

Ask Senator Pease-Lopez  
#Rep.

SENATOR CARMINE MOWBRAY  
PO BOX 1202  
POLSON MT 59860-1202



CC: PEASE-LOPEZ & TAYLOR

State Tribal Economic Development Council  
Tribal Workforce Training Documents

Background: Requests were made on January 26, 2012, at the meeting of the State Tribal Economic Development Council (STEDC) which included an "in-depth" report of Rural Dynamic, Inc. (RDI) Family Economic Services (FES) "tribally designated" funds.

Again, on April 11, 2012, the STED Council met but RDI had no Family Economic Security report for "tribally designated" funds available for the STED Council after nearly three months time.

Summary: Rural Dynamics, Inc. (RDI) was awarded Family Economic Security (FES) "tribal designated" workforce training funds for nearly one million dollars.

The funding: January 2011-\$273,154 July 2011-\$341,883 July 2012-\$348,156 Total-\$963,193.

In addition, RDI was provided over \$600,000 to provide financial literacy with FES funding—is there duplication?

There is no proof of services or tribal consultations yet; funding starts again July 1, 2012.

Attachments to STED Council

- DPHHS Family Economic Security Tribal Interim RFP #1115096MG "without a continuum clause" in the solicitation-Attached #1
- MCA 18-4-313. Contracts-terms, extensions, time limits. Attached law #2
- Letter from MT PEAKS, Inc. to MT Dept of Administration, Procurement Bureau. Attached #3
- Response letter from DPHHS' Attorney Francis X. Clinch-Attached #4
- DPHHS Family Economic Security Regular RFP #0910017 "with a continuum clause" in the solicitation-Attached #5
- DPHHS Family Economic Security funding with "tribally designated funding" released for SFY 12 on May 25, 2011 without a required RFP solicitation & without tribal consultations-Attached #6
- DPHHS Family Economic Security funding with "tribally designated funding" released for SFY 13 on April 9, 2012 without a required RFP solicitation, without tribal consultations and without the requested report from RDI to the STED Council-Attached #7
- Executive Order #13175-Required Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments-Attached #8
- MCA Law-2-15-142. Guiding Principles. Tribal Commitment and Collaborations addresses the preservations of the tribal-state relationship-Attached #9

*Hank Hudson was replaced at  
Schmedekler*

STATE TRIBAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL—Tribally Designated Workforce Training

Rural Dynamics, Inc. (RDI) was awarded Family Economic Security (FES) "tribally designated" workforce training funds as follows: January 2011-\$273,154 July 2011-\$341,883 & July 2012-\$348,156 Total-\$963,193. In addition, RDI was provided over \$600,000 to provide financial literacy with FES funding.

No reports on these FES funds or written tribal consultations have been provided at this time for nearly a million dollars. There is no proof of services or tribal consultations yet; funding starts again July 1, 2012.

\*\*\*\*\*  
On January 26, 2012 at the meeting of the State Tribal Economic Development Council (STEDC), the Council requested an in-depth report of Rural Dynamic, Inc's (RDI) Family Economic Services (FES) "tribally designated" funds including fiscal accounting, tribal consultations and job training services provided to the Montana Tribes in their MT DPHHS Service Delivery Plan which included the Blackfeet, Fort Belknap and Rocky Boy Reservations for the FES Interim Contract from Jan. 1 to June 30, 2011 along with RDI's current report of job training services being delivered on these reservations for SFY 2012.

Also, at the January 26, 2012 meeting Mr. Richard Sangrey, Rocky Boy & Mr. Tom Pitts, CSKT --requested from MT Dept of Commerce and MT DPHHS the proof of FES services to the tribes with tribal consultations made by RDI, prior to funding being awarded, with their services outlined and where services took place.

Besides Rural Dynamics, the only other applicant for the FES Tribal Interim RFP#1115096MG (Attached #1) was Opportunity Link, Inc. who had all the required written tribal consultations upon submission of their proposal but was passed over by DPHHS even though it provided a direct economic boost and jobs with paid on-the-job training for participants. Also, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes were excluded in this same FES Interim Request for Proposal (RFP), even though there was sufficient funding at \$273,154 for six months, Jan-June 2011. DPHHS made an additional award amount to RDI of \$341,883 starting July 1, 2011 for services to tribes, again, without consideration of CSKT or other Montana Tribal Governments consultations or RFP.

History-July & August 2010, Opportunity Link had received a 60 -day FES Tribal training contract to complete their "Green Training Center" in Havre, which was created with MT Tribal partners & Montana PEAKS, Inc. DPHHS not funding Opportunity Link, Inc. does not make sense when they have an available, fully equipped, green training center in North Central Montana with all the required written tribal consultations upon submission of their proposal plus they have a successful transit system in place serving a large geographic area.

Multiple parties, made multiple inquiries in 2011 and 2012, to DPHHS Director Anna Whiting Sorrell and Hank Hudson, FES Branch Manager, about a possible RFP for the FES Tribal funds to which they responded they had a contractor in place. There is a question as to the legality of this FES contract continuum by DPHHS under MCA 18-4-313. Contracts-terms, extensions, time limits. (Attached law #2 and letters from MT PEAKS #3 to MT Dept of Administration, Procurement Bureau and response from DPHHS' Attorney Clinch #4, FES Regular RFP with a continuum clause in the solicitation #5, FES Tribal funding May 25, 2011-SFY12 #6)

On April 9, 2012, MT DPHHS, Health and Community Services Division, FES Program Manager Ms. Delores Bock, released the funding for the Family Economic Security services for SFY13 (Attached #7) with Rural Dynamics, Inc. receiving \$348,156 without a report being provided to the STED Council and without known tribal consultations.

On April 11, 2012, the STEDC Council met but no FES report was available for the Council after nearly three months time. There was further discussion by the Council about the requested reports from their January meeting, proof of Federal & State required written tribal consultations & questions about the services provided by FES funds to Montana Tribes? Also present was Ms. Lesa Evers, Governor's Office of Indian Affairs.

At the April STEDC meeting, Mr. Bum Stiffarm provided further information from his recent visit to Washington DC about the Federally mandatory Tribal Consultations. (Reaffirmed by President Obama's Memorandum November 5, 2009, (regarding Executive Order-13175 by President William Clinton-Attached #8). According to this document, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services is in direct violation as published by the Office of Management and Budget in the Federal Register, November 6, 2000, Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments.

MCA Law-2-15-142. Guiding Principles. Tribal Commitment and Collaborations addresses the preservations of the tribal-state relationship. (Attached #9) Did DPHHS award the FES tribally designated funds by Montana Law?

household gross income is at or below 185% of Federal Poverty Level.

The Department will expect quarterly reports on progress, successes and failures of the projects as well as will expect project participation in outcome measure evaluation as determined by the Department.

It is required that successful proposals will form partnerships with at least three key community partners such as two-year colleges, tribes and or tribal colleges, Human Resource Development Council's, workforce development community teams, financial education network members and nonprofit or private businesses as demonstrated through written memorandum of agreements. The local Offices of Public Assistance and Work Readiness Component (WoRC) operators are considered mandatory partners and must be included in the proposal. Preference will be given to proposals that include utilization of statewide efforts or curriculums and demonstrate stateside effectiveness. In addition, a preference will be given to efforts to bring additional funding or opportunities to leverage the funding.

Desired services must include:

- A plan to provide services to accomplish the goals stated above. The plan must address both required elements from the list above. Innovative other elements may be added.
- Details on services to be provided.
- Project budget and narrative.
- Community collaboration agreement and roles.
- A plan to provide project sustainability (leverage funding).
- A description of outcomes and goals for the project and how they contribute to the overarching goal of family economic security. Goals must be measurable.
- Other reports may be required at the request of the Department.

**B. Term of Contract**

The term of this contract is January 1, 2011 – June 30, 2011.

**C. Number of Contracts to be Awarded**

It is the intent of the Department to award **one** contract to fulfill the goals of the RFP.

**D. Consideration**

Consideration under the contract will be as specified by the Department based upon the available funding for the services and the cost of services as specified by the successful proposer in its proposal or as specified in best and final negotiations between the parties.

The Department within its discretion may change the consideration during the term of the contract due to reductions in federal or state funding for the services, due to changes in responsibilities that were not contemplated at the time of award of the contract, or due to programmatic changes.

Upon extension of the term of the contract, the Department provides no assurances that consideration would be increased even to cover increased costs.

A lead agency will be required for collaborative proposals for reimbursement procedures. This assures that payment will be made timely and per Department contracting procedures.

Where is  
Extension clause? 9

**Montana Code Annotated 2011**

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**18-4-313. Contracts -- terms, extensions, and time limits.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) or unless otherwise provided by law, a contract, lease, or rental agreement for supplies or services may not be made for a period of more than 7 years. A contract, lease, or rental agreement may be extended or renewed if the terms of the extension or renewal, if any, are included in the solicitation, if funds are available for the first fiscal period at the time of the agreement, and if the total contract period, including any extension or renewal, does not exceed 7 years. Payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal periods are subject to the availability and appropriation of funds for the fiscal periods.

(2) The contract term limit specified in subsection (1) does not apply to:

(a) a contract for hardware, software, or other information technology resources, which may be made for a period not to exceed 10 years;

(b) a department of revenue liquor store contract governed by the term specified in 16-2-101;

(c) a department of corrections contract governed by the term specified in 53-1-203, 53-30-505, or 53-30-608; and

(d) the department of administration state employee group benefit plans contracts governed by the term specified in 2-18-811, including group benefit plan contracts made in partnership with the Montana university system group benefit plan.

(3) Prior to the issuance, extension, or renewal of a contract, it must be determined that:

(a) estimated requirements cover the period of the contract and are reasonably firm and continuing; and

(b) the contract will serve the best interests of the state by encouraging effective competition or otherwise promoting economies in state procurement.

(4) If funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal period, the contract must be canceled.

**History:** En. Sec. 24, Ch. 519, L. 1983; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 121, L. 1985; amd. Sec. 3, Ch. 228, L. 1993; amd. Sec. 12, Ch. 130, L. 1995; amd. Sec. 63, Ch. 546, L. 1995; amd. Sec. 22, Ch. 181, L. 2001; amd. Secs. 40, 46, Ch. 313, L. 2001; amd. Sec. 8, Ch. 289, L. 2005; amd. Sec. 2, Ch. 127, L. 2007.

*Provided by Montana Legislative Services*

July 21, 2011

Mr. Brad Sanders, Bureau Chief  
Montana Department of Administration  
State Procurement Bureau  
PO Box 200135  
Helena, MT 59620-0135

Re: Procurement Process by DPHHS, Family Economic Security Funds,  
Tribal Government Collaborations

Dear Mr. Sanders,

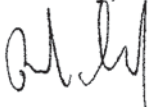
As directed by your Senior Contracts Officer, Penny Moon, I am contacting you regarding the solicitation RFP#1115096MG, with an award contract term of January 1, 2011-June 30, 2011. This term limit would dictate a new award solicitation to be issued prior to June 30, 2011 for a new award of FES Tribal Government Collaboration projects to begin July 1, 2011. (Attached RFP cycle postings)

Montana PEAKS, Inc. had been anticipating this solicitation of the Family Economic Security funds for Tribal Government Collaborations with the intention of applying, in collaboration, with mandatory Montana Tribal partners and found no solicitation.

To our knowledge, no solicitation has been posted on the mt.gov website, nor by your office, nor by the Department of Public Health and Human Services. DPHHS personnel were unaware of a new RFP for these funds when contacted. However, in the attached document from Delores Bock, DPHHS has awarded a contract to Rural Dynamics, Inc. for services on Montana Reservations in an amount of \$341,883. Does the State Procurement Bureau consider this award a violation of the State of Montana procurement process, solicitation thresholds and state policies?

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Robin Sherwood  
Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Directors  
Montana PEAKS, Inc.  
PO Box 2335  
Kalispell, MT 59903-2335

CC: Partners

Attachment: RFP Announcements & FES Funding SFY 2012

DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



BRIAN SCHWEITZER  
GOVERNOR

ANNA WHITING SORRELL  
DIRECTOR

STATE OF MONTANA

Office of Legal Affairs  
Phone: 406-444-9503  
Fax: 406-444-9744

PO Box 4210  
HELENA, MT 59604-4210

August 4, 2011

Robin Sherwood  
Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Directors  
Montana PEAKS, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2335  
Kalispell MT 59903-2335

Dear Mr. Sherwood:

This is in response to your July 21, 2011 letter to Brad Sanders, Bureau Chief for the Montana Department of Administration, concerning the contract between the Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services and Consumer Credit Counseling Services, which you refer to as Rural Dynamics, Inc. In that letter, you suggest a new solicitation should have been issued for the subject matter of that contract. The contract set forth an initial term extending from January 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011, but also provided for three one-year extensions of the contract term upon agreement of the parties. In this case, the parties agreed to such a one-year extension, and two additional one-year extensions could yet be agreed to pursuant to the provisions of the contract. Because the contract was extended in accordance with its terms, no new solicitation was required.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis X. Clinch".

Francis X. Clinch  
Deputy Chief Legal Counsel  
Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services

Can this be  
documented?

FXC:nec

c: Brad Sanders



The Department will expect quarterly reports on progress, successes and failures of the projects as well as will expect project participation in outcome measure evaluation as determined by the Department.

It is required that successful proposals will form partnerships with at least three key community partners such as two-year colleges, tribes and or tribal colleges, Human Resource Development Council's, workforce development community teams, financial education network members and nonprofit or private businesses as demonstrated through written memorandum of agreements. The local Offices of Public Assistance and Work Readiness Component (WoRC) operators are considered mandatory partners and must be included in the proposal. At least one proposal from an urban collaboration, a rural and a tribal government collaboration will be funded. Preference will be given to proposals that include utilization of statewide efforts or curriculums and demonstrate stateside effectiveness. In addition, a preference will be given to efforts to bring additional funding or opportunities to leverage the funding.

Desired services must include:

- A plan to provide services to accomplish the goals stated above. The plan must address the one required plus one chosen element from the list above. Innovative other elements may be added.
- Details on services to be provided.
- Project budget and narrative.
- Community collaboration agreement and roles.
- A plan to provide project sustainability (leverage funding).
- A description of outcomes and goals for the project and how they contribute to the overarching goal of family economic security. Goals must be measurable.
- Other reports may be required at the request of the Department.



B.

**Term of Contract**

The term of this contract is generally for one year (July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010). However, the contract may be extended for up to three more years (each year a single extension). This may create a four-year cycle for the RFP process for the Family Economic Security Program. There is no guarantee that a contract will be awarded, or once awarded that it will extend beyond the one-year term.

C.

**Number of Contracts to be Awarded**

It is the intent of the Department to award as many contracts as necessary to fulfill the goals. At least one proposal from an urban collaboration, a rural and a tribal government collaboration will be funded.

D.

**Consideration**

Consideration under the contract will be as specified by the Department based upon the available funding for the services and the cost of services as specified by the successful proposer in its proposal or as specified in best and final negotiations between the parties.

The Department within its discretion may change the consideration during the term of the contract due to reductions in federal or state funding for the services, due to changes in responsibilities that were not contemplated at the time of award of the contract, or due to programmatic changes.

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2011 10:04 AM

**To:** Bock, Dolores (Del); 'Bruce Day'; 'Deb Kottel'; Deniger, Kellyann; Denise Jordan; Perzinski, Barb; Berg, Mary; Hogan, Sheila; Harrington, Jasyn; 'Lynda Sowell'; Joyner, Darla; 'kari@reomontana.org'; 'Lisa Newman'; Steve Hurin

**Cc:** Snedigar, Linda; Hudson, Hank; Krantz, Candee; Fredrickson, Wendie

**Subject:** FES for SFY 2012

We are pleased to announce that funding for the Family Economic Security (FES) Program will continue in SFY 2012. Therefore, the Department will extend the existing contracts for the FES Program through SFY 2012.

The service areas and funding levels per program will remain at the SFY 2011 levels. I have outlined them below for your reference:

REO = \$491,071

Career Futures = \$175,932

CTI = \$203,300

HRDC VII = \$193,500

Missoula (Job Service) = \$351,074

Rural Dynamics (Reservation areas) = \$341,883

Rural Dynamics (other) = \$208,327

**Total awarded = \$1,965,087**

Based on OMB and audit concerns, the Department will place further restrictions on the use of Matched Savings. The maximum match will remain at 3:1, however the **aggregate** total of the purchase (including participant contributions, program contributions and any other additional funds utilized) cannot exceed \$5,000. In addition, if the Matched Savings is used to purchase a vehicle, a copy of the all titles (both the "signed over" copy from the previous owner and the updated title from DMV) relating to the purchase must be copied and retained in the case file.

As always, all supportive service fund expenditures must be accompanied by a signed form from the participant acknowledging they received the services/items and receipts documenting the purchase.

Please provide a brief overview of the allowable services you intend to offer for SFY 2012 along with a budget for the amounts indicated above. We must receive this information no later than **6/10/2011**. I would ask if you submit it electronically that you include both Wendie Fredrickson and myself as I will be on vacation during that time.

Thanks,

Del

## FES Contracts and Amounts:

<b>Contractor:</b>	<b>SFY 2013 Amounts:</b>
REO, Inc.	\$495,845
Career Futures	\$180,705
CTI	\$208,074
HRDC VII	\$198,273
Missoula	\$355,847
Rural Dynamics (Expansion) MT Tribes	\$348,156
Rural Dynamics	\$213,100
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>

**From:** Bock, Dolores (Del)

**Sent:** Monday, April 09, 2012 5:23 PM

**To:** Bock, Dolores (Del); 'Bruce Day'; Deniger, Kellyann; 'Denise Jordan'; Perzinski, Barb; Berg, Mary; Hogan, Sheila; Harrington, Jasyn; Joyner, Darla; [kari@reomontana.org](mailto:kari@reomontana.org); 'Lisa Newman'; 'Karen Vanni'; Tom Jacobson; 'Karen Heisler'

**Cc:** Palagi, Jamie; Hudson, Hank; Krantz, Candee; Fredrickson, Wendie

**Subject:** FES for SFY 2013

We are pleased to announce that funding for the Family Economic Security (FES) Program will continue in SFY 2013. The Department intends to extend the existing contracts for the FES Program through SFY 2013 as allowed in the contract boiler plate language.

Funding will be allocated as noted in the attached excel spreadsheet.

In order to extend your contract to provide FES services you will need to provide the following to the Department no later than **May 11, 2012:**

1. Response to questions in the attached document titled FES Service Delivery Agreement (SDA) for SFY 2013.
2. A budget and narrative for the FES services you will provide in SFY 2013. (Details on the budget and narrative are noted in Section 2 of the SDA.)
3. A statement attesting to your agreement to the FES Considerations as noted in the attached document titled FES Considerations SFY 2013.

All documents must be submitted via hard copy to the following address:

DPHHS/TANF Program  
Attn: Del Bock  
PO Box 202925  
Helena, MT 59620-2925

Please contact me at (406) 444-9478 with any questions. Also, please forward to anyone I might have missed.

Thanks,  
Del Bock  
TANF Program Manager

## THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 5, 2009

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Tribal Consultation

The United States has a unique legal and political relationship with Indian tribal governments, established through and confirmed by the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, executive orders, and judicial decisions. In recognition of that special relationship, pursuant to Executive Order 13175 of November 6, 2000, executive departments and agencies (agencies) are charged with engaging in regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials in the development of Federal policies that have tribal implications, and are responsible for strengthening the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Indian tribes.

History has shown that failure to include the voices of tribal officials in formulating policy affecting their communities has all too often led to undesirable and, at times, devastating and tragic results. By contrast, meaningful dialogue between Federal officials and tribal officials has greatly improved Federal policy toward Indian tribes. Consultation is a critical ingredient of a sound and productive Federal-tribal relationship.

My Administration is committed to regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials in policy decisions that have tribal implications including, as an initial step, through complete and consistent implementation of Executive Order 13175. Accordingly, I hereby direct each agency head to submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), within 90 days after the date of this memorandum, a detailed plan of actions the agency will take to implement the policies and directives of Executive Order 13175. This plan shall be developed after consultation by the agency with Indian tribes and tribal officials as defined in Executive Order 13175. I also direct each agency head to submit to the Director of the OMB, within 270 days after the date of this memorandum, and annually thereafter, a progress report on the status of each action included in its plan together with any proposed updates to its plan.

Each agency's plan and subsequent reports shall designate an appropriate official to coordinate implementation of the plan and preparation of progress reports required by this memorandum. The Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy and the Director of the OMB shall review agency plans and subsequent reports for consistency with the policies and directives of Executive Order 13175.

In addition, the Director of the OMB, in coordination with the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, shall submit to me, within 1 year from the date of this memorandum, a report on more (OVER) 2 the implementation of Executive Order 13175 across the executive branch based on the review of agency plans and progress reports. Recommendations for improving the plans and making the tribal consultation process more effective, if any, should be included in this report.

The terms "Indian tribe," "tribal officials," and "policies that have tribal implications" as used in this memorandum are as defined in Executive Order 13175.

The Director of the OMB is hereby authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

This memorandum is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person. Executive departments and agencies shall carry out the provisions of this memorandum to the extent permitted by law and consistent with their statutory and regulatory authorities and their enforcement mechanisms.

BARACK OBAMA

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**2-15-142. Guiding principles.** In formulating or implementing policies or administrative rules that have direct tribal implications, a state agency should consider the following principles:

- (1) a commitment to cooperation and collaboration;
- (2) mutual understanding and respect;
- (3) regular and early communication;
- (4) a process of accountability for addressing issues; and
- (5) preservation of the tribal-state relationship.

**History:** En. Sec. 2, Ch. 568, L. 2003.

*Provided by Montana Legislative Services*

**MT DPHHS---Family Economic Security (FES)**  
**Tribal Government Collaboration Projects 2009-2012**

- 1-How can DPHHS/FES Branch exclude the Service Delivery Area of the Flathead Reservation home to the Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribes in the awarding of FES funds when they were original partners?
- 2-How can DPHHS/HCSO extend a "term limited" contract that ended June 30, 2011 with Rural Dynamics, Inc. without a soliciting by RFP for services to Native Americans and without Montana Tribal Governments Collaborations as per State Law?
- 3-Did DPHHS/HCSO follow the OMB Circulars and State requirements by providing a Request For Proposal for FES funds in a fair and equitable manner as outlined in MCA Title 49 for all MT Tribes?
- 4-Does the award of the FES funds fit with the Governor's commitment and continued efforts to provide open communication and consultation with the Tribal Governments?
- 5-Did RDI provide services to tribal members of Fort Belknap and Rocky Boy Reservations as agreed by their Tribal Governments as per 2010 FES award? Outcomes? Does on-line training cost the same as high wage, high demand paid OJT green construction trades training?

**July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010-FES Tribal Governments Collaboration**

- FES Funding: RFP # 0910017 Tribal Government Collaboration
- Service Delivery Area-Tribal Government Collaboration with Blackfeet, Flathead, Fort Belknap & Rocky Boy Reservations
- Funding Amount: \$341,883  
High Wage, High Demand Occupations with paid on-the-job training wages, green energy, college credit & coordination with tribal colleges to assist with the *Indian Count* projects, financial skills with job placement w/contractors, unions & tribes & continual retention services.
- Contractor: Montana Peaks, Inc. with four Montana Indian Reservations partners above.

**July & August 2010-Opportunity Lin, Inc.-Continuation FES Tribal Governments Collaboration**

- FES Funding: Tribal Government Collaboration (*One-time, 60 day project*)
- Service Delivery Area: Blackfeet, Fort Belknap & Rocky Boy Reservations (Flathead Reservation was not included because Opportunity Link was completing a training that was a continuance in Havre of the Green project listed above.)
- Funding Amount: \$66,169.  
High Wage, High Demand Occupations with paid on-the-job training wages, college credit, green energy, financial skills including job placements and retention services.
- Contractor: Opportunity Link with mandatory partnerships above & below.
- Mandatory Partnerships: Opportunity Link's has established partnerships in the eleven surrounding North Central counties, with Tribal Governments and with the Tribal Colleges and MSU Northern MT College. CSKT excluded from services for short-term project completion of green training center.

**Sept, Oct, Nov & Dec 2010---NO FES TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS projects funded.**

The "Green" Havre Training Center was completed, full equipped July 2010 and left without any FES Tribal Governments funding to provide training to Native Americans. How many people could have been trained? Does it make sense to fund the training of a green training center and leave the center without training services?

**January-June 2011 (Specifically a 6 month FES contract with no continuance clause, 1/1/11-6/30/11)**  
**Contract renewed July 1, 2011 for \$341,883 without a required RFP solicitation and without regard to the Statutory Principles of State-Tribal Relations law and exclusion of CSKT from services.**

- RFP # 1115096MG Family Economic Security-Tribal Government Collaboration
- Service Delivery Area: Blackfeet, Fort Belknap & Rocky Boy Reservations (*Flathead Reservation was not included in this RFP even though services to them were included in the original award.*)
- Funding Amount: \$273,154-1/1/11-6/30/11
- Funding Amount-Extended Contract to RDI without RFP or consultation of Montana Tribal Governments 7/1/2011: \$341,883
- Project: On-Line Workforce & Financial Literacy Training
- FES Contract Awarded to: Rural Dynamics, Inc. Did they have the required Tribal Government agreements at submission of their proposal? Outcomes from on-line training?

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PROPOSERS**

Governor Schweitzer and those in his administration firmly believe that all Montanans should have economic security for themselves and their families. Governor Schweitzer is committed to creating stable families through the development of personal, social and financial assets. The governor recognizes that strong families contribute to strong communities and an equally strong economy. It is the hope of this administration that this RFP will bring together collaborative community groups to assist Montana Families, businesses and consumers in the development of a strong economy through the economic security of families. **Term of the contract is from January 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011.**

**A. GOALS OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The State of Montana, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), Human and Community Services Division in conjunction with the office of Governor Schweitzer is seeking to contract for the delivery of: A Family Economic Security Program through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant encompassing all or a portion of the following service area: **Blackfeet, Rocky Boy and Fort Belknap Reservation areas including Glacier, Hill, Liberty, Phillips, Blaine and Chouteau Counties and outlying areas of Pondera, Teton and Toole Counties.** The goal of this proposal is to develop projects to ensure that low-income Montanans have access to Montana's economic development.

**B. General Description of Contracted Services**

This RFP is designed to improve family economic security by adding innovative services that are documented to improve financial literacy and assist in building personal assets for families.

Proposals must target the following individuals: 1) Those adults over the age of 18 who are not receiving TANF cash assistance whose household gross income is at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level and who have a minor child residing in their household (otherwise TANF-eligible); or 2) Anyone age 16—18 or up to age 19 if still in high school (receiving TANF or not) whose household gross income is at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. Proposals developing innovative services or innovative uses of current services are recommended. Outcome measures must be identified at onset (in the written proposal) and consistent data must be collected throughout the project. Upon the completion of the demonstrations, the results will be used to suggest systemic changes that will promote low-income families' engagement in Montana's economy. These target families must have demonstrated qualifications by having stable housing, health, employment and transportation and have made or are willing to make the commitment to participate voluntarily in personal, financial and economic growth through education, training or other services.

TANF funds available for this specific RFP are **\$273,154.**