



### Grants Review Committee Minutes

**Monday, September 18, 2023, at 1:30 PM Pacific Time**

RAP Foundation, 41-550 Eclectic St., Palm Desert, CA 92260

6114 Terrace Dr Johnston, Iowa 50130

60 Bordeaux, Rancho Mirage 92270

Via Sandro Pertini, 2 9, Florence, 50127, Italy

Board members must attend in person. The public may participate in person or by way of Zoom/Teleconference:

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84293619987>

Meeting ID 842 9361 9987 Call In: (669) 900-6833 US

This meeting will be conducted in-person and is consistent with Governor Newsom's Assembly Bill 2449 preserving AB 361 and adding two more options for hybrid meetings: "Just cause" and "emergency circumstances".

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Craig Borba (Chair), Rosemary Ortega (Vice-Chair), Ann Dew, Aurora Wilson, Maria Meyer, Mike Gialdini, Van Tanner

#### I. CALL TO ORDER: Roll call

#### II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: **Action Required**

**Staff Recommendation:** To approve the September 18, 2023, Grants Review Committee Agenda.

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Persons wishing to speak are requested to be recognized at the appropriate time. General comments regarding non-agenda items will be called for at this time. Specific comments regarding agenda items will be called for during discussion of each item. Please be prepared to limit your Public Comment remarks to three (3) minutes

#### IV. APPROVE GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: ([Attach 1](#)) **Action Required**

**Staff Recommendation:** To approve the July 17, 2023, Grants Review Committee Meeting Minutes.

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

#### V. REVIEW OF FY2023-2024 GRANTS TRACKER: ([Attach 2](#))

#### VI. GRANT FUNDING REQUEST:

**Sponsorship Grant #1 at 1:40 PM ([Attach 3](#)) Action Required**

Organization:	Palms to Pines Paraspots
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Program:	<i>Fishing Derby and Community Inclusive Fair</i>
Requested Amount:	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<p>The eastern part of the Coachella Valley does not have equitable resources as compared to other parts of the Valley for people with disabilities. SoCal Adaptive Sports has been working with Coachella Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) since December 2022 in regards to our school program, Sports for everyBODY (SEB). We will continue to work with CVUSD during the upcoming school year through SEB and also providing consistent 1day/week adapted sports. Desert Recreation District-Adaptive is providing very limited programming in the eastern Coachella Valley. This Project is designed to not only offer a fishing derby through We Can Fish!, but also providing disability resource information through having a number of non-profits in attendance. We will also be providing adapted sports for participants to try and introducing the community to Aziz Farms in Thermal.</p>	
Representative:	Michael Rosenkrantz
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$5,000; Sponsorship FY22-23: \$2,500

**Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$5,000**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**Small Grant #1 at 2:00 PM (Attach 4) Action Required**

Organization:	<b>Palms to Pines Parasports</b>
Program:	<i>Leveling the Playing Field, Providing More Choices for People with Disabilities</i>
Requested Amount:	<b>\$10,000</b>
<p>Exposing the neuro-typical and able-bodied community to the power of offering programs and/or including people with disability is vital to creating a more inclusive society. This is important to ensuring that we build community, not by exclusion but through inclusion. We continue to provide a full array of adapted sports-standing/wheelchair basketball, tennis, pickleball, hiking, bocchia and other sports for people with disabilities but also through exposing the neuro-typical, able-bodied community to these sports. We will also continue to explore art, music, attend sporting events. Our first skating event will be held at the Berger Iceplex on July 30 and we hope to grow this. A colleague, Paloma French, and I trained skating/hockey coaches on June 17 at the Iceplex in preparation for skating. Based on interest we hope to expand skating into possibly special needs and others types of adapted hockey, but this is in the future. In addition to offering a wide variety of programs focused on people with disabilities, we are also implementing a school-based program, Sports for everyBODY, geared towards all students. To date, we have worked with over 2300 students in collaboration with CVUSD. This program will continue to be offered during the next school year and beyond, creating greater awareness about capabilities and enabling all students to experience adapted sports.</p>	
Representative:	Michael Rosenkrantz
Reviewer's Scores:	<b>71%</b> Three reviewers scoring: 63, 73, 77
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$5,000; Sponsorship FY22-23: \$2,500

**Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**Small Grant #2 at 2:20 PM (Attach 5) Action Required**

Organization:	CSUSB Philanthropic Foundation
Program:	CSUSB Department of Nursing Street Medicine Program
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
<p>The CSUSB Nursing Street Medicine Program (NSMP) engages nursing students and faculty of the California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) Palm Desert Campus to support healthcare services for underserved people in the Coachella Valley. The NSMP fulfills a human service need in the community for those identified as medically underserved; services benefit the sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations, migrant workers, and their families in the Coachella Valley, including veterans, seniors, mentally ill people, substance users, uninsured and underinsured, persons of color, and bilingual people. The NSMP treats all persons in need, is compassionate in giving care, and delivers services with our partners through nurse clinics, resource agencies, or food pantries/kitchens in various Coachella Valley locations where families and persons frequent or reside.</p>	
Representative:	Deborah Logan
Reviewer's Scores:	90% Four reviewers scoring: 80, 83, 97, 100
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$5,000

**Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**Small Grant #3 at 2:40 PM (Attach 6) Action Required**

Organization:	California CareForce
Program:	Free Healthcare Clinic Coachella
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
<p>The three-day free healthcare clinic will be held on March 8 - 10, 2024, at the Empire Polo Grounds, Indio, CA, providing free dental, vision, and medical care to 2,500 underinsured and underserved patients living in the Coachella Valley. California CareForce provides vulnerable communities access to quality healthcare. Historically, these groups are very often disconnected from traditional healthcare settings and require support in accessing healthcare. Delivering the necessary services without fees and complex paperwork, eliminates logistical barriers to traditional forms of healthcare and encourages vulnerable populations to receive the necessary care they need. Barriers to healthcare in the Coachella Valley include limited English proficiency, lack of insurance, lack of transportation, and fear of deportation. Our plan to increase clinic participation throughout Riverside County, includes expanding our relationship with the University of California-Riverside's (UC Riverside) Coachella Valley Free Clinic to market the California CareForce free healthcare clinic and increase access to the Latinx and Pure Pecha populations. UC Riverside will utilize promotoras to promote the event and work with the community to establish transportation options to the clinic.</p>	
Representative:	Carol Fisher
Reviewer's Scores:	89% Three reviewers scoring: 83, 90, 93
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

**Staff Recommendation: To deny the request as a Small Grant but approve \$5,000 as a Sponsorship for supplies. California CareForce will have to resubmit a Sponsorship application for their three-day free healthcare clinic.**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**Sponsorship #2 at 3:00 PM (Attach 7) Action Required**

Organization:	<b>Family Service Association</b>
Program:	<i>HOPE for the Holidays</i>
Requested Amount:	<b>\$5,000</b>
Every year, a large toy drive is held across Riverside County known as “HOPE for the Holidays”. This event not only provides foster children and youth with a toy, but they also receive a warm blanket, essential toiletries, and a duffle bag to tote their belongings with integrity in a difficult period of life. Children who are in foster care within our County have their basic needs met, but often lack additional security and comfort items. HOPE for the Holidays was specially designed to make the holidays brighter for many of the children in our foster care system. Through this grant, FSA will provide a range of toys, books, clothing, and/or hygiene items for children and teenagers in foster care. This grant is specifically focused on supporting the cost of toys/gifts for children who are in foster care in the Coachella Valley.	
Representative:	Ahlam Jadallah
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

**Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$5,000**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**Small Grant #4 at 3:20 PM (Attach 8) Action Required**

Organization:	<b>Transgender Health and Wellness Center</b>
Program:	<i>Marsha P. Johnson Youth Drop-In Center</i>
Requested Amount:	<b>\$10,000</b>
The Marsha P Johnson Youth Drop-in Center is a juvenile intervention to help mitigate the risk of LGBTQ youth in the foster system, homeless or in abusive homes to end up in juvenile detention centers that do not understand and are ill equipped to deal with transgender, gender diverse, intersex youth (TGI), and LGBTQ. This center will help mitigate that risk as well as provide supportive services for the youth in terms of mental health services, programming specific to their needs if they are homelessness, trying to get out of sex trafficking, or kicked out by their families for being who they are. There are opportunities to provide services for the parents who are willing to be educated on best practices for supporting their youth. School leaders that need best practices for supporting their TGI, LGBTQ students.	
Representative:	Thomi Clinton
Reviewer’s Scores:	<b>77%</b> Three reviewers scoring: 63, 77, 93
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

**Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000.00**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**Small Grant #5 at 3:40 PM (Attach 9) Action Required**

Organization:	<b>Grassroots Junior Tennis</b>
Program:	<i>Grassroots Junior Tennis, Inc</i>
Requested Amount:	<b>\$7,000</b>
Located in the Coachella Valley, Grassroots Junior Tennis (GRJT) has instructed over 900 youth of all socioeconomic backgrounds since 2004. Children are primarily low-income and under resourced. This year 90% of participating youth are Hispanic. Youth primarily come from the Palm Springs and Desert Sands Unified School District. Each year, two four-month sessions of after school classes are offered by GRJT three times per week during the school year at Ruth Hardy Park, Palm Springs. Four tournaments and special events are also offered during the season.	
Representative:	Kay Butler
Reviewer's Scores:	<b>88%</b> Three reviewers scoring: 77, 93, 93
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$5,000

**Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$7,000.00**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**Small Grant #6 at 4:00 PM (Attach 10) Action Required**

Organization:	<b>Pregnancy Refuge Center</b>
Program:	<i>Refuge Education Center</i>
Requested Amount:	<b>\$10,000</b>
In recent months an increasing number of Arab and Asian parents are seeking support. A significant number of families from additional cultural backgrounds, such as Portuguese, Persian/Arab and Asian, have been referred from the Galilee Center in Mecca. The majority of the clients speak English, but a significant number are more comfortable conversing in Spanish or other native languages. The recent increase in families who speak Korean or other languages, has presented new challenges. REC is seeking to meet this challenge with translation equipment and software. The REC facility expanded in the Fall 2022 and now includes three private rooms for mentoring sessions, a Baby Boutique, reception area, and staff offices. The three private rooms can be subdivided for a total of five education rooms as demand increases. A large Education/Conference room is utilized for parenting classes and support groups. While expectant fathers are encouraged to participate, individual support is available weekly for expectant mothers. Educational videos in both English and Spanish are utilized with a trained mentor to provide information on pregnancy, the birth process, and care of a newborn.	
Representative:	Michael Stearns

Reviewer's Scores:	<b>89%</b> Three reviewers scoring: 83, 87, 97
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

**Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000.00**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**Small Grant #7 at 4:20 PM (Attach 11) Action Required**

Organization:	<b>Ronnies House For Hope</b>
Program:	<i>Youth Peer Support Groups</i>
Requested Amount:	<b>\$10,000</b>
There is a large need for grief support services in our valley. Our requests for services have almost doubled over the last year, especially with the rise in overdose/poisoning deaths. Our groups support children, teens, and guardians through the grief process. We do this by doing grief activities to help them understand the very complex feelings of grief with others who have similar experiences. Due to the increase in requests for support, we are having to acquire a permanent space to allow us to do evening groups as well as school-based groups. Our goal is to head off the negative responses to death such as self-medicating, isolation, depression, anxiety, loss of interest, or even suicide. We would very much like to use this grant to assist us in getting our new center set up.	
Representative:	Jennifer Loza
Reviewer's Scores:	<b>75%</b> Three reviewers scoring: 70, 77 77
Prior RAP Funding:	COVID-19: \$10,000

**Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000.00**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**Small Grant #8 at 4:40 PM (Attach 12) Action Required**

Organization:	<b>Alzheimers Coachella Valley</b>
Program:	<i>ACV- East Valley Project</i>
Requested Amount:	<b>\$10,000</b>
ACV seeks support for its mission-based outreach and expansion project, ACV-East Valley Project, to promote health equity for the cognitively impaired and their caregivers in Eastern cities of Coachella Valley, with concentrated populations of Latinx and migrant workers. ACV has physician space in Palm Desert, part of the Eastern Riverside County known as the Coachella Valley. Coachella Valley is home to many retirees who are aging in place or residing in numerous assisted living, memory care, and retirement facilities. 39% of the population is 60 years of age and older, so ACV's vision is clear! ACV is supported by 2 paid staff, a very active Board, 2 contract support team members and 20+ dedicated volunteers. ACV understands our region is home to an aging population, prone to diagnoses of cognitive impairment.	
Representative:	Pat Kaplan
Reviewer's Scores:	<b>83%</b> Four reviewers scoring: 77, 80, 87, 87
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$3,000; Small Grant FY20-21: \$5,000

**Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000.00**

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

***Sponsorship #3 at 5:00 PM (Attach 13) Action Required***

Organization:	Alzheimers Coachella Valley
Program:	Open House 2023
Requested Amount:	\$5,000
On November 1st, 2023, Alzheimers Coachella Valley (ACV) will be hosting an Open House to welcome our members, community partners and leaders to tour our new space and learn about ACV's programs. ACV will showcase our expansion into a larger programs space in the Berger Charitable Center on Cook Street. Food and beverage will be provided by local businesses. A live jazz ensemble will be providing entertainment and ACV will announce the Annual Chuck Olson Caregiver Award to an outstanding caregiver who has been providing countless volunteer hours of support to many. With the RAP Foundation's sponsorship, we will be able to purchase A/V equipment for our new and larger Club Journey and Education space where the announcement activities will take place. This A/V equipment will be used to highlight our most recent projects, including the Screening Center, as well as showcase other ACV programs. Without the use of A/V equipment, our visual demonstrations simply will not be possible.	
Representative:	Pat Kaplan
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$3,000; Small Grant FY20-21: \$5,000

***Staff Recommendation: To approve request for \$5,000.00***

Motion:				
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

**VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a. Desert Arc returned \$24,800 from Mental Health Grant

**VIII. GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF COMMENTS:**

- a. Next scheduled meeting: Monday, October 16, 2023, at 1:30 PM

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**