



City Council Report

Date: April 15, 2024
To: City Council
Through: Scott J. Butler, Assistant City Manager
From: Sharon Skinner, Grants Coordinator
Subject: Resolution of support for the submittal of a grant application by Child Crisis Arizona to the Ak-Chin Indian Community in the amount of \$25,000 for their Emergency Foster Care Placement program. and approving the City Manager to accept and administer subsequent awarded funds as a pass-thru grant.

Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for Child Crisis Arizona application to Ak-Chin Indian Community for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$25,000 in funding for their Emergency Foster Care Placement 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

Child Crisis Arizona is a local nonprofit agency whose mission is to provide children and youth in Arizona a safe environment, free from abuse and neglect, by creating strong and successful families.

The Emergency Foster Care Placement program provides a safe haven for homeless children and youth in the child welfare system who were removed from their families due to abuse or neglect.

Child Crisis Arizona is headquartered in the City of Mesa, with several programs located within the city, including a Group Home, Early Head Start, Preschool and Counseling Programs. Of the children and youth served in the Emergency Foster Care Placement Services, 55 (20%) were served in or originated from Mesa. These programs provided 8,225 nights of safe sleep to Mesa foster children and youth and served 51 foster/adoptive parents (22% of all parents), representing 29 homes (21% of all facilities), in Mesa.

Discussion

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for the organization to file their application by the funder's deadline 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 the organization 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, 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.