

Juneau Live! Community Access Outreach Pilot Program



The Juneau Live!TM Community Access Outreach Pilot Program consists of three interrelated components together helping the isolated and marginalized people in our area access and participate in community activities. The first is a pilot outreach program to assist at least 100 individuals and families connect (and stay connected) to Juneau Live! interactive video programming, hybrid teleconference meetings, telemedicine and other online services in an initial one-year period. The second is soliciting community access programming, and helping contributors produce content or host events in the Juneau Live! studio. Lastly, is to use the first two parts of the program to afford youth organizations and schools educational opportunities (for youth and adults) in live-video production.

The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown has highlighted the detrimental effects of isolation on Juneau's population of marginalized individuals and families, including elders; individuals living with mental illness and health issues that limit mobility; those in hospice; those experiencing housing, food, and income instability; victims of abuse; and educational limitations. Many of these people are suffering from dramatically increased seclusion and isolation and its consequences. Even as the effects of the pandemic subside, this population will still need additional support. The church has lost four members to the pandemic, though not the virus. These were individuals who were already isolated before they were quarantined, but even more so after – which led to health / emotional compromises.

Many of us have become familiar with one proven manner of inclusion this past year. We are connecting with our community through our televisions, computers, tablets, and phones, by using streaming (e.g., YouTube) and meeting services (e.g., Zoom). However, many individuals in our target population, because of their above referenced disabilities and limitations, cannot or do not participate using these tools.

Juneau Live! Community Access Outreach seeks to address this need by helping this population participate in interactive programing and hybrid teleconference meetings (which will be available to all of Juneau), with technical support to connect, and stay connected, to Juneau Live!. The long-term goal would be to offer the program to anyone in need. This year-long pilot program will enroll at least 100 qualifying individuals and families, then monitor and evaluate the program for further expansion. We will be working with other organizations to identify qualifying individuals and families. JAMHI, Polaris House, AWARE and Family Promise have provided letters of support.

Specifically, we would collaborate with these organizations to identify individual and family candidates for the program and provide them with assistance connecting to Juneau Live!, as well as other services such as telehealth. We will support existing hardware and/or provide new/upgraded hardware either online, by phone, or in-person (bonded, two-person teams). Additionally, the program will follow up with these participants at least monthly to confirm the program is meeting their needs and collect relevant feedback.

During this process, Juneau Live! will be developing its interactive programming and hybrid teleconference meeting schedule in the community, with weekly/monthly offerings, as well as rehearsals, performances, and community organization meetings. In addition to JAMHI, Polaris House,

AWARE and Family Promise, Juneau Jazz & Classics and several performing artists have provided letters of support.

The studio comprises industry-standard three-dolly cameras, one crane HD camera, one Steadicam HD camera with additional six-fixed HD/4K cameras, 26 studio microphones, 48-channel / 8-bus digitally encoded audio, dedicated OBS, meeting and remote performer encoding systems and WAN pipes, Adobe and Apple video/audio pre/post-production with an experienced eight-member technical team. The South East Alaska Scouts' Pinewood Derby on January 23 was the Juneau Live! inaugural event (watched by about 500 households). Polaris House broadcasted its annual member memorial from the Juneau Live! Studio allowing participation from the studio, on Zoom and on Juneau Live!'s YouTube channel. Eight local groups wishing to participate in this year's virtual Alaska Folk Festival asked Juneau Live! to assist them in producing their performance videos. Studio costs for non-profit organizations during the pilot program would be funded by grants, while for-profit organizations would pay a competitive studio fee.

The final component of the pilot program is to offer educational opportunities in television studio production. The Juneau Live! producer, director, camera floor manager and technical advisor have over 60 years of television industry experience. The Juneau Live! outreach coordinator has over 30 years' experience teaching and training. The educational opportunities in a working studio are numerous for youth organizations (e.g., Scouts), schools (e.g., during the RLC SSS program students from Harborview Elementary produced several shows), and community members.

Resurrection Lutheran Church's RLC Live! program has a year of experience producing interactive programming and hosting hybrid meetings. The church believes it can extend that experience to serve our community through the secular Juneau Live! program. Juneau Live! was borne out of both the church's needs, and losses from the COVID-19 pandemic. RLC was the first worship community (on 3/22) in Juneau to respond to the State's mandate closing churches and limiting gatherings by live streaming its worship services from its sanctuary. The studio was funded at a cost of over \$26,000 (\$45,000 replacement cost) with a combination of grants from the Alaska Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) and the City and Borough Juneau (CBJ) / Juneau Community Foundation (JCF). Additional donations came from RLC congregation members and from outside the Juneau community. It was designed, developed and assembled with over 1,000 hours of volunteer time.

Resurrection Lutheran Church's RLC Live! program has almost a year of experience producing interactive programming and hosting hybrid meetings. The church believes it can extend that experience to serve our community through the secular Juneau Live! program.

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You can watch a short video report on Juneau Live here.