



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 by Mercy Housing to the Gila River Indian Community for a total of \$100,000 over two years to support an intergenerational mentoring program.

Strategic Initiative:



Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for Mercy Housing's application to the Gila River Indian Community for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$100,000 over two years for an inter-generational mentoring program at their facilities in Mesa. The Council Resolution supports this effort to secure the grant and commits the City to receive it on behalf of Mercy Housing 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 Mercy Housing in providing matching funds over two years for the development of inter-generational mentoring programs at their low income housing facilities in Mesa. Project R.E.A.D.Y. – Retirees Educating, Advocating & Developing Youth – will connect elder residents and school-aged youth through educational activities that encourages relational development, mentoring and provides opportunities to engage surrogate grandparents with youth otherwise at-risk for being unsupervised during after-school hours.

Discussion

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for Mercy Housing 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 Mercy Housing 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 Mercy Housing 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.