



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 Native American Fatherhood and Families Association to the Ak-Chin Indian Community in the amount of \$50,000 for their Parent Resource Center, 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 Native American Fatherhood and Families Association application to Ak-Chin Indian Community for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$50,000 in funding for their Parent Resource Center. 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

NAFFA, a Mesa-based 501c3 nonprofit founded in 2002, has fulfilled its mission to strengthen, keep, and reunite families by responsibly involving fathers and mothers in the lives of their children, families, and communities for over twenty years. NAFFA has seen its vision to inspire fathers and mothers to become models of healthy parenting everywhere come to fruition as facilitators take culturally rich curricula to over 300 tribes and communities across North America.

NAFFA's Parent Resource Center would be yet another fulfillment of this mission and vision by providing support, education, and resources to Native and non-Native participants throughout our community. The PRC will incorporate NAFFA's time-honored cultural approaches, providing free parent education classes and workshops, monthly family law and child support clinics and childcare to families in the Mesa area.

Based on previous services offered, NAFFA anticipates impacting an anticipated 800 families, with over 70% of participants living below the federal poverty level. 80% of participants are projected to be Mesa residents.

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.