

INDIAN WELLS CITY COUNCIL

November 2, 2023



To: City Council
From: City Manager Department
Prepared by: Kristen Nelson, Senior Management Analyst
Subject: **Grants-in-Aid Committee Recommendations for FY 2023-24 Grants-in-Aid Program Funding**

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Council **APPROVES** Grants-in-Aid Committee funding recommendations totaling \$159,954 for the organizations listed in this staff report for Fiscal Year 2023-24; and

AUTHORIZES and **DIRECTS** the City Manager to execute contracts for same.

BACKGROUND

The City recognizes the importance of community-based organizations and/or groups, and the vital role they play in providing essential services to the Coachella Valley. To assist these organizations in meeting their service needs, the City developed its Grants-in-Aid program to provide financial assistance during years of financial surplus. To assist the City in dispersing those funds, the City formed its Grants-in-Aid Committee ("Committee") consisting of a broad-based cross section of informed and dedicated residents who review and analyze requesting agencies' funding requests and make recommendations on the annual allocation of funding to the City Council during those surplus years.

Funding for the City's Grants-in-Aid program is vetted each year through the City Council budget cycle. Per Resolution 2017-04, the amount of community assistance funding is a maximum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the prior year's General Fund's Net Change in Fund Balance using year end estimates established during the last quarter of each fiscal year, not to exceed \$160,000 during each budget year. While the city is still finalizing the audit cycle, Fiscal Year 2022-23 is estimated to end with a \$1.2 million surplus. Therefore, per the City's policy, the maximum amount of \$160,000 is available to be allocated through the Grants-in-Aid program for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

Analysis:

In August, the city hosted two education sessions for interested organizations to learn about the Grants-in-Aid program. Staff provided an overview of the program guidelines and application process and answered attendee questions.

The Grants-in-Aid program gives tax-exempt, non-profit organizations under Section 501(c)(3) with at least 5 years in business the opportunity to apply for funding to assist with community assistance and services provided to the Coachella Valley. Eligible requests include expansion of initial service programs, the addition of a new service or program or special project, or the purchase of specific items, not related to start-up costs, but necessary to providing services. Funding cannot be used for staffing or salaries, fundraising, sponsorships, start-up costs, administrative or overhead expenses.

The Grants-in-Aid Committee reviewed each application to ensure they met the program guidelines and to understand their funding request. The Grants-in-Aid Committee met on October 10, 2023, to discuss funding recommendations for 24 Grants-in-Aid requests totaling \$232,454. After reviewing all 24 applications, the Grants-in-Aid Committee is recommending funding 19 of the 24 applicants for a total of \$159,954.

Recommended Organizations for Funding:

The Grants-in-Aid Committee recommends the City Council allocate the \$160,000 in available funding to the following organizations:

Alzheimer's Coachella Valley: recommended funding of **\$10,000** for the purchase and installation of projectors for video programming in their Club Journey program which supports families struggling with dementia.

American Friends of our Armed Forces: recommended funding of **\$10,500** for the transportation of Marines from their Base to their Host Families and back for the Adopt a Marine for Thanksgiving Program.

Angel View: recommended funding of **\$12,464** for the purchase of replacement computers for their Immediate Care Facilities for the Intellectually Disabled to assist providers with digital medical record keeping.

Assistance League: recommended funding of **\$10,000** for Operation School Bell, providing new school clothes to socioeconomically disadvantaged, low-income elementary school children.

Big Brothers Big Sisters: recommended funding of **\$10,000** to support their Mentorship Program partnership with Cathedral City Boys & Girls Club whose goal is to match in-need youth with high school or college-aged mentors.

Coachella Valley Housing Coalition: recommended funding of **\$5,000** to support their after-school programming available to children residing in their low-income housing developments.

Desert Arc: recommended funding of **\$10,000** toward the purchase of three (3) replacement Portacool Evaporative Cooler Systems for the warehouse of the Recycling Center.

Coachella Valley Youth Golf Foundation: recommended funding of **\$10,000** in support of their expanding First Tee Coachella Valley's School Program.

Food Now: recommended funding of **\$5,000** to support the Health Food Accessibility Project addressing impoverished families and individuals, those confined to their homes, and children.

Friends of the Desert Mountains: recommended funding of **\$10,000** in support of their efforts to provide environmental education and STEAM curriculum to underserved children in the Eastern Coachella Valley.

Loving All Animals: recommended funding of **\$5,000** to support training programs designed to help shelter animals become more adoptable.

Neuro Vitality Foundation: recommended funding of **\$5,000** toward the Fellowship Assistance Program which helps offset the costs remaining after insurance for stroke and brain injury patients.

Read With Me Volunteer Programs: recommended funding of **\$5,000** for the purchase of 1,000 books to be distributed to English-language challenged elementary school children in the Coachella Valley.

RiteCare Childhood Language Center: recommended funding of **\$15,000** in support of their Speech-Language Therapy Program which provides intensive speech-language evaluations and therapy services to children aged 3-17 years.

Riverside County Foundation on Aging: recommended funding of **\$5,000** to supply grocery gift cards to 200 underserved, impoverished seniors in the Coachella Valley.

Shay's Warriors: recommended funding of **\$5,000** to support services for cancer survivors and their families.

United Cerebral Palsy: recommended funding of **\$8,990** to support the Para-Karate Program which allows individuals with disabilities to participate in a competitive sport.

Variety Children’s Charity: recommended funding of **\$10,000** to support the services provided to low-income, special needs children in Variety’s Freedom, Future and Care Programs.

Olive Crest: recommended funding of **\$8,000** to support the Community Engagement Initiative designed to help prevent and end child abuse and neglect.

Each organization that will receive funding is required to execute a Funding Agreement with the City documenting the authorized use of funds and will, at the conclusion of the Fiscal Year, provide the City with a report on how the funds were utilized and the impact those dollars had on the organization and the community it serves.

OPTIONS:

Council options:

1. Approve the Grants-in-Aid Committee’s recommendation to allocate Grants-in-Aid funding as outlined in this staff report; or
2. Provide alternative direction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No supplemental appropriation required. The Grants-in-Aid Program utilizes funds allocated within the Fiscal Year 2023-24 budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Funding Allocation Spreadsheet