



City Council Report

Date: April 20, 2026
To: City Council
Through: Miranda DeWitt, Government Relations Director
From: Sharon Skinner, Grants Coordinator
Subject: Resolution of support for the submittal of a grant application by Boost a Foster Family to the Ak-Chin Indian Community in the amount of \$20,000 for their Kinship Foster Care Safety Support 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 Boost a Foster Family application to Ak-Chin Indian Community for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$20,000 in funding for their Kinship Foster Care Safety Support 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

Boost a Foster Family is a local nonprofit agency whose mission is to provide assistance for Arizona Kinship Foster Families and those seeking Kinship Foster Care Licensure.

This program helps relatives and trusted caregivers meet the safety requirements necessary for foster placements.

In 2026, Boost anticipates fulfilling more than 1,800 safety-related requests statewide, supporting approximately 3,000 foster children across Arizona. If awarded, funding from the Ak-Chin Indian Community will be dedicated exclusively to supporting kinship foster families residing in Mesa. In 2025, Boost fulfilled 145 requests for local families, supporting households caring for 442 children, including 255 foster children. Based on these service levels, Boost anticipates that this funding will support approximately 400–450 children in Mesa through kinship caregiver households, helping caregivers meet required safety standards and provide stable homes for vulnerable youth.

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.