



**REGIONAL ACCESS PROJECT FOUNDATION
APPROVED MINUTES**

Wednesday May 22, 2024, at 9:00 AM
41550 Eclectic St. Palm Desert, CA 92260

I. CALL TO ORDER-By A, Wilson at 9:00 AM Roll Call: A. Wilson, S. Benoit, C. Borba, G. Colangeli, A. Dew, C. Galvez arrived at 9:15, M. Gonda, B. Gonzalez, R. Gutierrez, J. Hayes, M. Meyer, R. Ortega, E. Romero, K. Rodgers, T. St.Johns, K. Quintanilla, Supervisor Perez arrived at 9:06, J. Pye.

Excused absences: B. Kroonen, V. Tanner.

Also Present: M. Reyes, V. Arroniz, T. Fantini, G. Montano, G. Holliday, M. Robles, Sarahyah Yisrael Adon representing My Baby My Way, Simon Moore, two students from CVHS.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

In order to meet Brown Act requirements, items may be added to the agenda only upon decision by a majority of the Board of Directors to add the item because of a need for immediate action.

Motion:	To approve as submitted.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Gutierrez	C. Borba	16	0	0

III. PUBLIC COMMENT / PRESENTATIONS

Simon Moore and two students from CVHS Health Academy gave an overview of the March 7 Health Summit held at the Annenberg Health Center.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS: Action Required

- A.**April 24, 2024 Board Meeting Draft Minutes - Receive and file (Attach. #1)
- B.**CEO Report - Receive and File (Attach. #2)
- C.** Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report – Receive and File (Attach. #3)
- D.**NPO Centric Report - Receive and File (Attach. #4)
- E.**Grants Manager Report – Receive and File (Attach. #5)

Staff Recommendation: To receive and file the April 24, 2024 BOD Minutes, CEO Report, Grant Manager Report, Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report, and NPO Centric Report.

Motion:	To approve with a correction requested by K. Quintanilla to the Draft Minutes to reflect that the Autism event took place in Indio, not Palm Desert.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
K. Quintanilla	C. Borba	18	0	0

V. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS – Action May Be Required

A. Resignation of Mike Gialdini effective May 15.

Staff Recommendation: To accept the resignation with reluctance and thank Mike for his service.

Motion by E. Romero and seconded by K. Quintanilla to accept the resignation with reluctance and thank Mike for his service. Yes: 18 No: 0 Abstentions: 0

B. Nomination of RAP Officers. - There is a need to select a new Board Chair. It may be necessary to make changes to the other positions, depending on who is selected as Board Chair.

1. Nominations for Board Chair

Nominated: J. Pye and K. Quintanilla. Secret ballot vote conducted and the top votes were for J. Pye.

<i>Motion:</i>	<i>To appoint J. Pye as Board Chair for the remainder of the term due to expire Jan. 2026.</i>			
<i>Motion By:</i>	<i>Second By:</i>	<i># Approve:</i>	<i># Oppose:</i>	<i>Abstention (Name):</i>
<i>Supervisor Perez</i>	<i>K. Quintanilla</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

2. Nominations for Vice-Chair – ***No action taken since it is not necessary.***

3. Nominations for Secretary - ***No action taken since it is not necessary.***

4. Nominations for Treasurer - ***No action taken since it is not necessary.***

C. Supervisor V. Manuel Perez or his Representative- to provide update on County matters of interest.

Supervisor Perez shared information of a recent site visit of a Youth Transitional Home in Indio. The program was recently funded however, it has faced delays from agencies at the State level. After 6-7 months, it has not been inspected which is needed to advance in the process. He has brought this problem to the attention of Assemblyman Garcia and hope to get assistance in addressing the problem.

Supervisor Perez shared information about the County’s commitment to integrate county departments and other community services to improve the “Whole Person” rating which Riverside County ranks low statewide. The three day training is taking place in Blythe and has included the participation of G. Colangeli and L. De Lara, who both extended their appreciation to Supervisor Perez for his efforts to have Blythe be one of 3 communities countywide being targeted as “pilot sites”. C. Galvez requested to have Innercare participate in the process.

B. Gonzalez commented that the Latino Commission is working with PVUSD to replicate the same model being used at CVUSD to provide counseling services to all the schools.

D. Review and make a recommendation on the Financials up to April 30, 2024. (Attach. #6)

Finance Committee Recommendation: For the Board to approve the Financials up to April 30, 2024.

Motion:	To approve the Financial up to April 30, 2024.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
J. Hayes	C. Borba	18	0	0

E. Workers Compensation Insurance. The current policy expires in June and needs to be renewed. Our Insurance Broker has “shopped” for better rates and is recommending this package. (Attach. #7)

Finance Committee Recommendation: For the Board to authorize the CEO to renew the Policy.

Motion:	To authorize the CEO to renew the Policy – the amount is \$1,334.00			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
M. Gonda	G. Colangeli	18	0	0

F. Resolution 2024.OXX to Amend Authorized Signatures for First Bank (Attach. #8) – Add RAP’s Controller as an authorized person to RAP’s bank accounts in order to be able to carry out his duties. He is replacing the previous accountant.

Finance Committee Recommendation: For the Board to approve the Resolution.

Motion:	To approve the Resolution with change of adding, Board Chair to J. Pye.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
C. Borba	A. Dew	18	0	0

G. GRANTS TRACKER FY 2023-2024: (Attach. # 9) **No action taken.**

H. SMALL GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF FULL AMOUNT REQUESTED - Grants #1 to #6:

Board member K. Quintanilla requested to discuss Grant #2 and #5.

Board member K. Rodgers made a motion to accept the Grants Committee Recommendations for Grants #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, and #6.

Seconded by: R. Gutierrez. M. Gonda abstained from #6. J. Hayes, was not in the room when the motion and vote were completed.

Grants #1- #5 Yes: 17 No: 0 Abstentions: 0

Grant #6 Yes: 16 No: 0 Abstention: M. Gonda

Small Grant #1	Advancing Steps
Program:	<i>Advancing Steps Power of Work Program</i>
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
This workforce development program aids formerly incarcerated individuals to reintegrate into society. The transformative power of employment can be monumental for mental well-being. By providing a sense of purpose, daily structure, social interaction, and financial stability, work becomes more than just a means to earn – it becomes a pathway to healing, self-worth, and integration. However, work environments need to be supportive and align with our clients' capabilities and values to ensure positive mental health outcomes. Our mission extends beyond finding jobs; it is about securing futures and rejuvenating spirits.	
Reviewer's Average Score:	84%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY23-24 Desert Fast Pitch: \$2,000, FY22-23 Mental Health Technical Assistance

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve the request of \$10,000.

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

Small Grant #2	Jewish Family Service of the Desert
Program:	<i>JSF Express</i>
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
This program meets the transportation needs of Coachella Valley older adult residents, ensuring they can access affordable and available transportation for medical appointments, especially in areas where transportation options may be limited. Despite the gains made in telemedicine, a lack of transportation is one of the greatest barriers to maintaining good health. Thus, providing affordable and accessible transportation can significantly improve the quality of life for older adults by ensuring they receive the healthcare they need.	
Reviewer's Average Score:	85%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY22-23 Mental Health Grant: \$50,000; FY23-24 Desert Fast Pitch: \$12,000; FY22-23 Small Grant: \$10,000; FY21-22 Mental Health Grant: \$50,000

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve the request of \$10,000.

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

Small Grant #3	Shay's Warriors
Program:	<i>I am HOPE Survivor Reset Retreat and Programming- Cancer Survivorship Services</i>
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
This programs supports a wide range of survivors who have completed their active cancer treatments or will live with cancer forever with a special emphasis on inclusivity across economic and social backgrounds. It uses group and individual servicing through supportive educational sessions and emotional support conversations, focused on a platform and experience-based service. It is designed around creating safe place and space for those who have endured cancer, to interact with others who have walked the same journey in all aspects: physically, mentally, and spiritually. Survivors learn tools to deal with things like PTSD, anxiety, stress, and fear of recurrence, with a newfound self-acceptance. Survivors feel empowered to emotionally heal themselves. They walk away with Warrior laughter, love and friendships that will last a lifetime, complete with the profound opportunity to give back to other survivors in the future.	
Reviewer's Average Score:	84%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY22-23 Small Grant: \$5,000; FY20-21 Small Grant: \$3,300

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve the request of \$10,000.

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

Small Grant #4	Autism Society Inland Empire
Program:	<i>Inclusive Summer Sensory Family Events for Autism Families</i>
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
The Inclusive Summer Sensory Family Events aim to support local Autism families during the summer when children are out of school and Parents/Caregivers are desperate for sensory-friendly activities to keep their children engaged in a meaningful way. The summer events help combat isolation and allow our families to come together in a safe, supportive environment to enjoy local attractions and experiences such as bowling, pool party picnics, and sensory-friendly movies that promote social connection and well-being.	
Reviewer's Average Score:	81%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY23-24 Sponsorship: \$2,500; FY22-23 Sponsorship: \$500; FY21-22 Mental Health Grant: \$25,000; FY20-21 Mental Health Grant: \$15,000

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve \$10,000 of amount requested. Also, recommend that the applicant request a reduction of fees to the City of Palm Desert – to request that it be added as an agenda item for City Council.

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

Small Grant #5	SongShine Foundation			
Program:	<i>SongShine for Parkinson's</i>			
Requested Amount:	\$5,000			
<p>Founded in 2006 by Dr. Ruthanna Metzgar, SongShine began when The Traub Parkinson's Center at Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, CA asked her to create a music-based program for Parkinson's patients. Dr. Metzgar, with forty years as a university voice teacher and ten years of collaboration with Otolaryngologists and Speech Therapists, created classes open to all those with neurological disorders and aging voices, and their caregivers. After a successful pilot study, she directed the program for five years at Eisenhower. She was joined by Juilliard-trained professional actor, Peter Harris. Both are passionate about their individual disciplines, which have been combined to create a powerful Arts in Healthcare program bringing voices to life, creating community, and increasing self-confidence. SongShine serves over 200 participants, referred by their neurologist, speech therapist, and support groups. Classes are undergirded by evidence-based neuroscience combined with creative and artistic elements for the benefit of the participant.</p>				
Reviewer's Average Score:	89%			
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A			

Grants Committee Staff Recommendation: To approve the request of \$5,000.

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

Small Grant #6	HARC, Inc.			
Program:	<i>2025 Coachella Valley Community Health Survey</i>			
Requested Amount:	\$10,000			
<p>HARC is requesting funding from RAP for the 2025 Coachella Valley Community Health Survey. This population health survey is the seventh iteration of a triennial health monitoring effort and provides a roadmap to addressing health equity in the region and understanding how our community shifts and changes over time. HARC's triennial survey measurement data is indispensable for our region's future health improvement.</p>				
Reviewer's Average Score:	91%			
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A			

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve the request of \$10,000.

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

I. SMALL GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF A LESSER AMOUNT REQUESTED - Grant #7

Small Grant #7	My Baby My Way Foundation
Program:	Content Crew (CC)
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
Reviewer's Average Score:	79%
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve \$5,000 instead of the \$10,000 requested and recommend that they apply for other grants. Also, to approve an NPOC Technical Assistance Grant of \$2,500.

Motion:	<i>To approve \$5,000 instead of the \$10,000 requested and recommend that they apply for other grants. Also, to approve an NPOC Technical Assistance Grant of \$2,500.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Ortega	M. Gonda	18	0	0

J. SPONSORSHIP GRANT FUNDING REQUEST- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF FULL AMOUNT REQUESTED - Grant #1

Sponsorship #1	OneFuture Coachella Valley
Program:	Student Leadership Conference
Requested Amount:	\$5,000.00
OneFuture Coachella Valley hosts a Student Leadership Conference for a new cohort of scholarship students. The full-day conference is designed for scholars to meet and connect with their peers and network with alumni and community partners. Resources and tools are provided to sharpen their personal skills that will support their college and career journey.	
Representative:	Paul Olson
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve the request of \$5,000

Motion:	<i>To approve the request of \$5,000.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
M. Gonda	K. Rodgers	18	0	0

K. SPONSORSHIP GRANT FUNDING REQUEST- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING DENIAL - Grant #2

Sponsorship #2	My Baby My Way Foundation
Program:	#ContentCrewLive Event: Connect, Create, and Go Live
Requested Amount:	\$5,000.00
My Baby My Way (MBMW), a Riverside County-based nonprofit, proudly presents the #ContentCrewLive Event: Connect, Create, and Go Live! This event is the pinnacle of our Content Crew program, targeting girls aged 10-18 in Desert Hot Springs, where 28.9% of the youth live below the poverty line. This initiative aims to bridge the significant gap in accessible, culturally competent STEM education and media literacy.	
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request of \$5,000

Sarahyah Yisrael Adon made comments and addressed questions by board members.

Motion:	<i>To deny the request of \$5,000.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
E. Romero	C. Galvez	18	0	0

L. NPO Centric Technical Assistance Grant Requests

1. NPOC COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL – Grant #1

#1	We are One United
Request Description:	Technical assistance grant to cover the cost of consulting services for a Strategic Plan.
Prior Technical Assistance Services:	We are One United was awarded 30 hours of TA from Mental Health FY 22-23 and is working to utilize the remaining 15 hours. They have been granted an extension due to the recent change in leadership

NPO Centric Committee Recommendation: That the organization be approved for 40 hours to complete a Strategic Plan for \$6,000. The organization can reapply for more hours for additional capacity building topics.

Motion:	<i>That the organization be approved for 40 hours to complete a Strategic Plan for \$6,000. The organization can reapply for more hours for additional capacity building topics.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
A. Dew	K.Quintanilla	18	0	0

2. NPOC COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING Denial– Grant #2

#2	Childhood Drowning Prevention Foundation
Request Description:	Technical assistance grant to cover the cost of: NPO Centric Membership and Consulting Services.
Prior Technical Assistance Services:	N/A

NPO Centric Committee recommendation: That the organization be denied and reapply when they can provide services to the Coachella and Palo Verde Valley.

Motion:	<i>Application denied and encourage the applicant to reapply when they can provide services to the Coachella and Palo Verde Valley.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>R. Ortega</i>	<i>M. Meyer</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

M. Revising the Resolution Regarding Board Contributions to include a waiver for board members representing the Palo Verde Valley. (Attach. #10)

Governance Committee Recommendation: For the Board to adopt the policy to waive the board contribution for the representative(s) from Palo Verde Valley.

Motion:	<i>To adopt the policy to waive the board contribution for the representative(s) from Palo Verde Valley.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>C. Borba</i>	<i>M. Gonda</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>G.Colangeli</i>

VI. Information Items

- A. Board Committee Assignments (Attach. #11)
- B. BOARD ATTENDANCE for 2024 (Attach. #12)
- C. Grants Committee: Met on May 13. Approved Minutes for March 18 (Attach. #13). Special meeting June 18 at 9 AM.
- D. Executive Committee: Met on May 13. April 15 Approved Minutes (Attach. #14). Next meeting June 17.
- E. Finance/Investment Committee: Met on May 13. April 24 approved Minutes (Attach. #15). Next meeting June 18.
- F. NPO Centric Committee: Meeting on May 15 2024. Approved Minutes for April 17 (Attach. #16). Special Meeting to be scheduled for early June. ***K. Quintanilla commented that she liked the formatting as displayed on her cell phone.***
- G. Governance Committee: Met on May 13. Approved Minutes for October 18 (Attach. #17). Next Meeting in early June – TBD.

VII. BOARD MEMBER / STAFF COMMENTS

Introduce Tally Fantini and Melissa Robles – ***Taly Fantini, Melissa Robles and George Holliday introduced themselves and provided a brief biography.***

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting is on June 26, 2024, at 9:00 AM – *Adjourned at 10:49.*