



Greetings from the CHILD Partnership!

We are thrilled to announce that Chugach, Bristol Bay Borough and Lake & Peninsula School Districts, as part of the Cultural Heritage Improves Learning & Development (CHILD) Partnership, have been awarded a new, 3-year federal grant through the Office of Indian Education and Alaska Native Education.

Some of the grant goals include:

- ❖ Fostering Kindergarten Readiness Skills
- ❖ Building Family Engagement
 - Cultural Literature Family Library
 - Culture Kits for Home Use
 - Regular Family Events
- ❖ Ensuring Culture Identity is the Foundation of Early Learning
 - Alaska Native Language App for Young Children
 - Featuring Alutiiq, Dena'ina, Sugt'stun, Yupik
 - Elder Story Children's Books
 - Cultural Training for Staff

See our current app version here:



<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/child-alaska-native-languages/id1527892704>

We are seeking members for our **CHILD Steering Committee**. Members of this committee will collaborate throughout the grant period to ensure multiple perspectives guide the vision. We are asking that you consider being a member because we believe it is critical to have input from each region and from many stakeholders.

We are specifically looking for:

- ❖ Tribal Members & Elders
- ❖ School Board Members & Program Administrators
- ❖ Parents and Caregivers of Young Children
- ❖ Teachers
- ❖ Corporation Members
- ❖ Native Language Speakers

Members will be asked to participate in quarterly collaboration meetings over three years. Meetings will be held via Zoom and will last about one hour. Members will receive updates on grant goals and progress between meetings.

Our first meeting will be held February 3rd at 4:30pm.

Your input will be critical to determine effectiveness of programming and to brainstorm ideas that continue to maintain focus on providing culturally relevant and academically sound early learning experiences. If you would like to be a part of the CHILD Steering Committee and placed on the list to receive additional information, contact any of our three grant coordinators listed below. **Please respond by January 20th.** We look forward to hearing from you.

Quyanaa! Chin'an! Quyana! Thank you!

CHILD Grant Partnership Team

Tanya Wimer, Chugach School District: twimer@chugachschools.com

Amber Kresl, Lake and Peninsula School District: akresl@lpsd.com

Esther Pepin, Bristol Bay Borough School District: epopin@bbbsd.net