



City Council Report

Date: May 20, 2013
To: City Council
Through: Christopher J. Brady, City Manager
From: Scott J. Butler, Assistant to the City Manager, Government Relations
Subject: Resolution of Support for a grant application from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arizona to the Gila River Indian Community requesting a total of \$45,000 over two years to support Community-based Mentoring.

Strategic Initiative:



Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arizona's application to the Gila River Indian Community for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$45,000 over two years in program expenses for their Mesa Community Based Mentoring Program. The Council Resolution supports this effort to secure the grant and commits the City to receive it on behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters, and pass it through in its entirety to them if awarded. Staff recommendation is for Council to adopt this resolution.

Background

The requested grant will support the Mesa Community Based Mentoring Program over two years to serve approximately 246 children in Mesa. The funding will provide each with a screened and trained mentor to improve their self-esteem and confidence while going through adversities. By providing positive role models this program can produce greater economic benefits to the community by improved educational outcomes, reduced violence and crime, and lower rates of incarceration of the children served.

Discussion

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for Big Brothers Big Sisters to file their application by June 7, 2013 and be considered for funding from the Gila River Indian Community. Mesa's participation in Proposition 202 Indian Gaming Grants has returned over \$9 million to our community since its

passage in 2002 from five 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 Big Brothers Big Sisters seek an alternate local government for access to this funding source.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact on the City of Mesa, should this grant eventually be awarded for Big Brothers Big Sisters 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 with each tribe to limit our liability to only the pass-through transaction.