



# City Council Report

**Date:** May 21, 2018  
**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 Furnishing Dignity to the Tohono O’odham Nation in the amount of \$9,961.38 for their “Essential Home Furnishings” program 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 Furnishing Dignity’s application to Tohono O’odham Nation for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$9,961.38 for their “Essential Home Furnishings” 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**

Furnishing Dignity was founded in October 2014 by Joyce Petrowski. The mission of Furnishing Dignity is helping individuals and families dwell in dignity by providing furnishings and other essential household items to transform a house into a home.

Funding from Tohono O’odham will be used strictly for youth aging out of the foster care system, and individuals and families transitioning from homelessness in Mesa and the surrounding areas. With the requested funds, Furnishing Dignity can serve 43 people.

## **Discussion**

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for Furnishing Dignity to file their application by June 1, 2018 and be considered for funding from Tohono O’odham 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 Furnishing Dignity 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 Furnishing Dignity, 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.