



STAFF REPORT
2/26/2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Jaime Arroyo, Grants Manager

SUBJECT: Authorize a Community-Based Grant to the Theresa A. Mike Foundation in the Amount of \$1,000 to Support its College Scholarship Program

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council consider awarding a Community-Based Grant (CBG) to the Theresa A. Mike Foundation in the amount of \$1,000 to support its college scholarship program.

BACKGROUND:

Established in 1998, the Theresa A. Mike Scholarship Foundation is a nonprofit organization that awards individual scholarships to full time, enrolled tribal members of any tribe across the United States, and/or full-time non-native students from the Coachella Valley and the Morongo Basin. It was established in honor of Theresa Mike's legacy, who was a member of the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians located in Coachella and descendant from the Lummi Nation in Bellingham, Washington. The Scholarship honors her commitment to developing a sense of cultural richness, history and future for the people of her tribe. Since it was created, the Foundation has awarded over \$1,000,000 to help deserving scholars fund their educational dreams.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

This scholarship will be awarded to an outstanding City of Coachella resident enrolled in a local community college or university interested in supporting their community. Recipients are usually students who demonstrate extra-curricular activities and community service that relate to their education. In addition to the City's support, every year the Foundation hosts a fashion show that serves as its primary fundraiser supported by in-kind donations, raffles, silent auctions, and sponsorship sales. This year's event will take place on June 14, 2025. All proceeds go towards the scholarship fund. The Theresa A. Mike Scholarship Foundation will select its scholarship candidate by June 30, 2025 in time for the Fall semester.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a Community Based Grant in the amount of \$1,000
2. Do not award a Community Based Grant

FISCAL IMPACT:

Should the City Council approve the staff recommendation, the Community-Based Grant Program account will be reduced by \$1,000.

ATTACHMENT(S):

CBG Application Packet