



**STAFF REPORT**  
**1/28/2026**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Mary Rodriguez, Grants Manager

**SUBJECT:** Authorize a Community-Based Grant to Coachella Valley Little Arabs in the Amount of \$1,000 to Support their Youth Football Program

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council consider awarding a Community-Based Grant to the Coachella Valley Little Arabs to support their youth football programming in the amount of \$1,000 for the purchase of equipment refurbishment, participant sponsorships, and end-of-season activities.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Community Based Grant Program was established in 2010 and allows the City of Coachella to offer financial assistance to local nonprofit organizations, schools, youth-serving organizations, and other community-based organizations that provide essential services, programs and activities to residents in Coachella. Applicant organizations are only eligible to submit one application for consideration each fiscal year and must be legally established with non-profit or tax-exempt status, be based in the Coachella Valley, or provide direct service to Coachella residents. The FY 25-26 budget includes an allocation of \$15,000 for the Community Based Grant Program.

**DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:**

Coachella Valley Little Arabs is a community-based youth football organization committed to serving children ages 9 to 13, primarily from middle-income Hispanic families residing on the eastern side of the Coachella Valley. The program actively recruits youth from City of Coachella elementary and middle schools and prioritizes participation from local residents.

The organization's football season typically runs from June through December. During the most recent season, one of the organization's teams achieved a historic milestone by qualifying for the National Championships in Florida, reflecting the program's positive youth development outcomes and community impact. Requested grant funds will be used to sponsor youth participants in need, refurbish and replace essential field equipment, and support end-of-season awards. Specifically, funding would assist with the purchase of safety equipment, including

helmets and shoulder pads, as well as support fundraising efforts necessary to sustain the remainder of the season. Helmets are estimated at approximately \$120 per unit, with a need for five new helmets, and shoulder pads are estimated at \$55 per unit, with a need for ten new sets.

The organization plans to sustain the program beyond the grant period through continued fundraising efforts and community sponsorships, including private contributions such as a documented \$1,000 sponsorship from Electrical Solutions.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Authorize a Community-Based Grant to the Coachella Valley Little Arabs in the amount of \$1,000.
2. Do not authorize a Community-Based Grant to the Coachella Valley Little Arabs.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

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

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

Coachella Valley Little Arabs Grant Application Packet