



STAFF REPORT

8/12/2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Mary Rodriguez, Grants Manager

SUBJECT: Authorize a Community-Based Grant to the Carreón Foundation in the Amount of \$1,000 to Provide Post-Secondary Scholarship Support to Underserved Students in the City of Coachella

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council consider awarding a Community-Based Grant (CBG) in the amount of \$1,000 to the Carreón Foundation in the Amount of \$1,000 to provide postsecondary scholarship assistance to underserved students in the City of Coachella.

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.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The Carreón Foundation submitted an application requesting \$1,000 to provide direct scholarship assistance to underserved students in the City of Coachella who are pursuing postsecondary education. The Foundation has operated since 1991 and has served students throughout the Coachella Valley for approximately 35 years. The requested funds would support at least one verified City resident during the 2026–2027 academic year. The grant funds will be used exclusively for eligible educational expenses, including tuition, books, supplies, technology, and transportation. No City funds will be used for salaries, benefits, fundraising, or administrative costs. The program is intended to benefit a verified City of Coachella resident with demonstrated financial need by reducing barriers to higher education. In addition to scholarship funding, the selected student will receive mentoring, academic advising, financial aid guidance, career planning, and other college-success resources. The Foundation reports that four City of Coachella residents received scholarships during the 2024–2025 academic year.

Staff finds the request consistent with the objectives of the Community-Based Grant Program by supporting educational opportunity for City residents. The application identifies a clear public benefit, provides the required matching funds, limits City funding to eligible direct program expenses, and demonstrates an established history of serving Coachella Valley students.

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 leaving a balance of \$14,000 in the fund.

ATTACHMENT(S):

CBG Application Packet