to the staff.

10 **Shane Smithisler:** Congratulations to Chugie and Mary David. Thanked Amber Otton
11 for her service, keep coming back, your voice and thoughts on everything is appreciated.
12 Thanked Tiffany Martinson and staff.

13 **Kevin Bahnke:** Thanked Amber Otton for her service. Thanked Tiffany Martinson and
14 staff.

15 **Edna Baker:** I would like to thank everyone who attended and staff for preparing the
16 meeting. Congrats to Mary David on her reelections and Chugie Farley. Thanked Amber
17 Otton for her years of service.

18 **Shannon Greene:** Thanked NEC staff and congrats to Mary David and Chugie Farley.
19 Thanked Amber for her dedication to serve all tribal members.

20 **Gloria Karmun:** Thanked the participants and staff. Thanked Amber Otton, you really
21 added value. Congrats to Chugie and Mary David. Amber we are also open for
22 suggestions or ideas.

23
24 **XIII. Adjournment:** A motion was made by Mary David and seconded by Shannon Greene to
25 adjourn the meeting at 1:17 P.M. The motion passed.

26
27
28 PASSED and ACCEPTED on this 15th of December 2022 with the following votes:

29
30 YES _____ NO _____ ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

31
32
33
34
35 _____
36 Edna Baker, President
37 NOME ESKIMO COMMUNITY

35 _____
36 Shannon Greene, Secretary/Treasurer
37 NOME ESKIMO COMMUNITY

ADMINISTRATION

Marie Tozier, Acting Executive Director

ADMINISTRATION STAFF

- » Marie Tozier, Acting Executive Director
- » Naomi Minix, Administrative Assistant & Tribal Enrollment Officer
- » Ali Wykis, Tribal Court Specialist
- » Vacant, HR Manager

2022 has been an exciting and eventful year for Nome Eskimo Community. NEC has seen a high turnover rate at the Administrative and Tribal Council level. Through all of this, NEC staff has maintained their loyalty to NEC and our Tribal members. We all continue the work of advocating for NEC members, listening to your concerns, and providing programs that reflect the need of Nome Eskimo Community members.

2022 ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

NEC is meeting in person for the first time since 2019. We are also offering virtual participation for those members who are unable to attend in person. In addition to in-person voting in Nome, mail-in ballots and online voting options were given again this year. Due to weather conditions in Nome, the annual meeting date was postponed by five days to ensure that every NEC member who wanted to vote had the opportunity.

ICDBG HOUSING PROJECT

Baker Tilly is currently working on submitting NEC's annual report and amending our plans from 3D Concrete House Printing to building two to three stick-built homes in Nome. NEC has two possible sites for construction, one on East 6th Avenue and one between East 1st and East 3rd Avenue. Some of the next steps involve Baker Tilly proceeding with a request for information to gain input on the cost of building materials.

FILLING POSITIONS

The Human Resources department has been vacant for a few months and is needed to revive NEC's employment numbers. This position is still vacant.

STUDENT AND ELDER REPRESENTATIVE

NEC staff are soliciting interest for the new Student and Elder representative seats on the council. These seats were approved at the last annual meeting. There were no candidates. Both the elder and youth member will have a one-year term.



TRIBAL IDENTIFICATION

Ali Wykis is helping administration with a review of the Tribal ID policy and how to ensure the NEC Tribal ID meets new TSA requirements for the Real ID (deadline May 7, 2025). We will also developing a process to help members who do not live in Nome get a photo ID.

TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION

The NEC Tribal Transportation Program has conducted a road safety audit near Nome Elementary School. The audit requires formal approval by the Tribal Council. There are funds available from the State of Alaska that we can apply for to complete work suggested in the safety audit. Partners involved included the Nome Police Department and Nome Public Schools. NEC donated \$50,000 in 2022 from our Tribal Transportation funds to the City of Nome for dust control.

TYPHOON MERBOK DISASTER RELIEF

NEC was granted \$60,000 in disaster relief funding through the American Rescue Plan Act in Aid to Tribal Governments and Potable Water funds. NEC staff, at the request of the Tribal Council, created an easy, two-page application process for NEC members to apply for disaster relief in the amount of \$240.00. The only application requirement was a photo of lost or damaged property and the application itself.

NEC DONATIONS

Nome Eskimo Community donated \$50,000 to Nome Community Center for their Home First program. NEC Youth Services program donated \$37,043 to Nome Public Schools to support their Cultural Teacher position. NEC also made a \$2,000 donation to the Nome Food Bank.



FINANCE

Stephanie Blanning, Senior Accountant

FINANCE STAFF

- » *Stephanie Blanning, Senior Accountant*
- » *Toni Smith, Accounting Specialist*

FINANCIAL AUDITS

The year 2020 was the final year of our three-year contract with Clay Tablet Accounting, with whom NEC had a relationship of over six years. The due date for the audit was March 30, 2022, and Clay Tablet assured NEC that the work was being done and would be submitted on time. In late December 2021, however, Clay Tablet informed us that they had let their CPA license lapse and could no longer complete our audit.

We now have a three-year contract with Altman & Rogers for the 2021–2023 audit periods, but they were unable to take on completing our 2020 before the deadline. Unfortunately, we were unable to find a new auditor who could jump in and complete it before the deadline since auditors are typically booked up well in advance. Porter & Allison did complete the 2020 audit and submitted it on July 22, 2022. There was a six-month extension granted for the 2021 audit period due to Typhoon Murbock. The deadline is now March 30, 2023, but we are scheduled to have it submitted before the end of December. Apart from the late submittal for the 2020 audit there were no findings in the 2020 or 2021 audits and we are in good standing with our granting agencies.

INVESTMENTS

UBS is one of the largest wealth managers in the world. In May 2019 they were secured to manage NEC’s funds, which are distributed in three different fund types described below. Each of the three accounts has a different purpose for the funds, along with a different time horizon and risk tolerance. All three share a goal to achieve the highest return given the level of risk. By investing these funds, NEC plans to secure resources for future programs and services for our members and community. 2022 saw a decrease of \$160,012.79 in overall fund balances but we are currently on a good upward trend and have recently been able to secure higher CD rates than we have gotten in the last 12 months.

Investments to date	\$2,288,617.44
Balance as of Dec. 1, 2022	\$2,418,741.81
5.69% increase	\$130,124.37

- (1) **SHORT TERM FUND.** Value as of Dec. 1, 2022: \$1,308,571. This account was established for short-term needs and the goal is to earn a better interest on a short-term basis (under one-year time horizon). The current allocation is 100% certificates of deposits and institutional money market). We have been able to purchase certificates of deposit recently with interest rates as high as 4.55%.
- (2) **CAPITAL FUND.** Value as of Dec. 1, 2022: \$543,077.51. This account’s goal is to invest for a longer time period to take advantage of higher returns while having the fund available for potential use for opportunities that may arise. The investments have an intermediate-to-10-year time horizon. The current allocation is 63% fixed income, 34% equity, 2% cash and 1% commodities.
 - *Quarter to date (Sept. 30 – Dec. 1, 2022) this fund is up 7.72%. Year to date as of Dec. 1, 2022, it is down 13.0%*
- (3) **LONG TERM FUND.** Fund value as of Dec. 1, 2022: \$567,093.30. This account’s goal is to invest with the longest time horizon and it is slightly more weighted in equities to achieve a higher return over a longer period. For this perpetuity time horizon fund, the allocation is 45% fixed income, 51% equity, 3% cash and 1% commodities.
 - *Quarter to date (Sept. 30 – Dec. 1, 2022) this fund is up 9.79%. Year to date as of Dec. 1, 2022, it is down 13.51%*

UBS has expertise and longstanding relationships in Alaska with Alaska regional corporations, foundations, settlement trusts, hospitals and Tribal entities.

Schedule of Grant Awards

GRANT AWARDING AGENCY	PROGRAM NAME	AWARD AMOUNT FY2021	AWARD AMOUNT FY2022	AWARD AMOUNT FY2023	ESTIMATED 2023 OPERATING BUDGET
Alaska Community Foundation	Summer Youth Camp	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Alaska Dept of Health and Social Services	Title IV-E Reimbursement	\$ 66,054	\$ 111,480	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Alaska Dept of Health and Social Services	Diligent Relative Search & Indian Child Welfare	\$ 72,829	\$ 72,829	\$ 175,695	\$ 175,695
Alaska Dept of Health and Social Services	Title IV-E Family 1st Prevention Services	\$ 94,987	\$ 94,987	\$ 94,987	\$ 94,987
Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Self Governance	Tribal Operations, Education & Training, ICWA, Welfare Assistance, JOM, Tribal Court	\$ 988,436	\$ 1,140,705	\$ 1,140,705	\$ 988,436
Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Self Governance	Child/Elder Abuse Prevention	\$ 15,922	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000
Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Self Governance	CARES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000
Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Self Governance	American Rescue Plan Act	\$ 2,249,497	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,000
City of Nome	NSEDC Community Benefits Share	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children & Families	Title IV-B Child Welfare Social Services	\$ 23,125	\$ 18,836	\$ 18,836	\$ 18,836
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children & Families	Title IV-B Family 1st Prevention Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children & Families	Title IV-B Child Welfare Services COVID Response	\$ 3,616	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children & Families	Child Care Development Fund	\$ 260,185	\$ 280,734	\$ 280,734	\$ 280,734
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children & Families	Child Care Development Fund - Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act	\$ 194,588	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 194,588
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children & Families	Child Care Development Fund - American Rescue Plan Act	\$ 847,476	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000

Continued on next page

Schedule of Grant Awards (continued)

GRANT AWARDING AGENCY	PROGRAM NAME	AWARD AMOUNT FY2021	AWARD AMOUNT FY2022	AWARD AMOUNT FY2023	ESTIMATED 2023 OPERATING BUDGET
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children & Families	Administration for Native Americans - American Rescue Plan Act- Language Revitalization	\$ 82,609	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration	Tribal Transportation Program	\$ 425,307	\$ 325,742	\$ 325,742	\$ 100,000
Environmental Protection Agency	NEC Environmental Program	\$ 117,206	\$ 123,200	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Transit Authority	Tribal Transit	\$ 3,801	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Transit Authority	Tribal Transit American Rescue Plan Act	\$ 6,210	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Dept of Housing & Urban Development	NAHASDA Indian Housing Block Grant - Weatherization, Rental Assistance	\$ 857,717	\$ 1,195,672	\$ 1,177,469	\$ 800,000
U.S. Dept of Housing & Urban Development	NAHASDA ICDBG - American Rescue Plan Act - ERAP	\$ 593,005	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 320,005
U.S. Dept of Housing & Urban Development	NAHASDA ICDBG - American Rescue Plan Act	\$ 1,035,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Institute of Museum & Library Services	Native American Library Services	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Norton Sound Health Corporation	Van Donation	\$ -	\$ 8,775	\$ -	\$ -
Norton Sound Health Corporation	Wellness	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
U.S. Treasury	Emergency Rental Assistance Program	\$ 963,950	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Treasury	Homeowners Assistance Fund	\$ 573,277	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000
U.S. Treasury	State, Local Fiscal Recovery	\$ 18,194,654	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000
U.S. Treasury	Local Assistance & Tribal Consistency Fund	\$ -	\$ 615,365	\$ 615,365	\$ 615,365
TOTAL FOR ALL NEC FUNDS		\$ 27,724, 450	\$ 4,028,325	\$ 3,954,533	\$ 4,467,964

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

COVID RESPONSE FUNDS (CRF) ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	PAYMENTS	TOTAL
U.S. Treasury - Homeowners Assistance Fund (HAF)	81	\$ 119,925
HUD - Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)	79	\$ 217,423
BIA - Emergency Housing Improvement Program	0	\$ 0
BIA - Disaster Relief (Typhoon Merbok)	9	\$ 2,160
Total assistance provided as of Dec. 1, 2022	169	\$ 339,508

COVID RESPONSE FUND AWARD	RECEIVED	SPENT	BALANCE	DEADLINE
Child Care Development Fund - CARES	\$ 68,108	\$ 25,049	\$ 43,059	9/30/2022
Child Care Development Fund - Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act	\$ 194,588	\$ -	\$ 194,588	9/30/2023
Child Care Development Fund - American Rescue Plan Act - Stabilization	\$ 529,271	\$ -	\$ 529,271	9/30/2023
Child Care Development Fund - American Rescue Plan Act - Supplemental	\$ 318,205	\$ -	\$ 318,205	9/30/2023
Title IV-B Child Welfare - Consolidate Appropriations Act	\$ 3,616	\$ 3,616	\$ -	9/30/2022
NSHC COVID-19 Wellness	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	N/A
Administration for Native Americans - American Rescue Plan Act - Language Revitalization	\$ 82,609	\$ 40,283	\$ 42,326	9/30/2022
U.S. Treasury - Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund	\$ 1,230,729	\$ -	\$ 1,230,729	Pending
U.S. Treasury - Emergency Rental Assistance Program	\$ 963,950	\$ 963,950	\$ -	9/30/2022
U.S. Treasury - Homeowners Assistance Fund	\$ 573,277	\$ 136,576	\$ 436,701	9/30/2026
U.S. Treasury - State & Local Fiscal Recovery	\$ 18,194,654	\$ 208,626	\$ 17,986,028	9/30/2026
Bureau of Indian Affairs - CARES	\$ 1,387,112	\$ 288,855	\$ 1,098,257	N/A
Bureau of Indian Affairs - American Rescue Plan Act	\$ 2,189,497	\$ 2,160	\$ 2,187,337	N/A
HUD - Indian Housing Block Grant - American Rescue Plan Act - Emergency Rental Assistance Program	\$ 593,005	\$ 185,439	\$ 407,566	9/30/2026
HUD - Indian Community Development Block Grant - American Rescue Plan Act	\$ 1,035,000	\$ -	\$ 1,035,000	3/1/2023
Total for all CRF Awards	\$ 27,373,621	\$ 1,864,554	\$ 25,509,067	

COVID RESPONSE FUNDS (CRF) ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

U.S. Treasury, Bureau of Indian Affairs and NAHASDA COVID Response Funds (CRF) were used to support NEC's CRF assistance programs. Please turn to page 11 to view a table with information about our CRF assistance programs that began in September 2022. These programs are still available on our website, www.necalaska.org. Payments reflect individual payments made, not the number of households served.

COVID RESPONSE FUNDS (CRF) AWARDS

Please turn to page 11 to view balances as of Dec. 1, 2022, in our awarded Covid Response Funds.

SCHEDULE OF AWARDS

I've included a schedule of NEC's grant awards for years 2021–2023 (please reference pages 9–10) with a projected operating budget for 2023. It's normal to have fluctuations from year to year, but we have had some high increases in our normal operating funds.

- » Our state Diligent Relative Search & Indian Welfare fund has a \$100,000 increase for FY23
- » Our state Title IV-E Reimbursement fund has a \$45,000 increase for FY22.
- » Our HUD IHBG Weatherization/Rental Assistance fund has an increase of \$330,000 for FY22 and FY23.
- » CCDF, which has continued to increase for a few years, has another \$20,000 increase for FY23. Due to COVID, CCDF is allowing access back for unspent 2019 funds which had previously closed Sept. 30, 2021, and is approx. \$14,000.

Due to the extended vacancy in the Tribal Resources department, we were not able to fully spend our 2021 and 2022 EPA funds. For that same reason we have not applied for FY2023 EPA funds but can re-apply in the future if we get the position filled.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Vacant, Manager

CURRENT NEC STAFFING

Nome Eskimo Community currently has 17 employees:

- » We employ 12 regular full-time employees, three regular part-time employees, and two emergency hire employees.
- » 76% of staff are NEC Tribal members.
- » 88% of staff are Alaska Native or Native American.

YEARS OF SERVICE AT NEC

NEC would like to recognize all of our employees for their service!

- » Stephanie Blanning – 13 years
- » Lola Tobuk – 10 years
- » Edward Omedelina – 8 years
- » Toni Smith – 6 years
- » Bivers Gologergen – 5 years
- » Ali Wykis – 5 years
- » Theresa Kenick – 4 years
- » Shelby Sinnok – 3 years
- » Jady Otton – 3 years
- » Keegan Bourdon – 1 year
- » Naomi Minix – 1 year
- » Elizabeth Alowa – 7 months
- » Dawn Warnke – 5 months
- » Jennie Diggs – 4 months
- » Rena Sparks – 3 months
- » Marie Tozier – 2 months
- » Michael Minix Jr. – new hire

STAFF VACANCIES AS OF NOV. 2, 2022

- » Executive Director
- » Human Resources Specialist
- » Administrative Specialist
- » Transit Driver
- » ICWA Specialist I/II
- » Youth Services Manager
- » Tribal Services Manager
- » Tribal Services Admin Specialist
- » ICA Coordinator

ANNUAL HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITIES

- » Reviewed HR files to ensure documentation for all staff is complete and up-to-date for budgeting purposes. Assisted supervisors with providing evaluation due dates. Annual or every-other-year merit increases completed timely.



- » Completed recruiting process; assisted managers with background checks and employment interviews, and updating and revising job descriptions, re-evaluation of positions, job description updates, and posting of positions. Posted job information on NEC's website and nome-announce, and submitted it to the Nome Nugget and Job Service. Updated and reviewed our job application as needed.
- » Provided new employee orientation that includes policy review and ensuring all documentation for employment is completed. Assisted new employees with FEHB, VSP, dental and Principal enrollment forms and with navigating online access.
- » Provided Safety Policy training, reviewed incident reports and conducted employee interviews to determine possible COVID exposure to other staff. Contacted individuals, if necessary, with recommendations for COVID testing, and informed them of safety precautions.
- » Worked with staff with personnel issues, assisting with interpreting and understanding policies.
- » Assisted employees with insurance claims, providing contact information for the plan and coordinating with medical provider specialists. Assisted staff with Workers' Compensation reports of injury, and completed Employer Report of Occupational injury or illness to Division of Workers' Compensation.
- » Updated and reviewed billing systems for all insurance

providers. Assisted staff with access to websites and system administration with password changes. Initiated technical assistance as needed.

- » Completed annual insurance renewals, including health insurance, dental, vision, life/STD, liability, workman's compensation, and vehicle insurance. Informed employees of changes to insurance benefits during renewal process. Completed annual census for renewal rates. Filed and reported claims as needed for vehicle insurance. Provided information for amendments, invoice reconciliation and certificates of insurance.
- » Coordinated building maintenance issues and annual checkup for boiler, fire alarm system and fire extinguishers.

TRIBAL SERVICES

Dawn Warnke, Emergency Hire

TRIBAL SERVICES STAFF

» *Dawn Warnke, Emergency Hire*

FUNDING

Tribal Services programs are part of NEC's Compact of Self-Governance with the United States of America. The compact authorizes NEC to provide programs, activities, functions and services on behalf of the Bureau of Indian Affairs as determined by Tribal priorities.

- » **WELFARE ASSISTANCE.** This program provides temporary financial assistance to meet the essential needs for Alaska Natives/American Indians from out of our region and for NEC Tribal members who reside in the Nome Service Area. There were 48 applicants, and 30 were approved. Eighteen applicants were not approved because they were either over income, had no unmet need, or submitted an incomplete application.
- » **BURIAL ASSISTANCE.** This program provides financial assistance for funeral expenses for which other financial resources are unavailable. There were four applicants but none were approved. The deceased family members received assistance from other organizations, the applications didn't apply as required at the Department of Public Assistance, or they withdrew their application because of the amount of personal documentation required.
- » **EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.** This program is available in cases of a fire in a home or natural disaster situations like flooding.
- » **DIRECT EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE.** This program is available to eligible applicants who require financial as-

sistance for transitional needs to secure and/or retain employment in the Nome service area. There were 16 applicants and five were approved.

- » **HIGHER EDUCATION.** This program provides scholarship funds to students who pursue education by enrollment in an associate or bachelor’s degree program. Scholarships are made available to students enrolled in a master’s degree program as long as funds are available. A total of 145 students were awarded scholarships in 2022.
 - **SPRING 2022 SEMESTER:** There were 57 applicants, and all 57 were funded.
 - **SPRING 2022 QUARTER:** Two students applied for scholarships; both were approved.
 - **SUMMER 2022 SEMESTER:** Seventeen students applied, and all 17 were funded.
 - **FALL 2022 SEMESTER:** Of our 66 applicants, 59 were approved. Seven applicants were denied due to not being Tribally enrolled with NEC.
- » **VOCATIONAL TRAINING ASSISTANCE.** This program is for students who wish to increase job skills necessary to obtain or retain employment through certified vocational programs. We received three applications. Two were approved for assistance, and one was denied due to receiving enough funding from other sources for training.

NORTON SOUND WELLNESS GRANT

The NSHC Wellness Grant funds NEC’s Condolence Program that offers \$150 when a Tribal member passes away. In 2022, there were 13 applicants and 11 were approved.

NSEDC FUNDS

NEC receives pass-through donations from NSEDC to distribute to regional residents for bereavement (\$500) and medical hardship (\$250). Four families requested donations: two for bereavement and two for medical hardship.

KAWERAK COLLEGE TRANSITION PROGRAM

Partnering with Kawerak’s college transition program, NEC was able to fund two of our Graduating High School Senior Scholarship awardees to get settled in at their colleges. The program also helped prepare these students to be on their own and for what to expect as a new college student.



HOUSING

Theresa Kenick, Director

HOUSING STAFF

- » *Theresa Kenick, Director*
- » *Bivers Gologergen, Foreman*
- » *Rena Sparks, Coordinator*
- » *Vacant, Carpenter*

FUNDING

The Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) is a reorganized system of housing assistance provided to Native Americans through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). NEC received the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) annually to develop and support affordable housing in our service area of Nome, Alaska. Every year, NEC develops an Indian Housing Plan (IHP) that identifies which program is being offered in the upcoming year and is submitted to HUD annually. Our annual performance review, an annual report of activities, is due by January 30 of the following year.

EMERGENCY HOMELESS SHELTER SUPPORT

NEC provides financial assistance to the NEST emergency homeless shelter in Nome. This is a cooperative venture to provide emergency homeless shelter assistance to individuals who are Alaska Native and American Indian who have been impacted by homelessness.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

This program provides rental assistance to eligible Tribal members who are 62 years or older, those with disabilities, or caregivers of Tribal members with a disability who pay more than 30% of their income for housing expenses per year and who are located within the Nome service area. NEC budgets for 10 clients per year, if funding allows, and maintains a waiting list.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

This program provides home rehabilitation to eligible Tribal members in the Nome service area to improve the energy efficiency of their home. Improvements may include arctic entrances, floor repairs, window/door, furnace/boiler, roofing repair or replacement, and plumbing and electrical upgrades to maintain home services. NEC budgets for four projects per year if funding allows. The max budget per project is \$200,000 for labor and construction costs.

Eligible applicants are approved based on the following: (1) the date of the initial application, (2) the date the application is finally complete, and (3) the overall condition of the home. The scope of work is determined by the condition of the home. NEC maintains a waiting list for this program.

Our Rental Assistance and Energy Efficiency programs use the HUD income limits for Nome or the adjusted gross income on the IRS Form 1040 for 2021.

EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Indian Housing Block Grant–American Rescue Plan (IHBG–ARP) FY2021 is the second round of Emergency Housing Assistance (EHA) from HUD. This program provides temporary emergency housing assistance to eligible low-income and non-low-income Tribal members located within the Nome service area to prevent displacement due to financial hardship resulting directly or indirectly from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The application for this program was available to Tribal members from Sept. 6 through Oct. 28, 2022. Completed applications had to include supporting documentation in order to be processed for eligibility. Housing staff worked with applicants to help gather needed supporting documents. This program was publicly posted in the Nome Nugget, on the NEC website and NEC Facebook page, and on our NEC public bulletin board in the main building.

The EHA provided emergency financial assistance for rental and utility bills. Eligible homeowners’ household

income must be equal to or less than 80% of the low-income threshold and must be equal to or less than 100% non-low-income of the area’s median income. NEC will use the HUD or adjusted gross income on IRS Form 1040 for 2021. NEC makes payments directly to the service providers or vendors.

Through the EHA rental and utility assistance program, NEC was able to provide up to three months of housing financial assistance to eligible applicants for the following: Low-income rental, non-low-income rental, low-income utility, non-low-income utility, low-income energy efficiency, and non-low-income energy efficiency.

After October 28, 2022, our staff reviewed available funding and determined that an additional three months of emergency rental and utility assistance could be provided to the eligible applicants who recertify for additional housing financial assistance.

The Emergency Energy Efficiency assistance program was able to provide one-time nonrecurring home rehabilitation improvement funds to eligible applicants to improve the energy efficiency of the homes. Improvements may include house leveling or repair or installation of boilers, Toyo stoves, hot water heaters, plumbing, windows, and doors to maintain the home. All repairs will be determined on the subcontractors’ availability and schedule.

CURRENT EHA APPLICANTS	
Number of applications received	53
Approved low-income rental assistance	40
Approved non-low-income rental assistance	2
Approved low-income utility assistance	20
Approved non-low-income utility assistance	2
Incomplete rental & utility applications	0
Denied rental & utility applications	0
Approved low-income energy efficiency	7
Approved non-low-income energy efficiency	0
Incomplete energy efficiency applications	4
Denied energy efficiency applications	0

HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE FUND PROGRAM

The Homeowners Assistance Fund (HAF) Program is provided by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. This program was created to assist qualified Tribal members

with temporary emergency homeowners’ assistance with mortgage, homeowner insurance, utilities, heating fuel, gas, propane, association fees and property tax payments. The program assists homeowners experiencing financial hardship after January 21, 2020, related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The HAF application is available to Tribal members Sept. 6 – Dec. 16, 2022. Completed applications must include supporting documentation in order to be processed for eligibility. Housing staff help applicants gather required supporting documents. This program was publicly posted in the *Nome Nugget*, on NEC’s website and Facebook page, and on our NEC public bulletin board in the main building.

The HAF provides emergency financial assistance for qualified expenses to homeowners with household income equal to or less than 150% of the median income in the area in which the household is located. NEC uses HUD income guidelines or the adjusted gross income on IRS Form 1040 for 2021. NEC makes payments directly to the service providers or vendors.

The HAF homeowners assistance program can provide up to three months of financial assistance to eligible applicants for the following: mortgage, homeowner insurance, utilities, heating fuel, gas, propane, association fees and property tax assistance. Eligible applicants can recertify for additional homeowners financial assistance.

After October 28, 2022, our staff reviewed available funding and determined that an additional three months of homeowners assistance could be provided to eligible applicants who recertify for additional housing financial assistance.

CURRENT HAF APPLICANTS	
Number of applications received	29
Approved applications	23
Incomplete applications	6
Unapproved applications	0
Receiving mortgage assistance	20
Receiving utility assistance	18
Receiving fuel assistance	14
Receiving gas assistance	6
Receiving propane assistance	1
Receiving association fee assistance	0
Receiving property tax assistance	2



BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS – AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT – HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Housing Improvement Program (HIP)—or BIA ARPA HIP—was created to provide one-time, non-recurring assistance to qualified low-income and non-low-income applicants with existing homeownership who are located in the Nome area, Fort Davis, south of Anvil Mountain, Beam Road, Osborn, or Dexter for sub-standard construction and who have been impacted by COVID-19, to maintain services to avoid displacement due to financial hardship directly or indirectly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The BIA ARPA HIP application is available to Tribal members Sept. 6 – Dec. 16, 2022. Completed applications must include required supporting documentation to process for eligibility. Housing staff work with applicants to gather required supporting documents. This program was publicly posted in the *Nome Nugget*, on the NEC website and Facebook page, and on our NEC public bulletin board in the main building.

The BIA ARPA HIP provides emergency financial assistance for qualified expenses for existing homeowners with household income that is equal to or less than 150% of the area’s median income. NEC uses HUD guidelines or the adjusted gross income on IRS Form 1040 for 2021. NEC makes payments directly to the service providers or vendors.

The BIA ARPA HIP program is able to fund a one-time nonrecurring home rehabilitation improvement for eligible applicants to improve the energy efficiency of the home. Improvements may include repair or installation of boilers, Toyo stoves, hot water heaters, plumbing, windows and doors to maintain home services. All repairs are determined based on the subcontractors' availability and schedule.

CURRENT BIA ARPA APPLICANTS	
Number of applications received	8
Approved applications	5
Incomplete applications	3
Unapproved applications	0
Receiving boiler assistance	0
Receiving Toyo assistance	1
Receiving fuel tank assistance	1
Receiving hot water assistance	3
Receiving plumbing assistance	0
Receiving window/door assistance	0

INDIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOP BLOCK GRANT AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

The Indian Community Block Grant (ICBD) American Rescue Plan (ARP)—or ICDBG—ARP FY2022 Grant Project—was originally intended to be used for 3D print technology to construct one to two new homes. After discussion, the NEC Tribal Council decided it would be best to go with traditional housing instead.

NEC has been working with consultants Baker Tilly US, LLP, who are assisting with the ICDBG—ARP project plan. Baker Tilly US, LLP, will amend and submit the ICDBG – ARP IHP to HUD and confirm reporting deadlines. NEC will need to confirm new locations for the homes.

FAMILY SERVICES

Lola Tobuk, Director – Anchorage

FAMILY SERVICES STAFF

- » *Lola Tobuk, Director – Anchorage*
- » *Jadyn Otton, ICWA Specialist II – Anchorage*
- » *Elizabeth Alowa, ICWA Specialist I – Anchorage*
- » *Vacant, ICWA Specialist – Nome*
- » *Vacant, ICWA Coordinator – Anchorage*

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Elizabeth Alowa began her employment with NEC on May 16, 2022, after graduating with her bachelor's degree in legal studies. Recruitment continues for an ICWA specialist for Nome and an ICWA coordinator for the Anchorage office. The Anchorage Family Services office is located at 101 W. Benson Boulevard, Suite 203.

The Family Services (FS) program receives funding from:

- » the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to operate an Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) program;
- » the Title IV-B of the Social Security Act, Subparts 1 and 2, to provide a broad range of services designed to support, preserve, and/or reunite children and their families;
- » the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) Office of Children's Services (OCS) Tribal-State Compact program;
- » the State Title IV-E reimbursement program;
- » and the State Title IV-E Family First Prevention Services (FFPS) program (third year of a three-year grant).

Family Services also received two separate BIA grants for Child Abuse Prevention. Title IV-B funds are directed toward family preservation, reunification services and intervention so that children will not have to be removed from their homes or to ensure reunification is expeditiously and safely achieved. Although funding under Title IV-B is modest, these funds are an integral part of services for families who need assistance in order to stay together.



NEC entered into a compact agreement with the state OCS on Dec. 15, 2017, to provide child welfare services to Tribal children and families identified in its service population and delivery areas. For FY23, NEC received two allocations under the Support Services Funding Agreement (SSFA) to perform the following scopes of work on behalf of OCS:

- » Diligent relative search,
- » Ongoing placement searches,
- » Foster care licensing assistance,
- » Safety evaluation walk-throughs of unlicensed relatives,
- » Family contact (new),
- » and prevention services (new).

The funding total for Family Services under the Tribal State Compact Agreement for state FY2023 is \$175,695.

NEC's Family Services program received a three-year State of Alaska Title IV-E Prevention Services grant beginning in FY21 through FY23 to provide culturally appropriate prevention services to Tribal children and families that strengthen and preserve the family unit while alleviating barriers that prevent caregivers from keeping their children safe in the home. Family Services staff will accompany OCS investigation workers to assess protective capacities and determine appropriateness for NEC intervention to prevent the breakup of the Tribal family.

Family Services received BIA Child Abuse Prevention grants totaling \$28,422 for the development of an Indigenous Cultural Connections prevention program. We contracted with Dr. Jessica Ullrich to develop a six-week curriculum based on her Indigenous Connectedness Framework. A train-the-trainer session occurred in October and the launch of this prevention program will be in January 2023.

Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Notices and Protective Services Reports (PSR) from the state Office of Children's Services (OCS) from Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2022, total 83. NEC formally intervened in eight cases since Jan. 1, 2022. Eight children were reunified with their families and six children were either adopted or entered into guardianships. Currently, there are 49 Tribal children in state or out-of-state custody for a total of 27 cases. In addition to CINA cases, Family Services program staff prepare cultural adoption packets for the Tribal Council. One cultural adoption occurred in this report period.



YOUTH SERVICES

Vacant, Youth Services Manager

YOUTH SERVICES STAFF

- » *Vacant, Youth Services Manager*
- » *Keegan Bourdon, Youth Services Specialist*
- » *Jennie Diggs, Youth Services Specialist*

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Youth Services assisted with coaching the Nome Elementary School ski team from January to March, with 15 kids participating for the season. Keith Conger hopes to expand the elementary school ski program with assistance from NEC to allow second- and third-grade students the opportunity to join.

NEC was able to provide funding for two basketball clinics this year: One in March with the Challenge Life Foundation for grades 1-12, and one in August for grades 1-12.

NEC continued providing the Outdoors Club in 2022. A total of 20 children attended activities include picking greens, fishing, berry picking, hiking and more.

Youth Services gave a total of 101 rec center/swimming pool passes to Tribal member children in Nome.

We were excited to provide backpacks and school supplies for Tribally enrolled children grades K-12. NEC purchased enough supplies for 100 students. Sixteen backpacks were distributed, and we plan to roll out the same program next August in order to distribute the remaining supplies.

Four applicants were approved for NEC's Relative Child-care Provider Program over the course of the year.

FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS

In addition to AK CARES funds, the department operated throughout 2022 on two main grants and one pass-through grant: Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), Johnson O'Malley Fund (JOM), and Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS). Listed in more detail below is information on the grants and how we currently use and would like to use them in the future. We have partnered and collaborated with several entities including Norton Sound Health Corporation, Kawerak, Nome Public Schools, Nome Preschool Association, and the Kegoayah Kozga Public Library, to name a few.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF)

BACKGROUND ON GRANT. Authorized by the Child Development Block Grant, this program assists low-income families in obtaining childcare so they can work or attend training or education. The funding is intended to improve the quality of childcare and promotes coordination with early childhood development and after-school programs. This funding serves ages 3-12 and the goal is to ensure staff are well-trained in providing quality childcare in a safe environment; to promote literacy and cultural competency; and to ensure NEC Tribal children are offered engaging and culturally relevant activities. Our CCDF funds are used for the activities below.

OUTDOORS CLUB is a five-week program for youth ages 6-12 in Nome. A total of 20 children participated in 2022. Outdoors Club activities include picking greens, fishing, berry picking, hiking and more.

RELATIVE CHILDCARE PROGRAM. This program provides childcare for parents who work or subsist 20 hours per week and will pay the provider to care for the child. Currently the eligible definition of relative is a great-grandparent, grandparent, aunt, uncle or sibling who lives in a separate household. This program is one of the first of many steps we will be taking over the coming years to enhance childcare and child development in our Nome service area.

PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. We have continued our Preschool Scholarship Program but have had fewer requests for scholarships because the MigrantEd Program is covering our youth's cost to attend. Where MigrantEd was unable to provide funding, we have provided it. We cover the full tuition for these students in the Preschool Scholarship Program. So far, for the 2022-23 school year we have two students being covered at Nome Preschool under this program.

PRESCHOOL MINI-GRANT. Nome Eskimo Community provided Nome Preschool Association with an amend-

ment on the \$12,500 grant for an additional \$1,038.55 that supplied them with funds for classroom materials and supplies, gravel, books, and continuing education for the Nome Preschool Association staff.

JOHNSON O'MALLEY FUND (JOM)

JOM is part of NEC's self-governance compact with the federal government. The compact authorizes NEC to provide programs, activities, functions, and services on behalf of the Bureau of Indian Affairs as determined by Tribal priorities. This program serves ages 3 through graduating high school senior. The main goal is to provide supplemental educational, cultural, and linguistic support for our Tribal students.

We're excited about expanding JOM in the coming years based on successful models from Tribes around Alaska. Two staff were able to attend the 2022 Alaska Federation of Natives conference, where valuable information was shared about culturally relevant issues and topics that affect Tribally enrolled youth and how NEC can leverage its resources more effectively for the benefit of our Tribal students.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

NEC works with Nome's Kegoayah Kozga Public Library to do a \$10,000 pass-through grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The library purchased supplies for the summer reading program. Supplies included craft and summer reading program materials to promote literacy during the summer. Funds were also spent to purchase summer reading program T-shirts which were designed in partnership with Nome Eskimo Community to promote reading in Nome.

Overall, there were 161 registrants for the summer reading program. The library gave out 500 craft kits between June and August. Children enrolled in their summer reading program received T-shirts displaying the logos of NEC and the library.

