



Grants Review Committee Agenda

Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 1:00 PM Pacific Time

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

42734 Edelweiss, Big Bear Lake, 92315

40160 Nolina Ct, Palm Desert, CA, 92260

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

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84008014372>

Webinar ID: 840 0801 4372 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), Aurora Wilson, Maria Meyer, Van Tanner, Sheryl Benoit

I. CALL TO ORDER: Roll call

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

Staff Recommendation: To approve the October 14, 2025, 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 September 15, 2025, Grants Review Committee Meeting Minutes.

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

V. GRANTS TRACKER FY2025-2026: **(Attach 2)**

VI. GRANT FUNDING REQUEST:

Small Grant #1 at 1:10 PM (Attach 3) Action Required

Organization:	Mizell Center
Program:	Mizell Center Programs, Classes and Activities

Requested Amount:	\$10,000
The Mizell Center is seeking funding to expand Mizell's programming to better address the needs of a senior community that is living longer and now comprised of a wider range of older adults. This grant will strengthen our capacity for growth and innovation, ensuring seniors have access to a broader range of free and low-cost activities and access to the information, tools and technologies that can enhance independence and quality of life. Specifically, we are seeking to augment our schedule with the inclusion of more immersive programming focused on acquiring and sustaining healthy habits that support vitality and longevity.	
Representative:	Harriet Baron
Reviewer's Scores:	84% Three reviewers scoring: 94, 80, 74
Prior RAP Funding:	FY20-21 Historical COVID-19: \$7,500
NPO Membership:	N/A

Staff Recommendation: To approve the request of \$10,000

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

Small Grant #2 at 1:25 PM (Attach 4) Action Required

Organization:	Jewish Family Service of the Desert
Program:	Fostering Connections for Coachella Valley Older Adults
Requested Amount:	\$ 10,000
The "Fostering Connections for Older Adults" initiative features Let's Do Lunch! (LDL), Cafe Europa, Cafe Europa 2.0, Friendly Visitor, Call Tree, and JFS Express programs. Offering free services designed to reduce social isolation and increase access to healthcare for residents aged 55 and older. Through engaging activities, community connections, and access to essential support services, the initiative helps participants strengthen cognitive and physical health, enhance quality of life, and maintain independence while aging with dignity.	
Representative:	Kraig Johnson
Reviewer's Scores:	81% Three reviewers scoring: 88, 82, 72
Prior RAP Funding:	FY24-25 Mental Health Grant: \$60,000, FY23-24 Mental Health Grant: \$50,000, FY23-24 Small Grant \$10,000, FY23-24 Desert Fast Pitch \$12,000 FY22-23 Small Grant: \$10,000; FY22-23 Mental Health Grant: \$50,000 FY21-22 Mental Health Grant: \$50,000
NPO Membership:	Yes - Active

Staff Recommendation: To approve the request of \$10,000

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

Small Grant #3 at 1:40 PM (Attach 5) Action Required

Organization:	Old Town Artisan Studios
Program:	Community Outreach Art Program - Youth Focused
Requested Amount:	\$10,000

Old Town Artisan Studios (OTAS) is expanding its Community Arts Programs to provide more youth across the Coachella Valley—especially those from underserved communities—with access to enriching, hands-on art experiences during seasonal breaks and after-school programs. With awarded funding, we are increasing class capacity, instructors and offering more youth scholarships to ensure that cost is never a barrier to participation.

Representative:	Peggy Schulz
Reviewer's Scores:	76% Three reviewers scoring: 66, 76, 86
Prior RAP Funding:	FY23-24 Desert Fast Pitch: \$2,000
NPO Membership:	Yes - Active

Staff Recommendation: To approve the request for up to \$5,000 upon clarification of the program/scholarships

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

Small Grant #4 at 2:00 PM (Attach 6) Action Required

Organization:	Camp Laurel Foundation
Program:	<i>Youth Mental Health Program</i>
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
We are seeking support to ensure that youth from Coachella Valley and Palo Verde Valley have access to The Laurel Foundation's transformative year-round mental health programs. These include day camps, week-long residential camps, and intensive leadership retreats that are designed specifically to meet the unique needs of transgender/gender-diverse youth and youth from marginalized communities, especially those living in poverty, impacted by HIV/AIDS, in foster care, or facing housing insecurity.	
Representative:	Margot Anderson
Reviewer's Scores:	75% Three reviewers scoring: 92,76,56
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant: FY23-24 \$7,500, Small Grant: FY22-23 \$7,500, Small Grant: FY21-22 \$5,000,
NPO Membership:	N/A

Staff Recommendation: To approve the request for \$3,000 for scholarships and some incidentals related to their expense incurring, and due to the low number of clients served in the 4th District.

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

Sponsorship #1 at 2:15 PM (Attach 7) Action Required

Organization:	About Families
Program:	<i>18th Annual Fall Family Festival</i>
Requested Amount:	\$5,000
The goal of our Fall Family Festival is to create a positive environment for children and families. We share important community information and resources. Ultimately, creating stronger, resilient community and family connections. There is a disconnect in the Coachella Valley between all the resources available to	

families and the disproportionate access to information for communities of color and lower socioeconomic status. Our community needs connection and sharing of resources. By bringing together many organizations and businesses in a collaborative effort to support families the Fall Family Festival is creating those connections	
Representative:	Joanna Boles Whitlow
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A
NPO Membership:	Yes - Active

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

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

VII. Discussion Items:

• **Sponsorship Guidelines Criteria: (Attach 8)**

The Grants Manager met with RAP CEO, Chair, and Vice Chair of the Grants committee to develop new sponsorship guidelines.

Staff Recommendation: To review the guidelines and take action, immediately update the sponsorship process and guidelines, effective immediately.

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

VIII. GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF COMMENTS:

a. Denial Notice:

i. Fenixia Foundation: Sponsorship \$5,000

The application did not meet the criteria and eligibility requirements because it is a fundraising event. RAP has previously funded this event on F24/25.

b. Next Scheduled Meeting: Monday, November 17, 2025, at 1:00 PM (as needed)

c. Do The Right Thing Award Ceremony – October 15, 2025

Location: Palm Springs Police Department, 200 S Civic Dr, Palm Springs, CA 92262

Time: 4:30 pm

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Agenda Posting: Agendas will be posted on the Foundation website at <https://www.rapfoundation.org> a minimum of 72 hours prior to the meeting date. All public record documents for matters on the open session of the Agenda are available for inspection upon request three (3) days prior to the meeting date. If a public record document that relates to a matter on the open session of the Agenda is distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting date, the public

record document shall be available for inspection at the same time it is distributed at the address listed above. Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.