



**STAFF REPORT**  
**6/12/2024**

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

**FROM:** Jaime Arroyo, Grants Manager

**SUBJECT:** Authorize a Community-Based Grant to the Read with Me Book Donation Program in the Amount of \$2,000 to Purchase and Distribute Books to Five Coachella Elementary Schools

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council consider awarding a Community-Based Grant (CBG) to the Read with Me Book Donation Program in the amount of \$2,000 to purchase and distribute books to five Coachella elementary schools.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Community Based Grant Program was established in 2010 and allows the City of Coachella to offer financial assistance to local nonprofit organizations, 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. Approval of grant funds does not constitute a precedent for grant allocations in subsequent years. All CBG grants are reimbursement grants to ensure that applicants are meeting their stated goals. The FY 23-24 budget included an allocation of \$15,000 for the Community Based Grant Program.

**DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:**

The 20-year-old Read with Me Volunteer Program helps children from low income, limited English speaking environments develop to their fullest potential by learning to read, comprehend and speak English. They do this through recruiting and training more than 600 volunteers to work with elementary school children in their classrooms, and to provide nearly 33,000 books to 11,500 children in 20 schools. The program focuses on giving books tailored specifically to the needs of our struggling students, with a strong emphasis on diversity, equity and inclusion. This funding will help in providing books for 750 children from the following Coachella schools: Cesar Chavez Elementary, Palm View Elementary, Peter Pendleton Elementary, Valle Del Sol Elementary, and Valley View Elementary.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Award a Community Based Grant in the amount of \$2,000.
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 \$2,000.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

CBG Application Packet