



City Council Report

Date: April 15, 2019
To: City Council
Through: Christopher J. Brady, City Manager
From: Scott J. Butler, Deputy City Manager, Government Relations
Subject: Resolution of support for the submittal of a grant application by Mesa United Way to the Ak-Chin Indian Community in the amount of \$20,000 for their Mesa Veterans Resource Center emergency assistance programming and authorizing the City Manager to accept and administer subsequent awarded funds as a pass-through grant.

Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for Mesa United Way's application to Ak-Chin Indian Community for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$20,000 in funding for their Mesa Veterans Resource Center emergency assistance programming. A Council Resolution supports this effort to secure a grant and commits the city to receive it on behalf of the non-profit and pass it through in its entirety to them if awarded. As these programs serve the needs of City of Mesa residents, staff recommendation is for Council to adopt this resolution.

Background

Mesa United Way is a local nonprofit agency that provides programs and services for a number of local nonprofit agencies and programs. Their Veterans Resource Center provides veterans with access to resources including employment assistance, food, referrals to shelter, transportation, and community building programs. The center offers help to vets in need at a location easily accessible access for those in the East Valley. These support funds would provide assistance to veterans needing employment training, food, temporary emergency shelter, or transportation costs.

This program impacts an average of 120 Mesa veterans per month.

Discussion

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for Mesa United Way to file their 2019 application and be considered for funding from Ak-Chin Indian Community. Mesa's participation in Proposition 202 Indian Gaming Grants has returned over \$1 billion to Arizona communities since its passage in 2002 from four surrounding tribal governments.

Alternatives

The only alternative to adopting this resolution would be to not adopt. Such an action would deny Mesa sponsorship for this request and require Mesa United Way to seek an alternate local government for access to this funding source.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact on the City of Mesa, should this grant be awarded for Mesa United Way, will be negligible except overhead expenses in accounting to accept and reissue the grant check. The City does not administer the grant and signs an MOU or IGA with each tribe to limit our liability to only the pass-through transaction.