



City Council Report

Date: May 1, 2014
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 from A.T. Still University of Health Sciences to the Gila River Indian Community for \$300,000 over three years to support outreach expansion for the Native Students Achieving Healthcare Professions program.

Strategic Initiative:



Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for A.T. Still University of Health Sciences application to the Gila River Indian Community for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$300,000 over three years to expand outreach services for the Native Students Achieving Healthcare Professions program. The Council Resolution supports this effort to secure the grant and commits the City to receive it on behalf of A.T. Still, 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 the expansion of outreach efforts for the Native Students Achieving Healthcare Professions program by creating an academic enrichment liaison position that will interface with local tribal populations and A.T. Still's partners to further strengthen the Native continuum. A.T. Still operates three health professional schools in Mesa and is a current grantee of the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) State Shared Revenue Program. Their successful Early Advancement Team youth-to-healthcare practitioner partnership with GRIC has resulted in sustainability of the largest Native enrollment in any US healthcare university and the recent graduation of six new Native physician assistants.

Discussion

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for A.T. Still to file their application by June 6, 2014 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 A.T. Still 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 eventually be awarded for A.T. Still 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.