



STAFF REPORT

7/8/2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Mary Rodriguez, Grants Manager

SUBJECT: Authorize a Community-Based Grant to Desert Arc in the Amount of \$1,000 to support Adult Day Program Communication Equipment

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council consider awarding a Community-Based Grant (CBG) in the amount of \$1,000 to Desert Arc to support the purchase of portable two-way staff communication radios for its Adult Day Program, subject to the terms and conditions of the Community-Based Grant Program.

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 25-26 budget included an allocation for the Community-Based Grant Program.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

Desert Arc has been serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1959. The organization enhances quality of life and creates opportunities for adults with disabilities through its Adult Day Program and supported employment services. According to the grant application, Desert Arc currently serves 69 clients from the City of Coachella and employs 54 Coachella residents.

The requested Community-Based Grant funding will be used to purchase portable two-way staff communication radios (walkie-talkies) for Desert Arc's Adult Day Program. These communication devices are essential for maintaining client safety, supervision, and staff coordination throughout the day. As a licensed Adult Day Program, Desert Arc is required to maintain direct supervision of participants, many of whom have significant medical, behavioral, mobility, and communication support needs.

The radios allow direct support professionals to quickly communicate needs, coordinate coverage, request assistance, and respond to medical or emergency situations. They are also utilized during daily activities, client transitions, and transportation loading and unloading procedures to ensure participant safety and efficient operations.

In addition to its Adult Day Program services, Desert Arc provides employment and training

opportunities through its Shredding & Recycling, Landscape Maintenance, Janitorial, and Fulfillment divisions. The organization also maintains a strong presence within the City of Coachella through partnerships with the City and local businesses.

Staff has determined that the proposed use of funds aligns with the goals of the Community-Based Grant Program by supporting services that directly benefit Coachella residents with disabilities and promote their health, safety, and well-being.

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