DISCUSSION:

We have been pleased to learn all that is being done in Fairbanks to be in better compliance with outdoor air quality laws and to reduce diesel emissions. Fairbanks municipal buses were replaced in December 2006 with new vehicles equipped with particle filters. As part of their contract renewal with the Fairbanks school system, Laidlaw purchased 70 new school buses equipped with diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC). The old buses are stored in Eagle River and will be sold or auctioned over time to the southern states. The ALAA made numerous inquiries throughout federal, state, and municipal departments to identify vehicles to be retrofitted. ALAA contracted with Cummins Northwest to retrofit six Department of Transportation snow plows which was completed in March 2007. ALAA continued to make inquiries with potential sources of vehicles. For a number of reasons, the interest in retrofits wasn’t there. Therefore, ALAA moved onto Plan B within the contract which was to purchase clean fuel vehicles. Numerous contacts were made. The school district and University of Alaska Fairbanks expressed some interest but decided not to participate. Two community organizations were identified to receive the following hybrid vehicles.

Vehicle 1: 2008 Toyota Camry Hybrid 4 Door Sedan

Play N Learn Community Head Start is a comprehensive child development program which serves children from 3 to 5 years and their families. Head Start is a child-focused program, with the overall goal to increase social competence of young children in low-income families.

Play N Learn Community Head Start agrees to utilize the above vehicle for:

1. **Education Home Visits:** Each child receives two education home-visits per year in partnership with parents and teachers for a total of 216 home visits per year. Our families live throughout the North Star Borough. Staff members have visited homes located as far as 40 miles from the program.
2. **Enrollment Home Visits:** Each family receives an enrollment home visit prior to starting child development services in the classroom settings. Last year we visited 119 families in their home.
3. **Family Support Home Visits:** Each family receives on-going family support services by our family advocates which include home-visiting and referrals to community partners. Last year we provided more than 268 home visits by family advocates.
4. **Program Site Support:** Because we have two sites, one located in Fairbanks, the other North Pole, we typically log approximately 690 miles per week driving back and forth from Fairbanks to North Pole. These visits include technical assistance to staff members in the areas of health, safety and nutrition, administrative support, education and disabilities support, family advocacy and parent education.
5. **Procurement:** Procurement of equipment and supplies to support child education, nutrition, health, family services and administration of the Head Start program for 108 children and families and 35 staff members.
**Vehicle 2:**  2008 Toyota Prius Hybrid

Access Alaska, Inc. provides comprehensive services to Fairbanks residents living with disabilities.

Access Alaska, Inc. agrees to utilize the above vehicle for:

Providing transportation that supports the success of youth enrolled in the Youth Transition from School to Work program. Access Alaska's Youth Transition from School to Work Program promotes opportunities for youth (14-21) with disabilities to engage in career development. Program activities including basic skill development, work readiness and occupational training. Students also have the opportunity to participate in internships and summer work opportunities.

Contact:

Jim Kreatschman, Director
Access Alaska, Inc.
526 Gaffney, Suite 100
Fairbanks, AK  99701
(907) 479-7940

**BUDGET:**

$75,000 Contract Award
- 9,976 ALAA Coordination (including travel expenses to meet with potential partners in Fairbanks)
- 15,424 Cummins Northwest – DOT snow plows (6) – invoice attached

Michelle Ferreira. MPH
Program Manager
mferreira@aklung.org
907-644-6417