



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 14, 2023

DATE: October 26, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Candee Ramos, Community Outreach Coordinator, Office of the County Manager, (775) 276-3846, cramos@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Eric Brown, County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$30,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2023-2024; District 5 Commissioner Jeanne Herman recommends a [\$10,000.00] grant to Awaken -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support the creation and furnishing of the organization's Gathering Center for participants to come together in community; a [\$10,000.00] grant to The Salvation Army -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support meeting the needs of Washoe County residents struggling with food and housing insecurity, and those impacted by the traumas of human trafficking; and a [\$10,000.00] grant to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support the Mobile Harvest program; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursements of funds. (Commission District 5).

SUMMARY

This item requests the Board to approve resolutions and disburse district funds in the total amount of [\$30,000.00] for Commission District 5.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:

1. Economic Impacts: Meet the Needs of Our Growing Community, Support a Thriving Community
2. Vulnerable Populations: Coordination Between Agencies & Communication of Programs
3. Innovative Services: Strengthen Our Culture of Service

AGENDA ITEM # _____

PREVIOUS ACTION

No previous action in Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

BACKGROUND

Modification of guidelines and adoption of resolution for County Commission District Special Funding on February 10, 2015, created Commission District Special Funds for each Commission District. On May 16, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners approved the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget with special district funds allocated per Commission District in the amount of \$100,000.00. The monies appropriated are to support needs for all Washoe County residents.

Funds appropriated through the Commission District Special Funds must provide substantial benefit to the inhabitants of the County. The recipient must be a non-profit organization, created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes, or a government entity. Funds shall not provide any personal or private benefit for the Commissioners, directly or indirectly benefit any campaign efforts by a commissioner, violate Ethics in Government law, or be used to purchase tickets to special events.

Commissioner Herman has elected to support the following organization in fiscal year 2023-2024:

- [\$10,000.00] grant to Awaken -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- for the purpose of eradicating commercial sexual exploitation. Since the launch of Awaken in 2011, Awaken has reached more than 900 women and children in Northern Nevada.
- [\$10,000.00] grant to The Salvation Army -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- to support meeting the needs of Washoe County residents struggling with food and housing insecurity, and those impacted by the traumas of human trafficking, as part of the Red Kettle fundraising goal.
- [\$10,000.00] grant to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada -- a non-profit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support the organization's efforts to provide food for families in need throughout the region, particularly its Mobile Harvest program. The Food Bank of Northern Nevada distributes food through its network of more than 150 partner agencies.

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient FY24 budget authority exists within the Cost Center District 5 Constituents (C100105) and account Payments to other Agencies (710400). This action requests approval and distribution of a total of [\$30,000.00] to the following organizations.

Expense Disbursements are required as follows:

- Awaken: \$10,000.00
- The Salvation Army: \$10,000.00
- Food Bank of Northern Nevada: \$10,000.00

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$30,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2023-2024; District 5 Commissioner Jeanne Herman recommends a [\$10,000.00] grant to Awaken -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support the creation and furnishing of the organization's Gathering Center, for participants to come together in community for celebration, job readiness classes, and additional groups to promote healing and restoration; a [\$10,000.00] grant to The Salvation Army - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support meeting the needs of Washoe County residents struggling with food and housing insecurity, and those impacted by the traumas of human trafficking; and a [\$10,000.00] grant to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support the Mobile Harvest program; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursements of funds. (Commission District 5)

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve the recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$30,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2023-2024; District 5 Commissioner Jeanne Herman recommends a [\$10,000.00] grant to Awaken -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support the creation and furnishing of the organization's Gathering Center, for participants to come together in community for celebration, job readiness classes, and additional groups to promote healing and restoration; a [\$10,000.00] grant to The Salvation Army - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support meeting the needs of Washoe County residents struggling with food and housing insecurity, and those impacted by the traumas of human trafficking; and a [\$10,000.00] grant to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes -- to support the Mobile Harvest program; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursements of funds."