



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 A New Leaf to the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation in the amount of \$10,000 for their Mesa Community Action Network (MesaCAN) program and approving 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 A New Leaf's application to Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$10,000 in funding for their Mesa Community Action Network (MesaCAN) program. 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 Community Action Network (MesaCAN), a subsidiary of A New Leaf, is a non-profit community action agency offering direct services to economically disadvantaged residents of Mesa. MesaCAN provides utility and rent assistance, financial coaching, matched savings programs, employment resources, and financial and case management services to individuals and families facing an immediate crisis that impacts their housing, utilities, health, and/or safety. Individuals can access Career Services that include resume building, interview skills, job search, and many other employment services.

MesaCAN connects Mesa resident with the resources, help, and support they need to increase their stability and security. The services provided help to combat current and future homelessness, eviction, and utility disconnection, and also support financial wellbeing through employment support and financial coaching. In the long-term, services enable households to achieve/regain their economic stability leading to increased self-sufficiency. MesaCAN anticipates serving 4,574 unduplicated households in fiscal year 2020.

Discussion

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for A New Leaf to file their application by May 1, 2019 and be considered for funding from Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation. 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 A New Leaf 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 A New Leaf, 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.