

A.) Purpose of Grant

- 1.) Describe the proposed program, project or purchase (collectively, the "Project"). This description should identify the needs/issues the Project will address.**

Project: Heart Start

Elfrida Fire Department respectfully requests \$35,000 to bring our Emergency Medical Services (EMS) equipment up to date. The project request is to modernize the necessary heart monitor/defibrillator equipment for cardiovascular traumas/emergencies, the current heart monitor/defibrillator equipment was purchased over 16 years ago and the manufacturer is no longer manufacturing the necessary parts to repair the equipment, unfortunately if this monitor/defibrillator fails the department does not have the financial capability to purchase a new one.

Elfrida Fire Department is a small rural fire department located in southeast Arizona on the eastern edge of Cochise County, the nearest city is Douglas, Az. which sits 34 miles south of Elfrida and the international border with Mexico is 35 miles south. The fire department serves the small towns of Elfrida, McNeal, Double Adobe, Gleeson, Courtland, Rucker Lake and Leslie Canyon area which are all agricultural areas. The Elfrida Fire Department also aids surrounding fire departments when called upon for assistance. The area of coverage provided by the fire department has a high poverty rate, the local schools run at 80% free-reduced lunch rate which is a significant poverty rate indicator. The median household income of \$26,250 is significantly lower than the state and national average. Most recent data indicated that these communities are experiencing population loss, over the last 10 years there has been an 18% decrease in population. As the population decreases the demographics are changing considerably, 50% of the population is now over 50 years old, the younger population is not remaining in the area, due to job opportunities. Most individuals in the area rely on Medicaid/Medicare for their health insurance needs and those who don't qualify for Medicare, 37% go without health insurance.

As is evident the dynamics of the area Elfrida Fire Department serves is not unique of rural areas but the need for appropriate care still remains. The modernization of our first out ambulance with a new heart monitor/defibrillator is a priority for any type of medical situation in responding to a call or being on stand by for other agencies. Currently, 62% of the calls that Elfrida fire responds to are medical calls, usually dealing with our elderly. The remoteness of Elfrida fire makes time of the essence when responding and treating, the nearest free-standing emergency room is 30 minutes away from Elfrida. Numerous calls take 20-30 minutes to respond to, then transport time to the nearest emergency room is often between 45 – 60 minutes away. Having a new heart monitor/defibrillator would definitely assist our EMT's to determine the extent of the patient's condition in order to get the proper level of appropriate care, often the decision is made to have the patient airlifted to a facility that can handle the patient's needs.

2.) Identify the target population that will be served by the Project. (Who will benefit? How many will be served? Is there a targeted geographic location? Etc.)

The target population is all the community members in the small towns of Elfrida, McNeal and Double Adobe, Gleeson, Courtland, Rucker Lake and Leslie Canyon area. All the areas will benefit from the modernization of equipment. As previously stated a majority of the population in the area is older and most rely on Medicare for insurance purposes. The total population of all three areas being served is 728. The fire department also serves all 4 school districts within their area providing training, education and medical coverage for 190 students. All individuals living within the seven communities are being served.

3.) Describe the Project goals and objectives and outline a plan to meet these goals.

The primary goal of this grant application is to modernize our heart monitor/defibrillator equipment in our first out ambulance, the current equipment is becoming obsolete as the manufacturer no longer makes replacement parts. Elfrida fire department is available 24/7 for all seven communities thus it is vital to have the necessary equipment available to meet the needs of all of our community members. 62% of our calls are to our older community members and 100% of individuals transported to area emergency rooms are connected to the heart monitor/defibrillator.

The cost of a new heart monitor/defibrillator varies from used/recertified to new monitors, with used/recertified monitors being less costly due to the usage and recertifying of equipment. Elfrida fire wishes to purchase a new heart monitor/defibrillator as used equipment may also go out of supportability. The cost of new heart monitor/defibrillator necessary for our first out ambulance is \$42,000.

Elfrida fire's goal plan is:

1. Apply for a grant to purchase a new heart monitor/defibrillator.
2. Upon approval of grant funding, purchase new heart monitor/defibrillator.
3. New heart monitor/defibrillator training for all Elfrida fire personnel.
4. Installation of new heart monitor/defibrillator into the first out ambulance.
5. Using the new heart monitor/defibrillator on all calls where it is deemed necessary and using it on all individuals transported to ER facilities.

4.) Provide a timetable for implementation of the Project.

Elfrida fire's timeline for project implementation is:

Action	Date/Timeline
1. Apply for a grant to purchase a new heart monitor/defibrillator.	July 12, 2024
2. Notification of additional information.	July 15 – Sept. 6, 2024
3. Notification of grant funding/grant negotiations.	Sept. 7, 2024
4. Grant funds allocated.	Jan. 1, 2025

5. Grant fund received.	Jan. 10,2025
6. Grant funds used to purchase new heart monitor/defibrillator.	Feb. 12, 2025
7. New heart monitor/defibrillator training for Elfrida fire personnel.	Feb. 24, 2025
8. New heart monitor/defibrillator in usage for first out ambulance	Feb. 25, 2025

B.) Resources

1.) Identify current funding sources for the Project and characterize each funding source listed as either a one-time-only or long-term funding source.

Current funding sources include Elfrida fire’s maintenance/operation fund. Funds are generated from

- a.) Taxes assessed on community members via Cochise county assessor and treasurer offices. (On-going funding, dependent on tax payment rate)
- b.) Insurance payments for ambulance services. (On-going funding, dependent on number of callouts received which varies year to year, contingent on numbers of ambulance runs in any given year)
- c.) Wildland fire services: Payments from various entities that use our wildland fire crew. I.E – State Fire, U.S. Forest Service, Other municipalities. (On-going funding, dependent on number of callouts received which varies year to year, contingent on numbers of fires in any given year)

2.) Identify other organizations or partners that are participating in or contributing to the Project, but which are not funding sources, and describe their roles or contributions.

All 4 school districts are our participating/in support of our grant request. As one school administrator indicated ”they know the value of having local EMS available during the school day and all extracurricular activities, it provides a sense of security just in case something requiring EMS is needed.”

3. Define the Project as a new or continuing project or a purchase. Provide information about how the Project will be sustained or the purchase will be maintained after the grant funding is exhausted.

Elfrida fire has been in operation since 1975, providing services to Elfrida, McNeal, Double Adobe, Gleeson, Courtland, Rucker Lake area and Leslie Canyon area. This project will be a new project, as the need for modern equipment is vital to our serving all our communities’ population correctly, especially as the area’s population continues to senescence.

4. If the Applicant organization has requested funding from any other Arizona tribe, please list:

a. Pending requests made within the last eighteen (18) months, including the name of the tribe to which the request was made and a brief summary of the project for which a grant was requested.

Requests planned from other Arizona tribes:

Elfrida fire has not requested any funds from any other Arizona tribes.

b. Funded requests made in the last five (5) years, including the name of the tribe that awarded the funding, a brief summary of the project for which the funding was awarded, and the amount of the funding received.

Elfrida fire has not received funding from an Arizona tribe in the last five (5) years.

C. Reports.

Approved grantees must report back to the Community about the use of all grants. Outline how your organization will account for and manage the funding if selected. Describe how Project progress and results will be tracked and documented.

If awarded a grant, Elfrida fire will record/document the purchase of the new heart monitor/defibrillator requested for the use with the community members of Elfrida, McNeal and Double Adobe. Elfrida fire will track the number of times the new heart monitor/defibrillator was used in EMS calls. Elfrida fire will provide any data available requested by the Ak- Chin community and will provide a full grant report one year after receiving grant funding.

D. Budget.

Provide a budget, including justification that supports the request in the Application. Provide an estimated timeline for when funds will be expended.

Budget Items	Expense	Amount being requested via the Ak-Chin Indian Community	Amount being funded via other sources.
New Heart monitor/defibrillator	\$42,000	\$35,000	\$7,000

Elfrida fire will purchase new heart monitor/defibrillator for our first out ambulance within one month after grant funds are received.

E. Additional information.

Please provide any additional information about the project or the applicant organization that the Ak-Chin Council should know when considering the Application.

Elfrida fire is a small rural fire department that serves multiple agricultural communities in southeast Arizona. Elfrida fire has gone through many changes in recent years, the department has had 3 fire chiefs in the last 8 years which has caused many items/projects/purchases to be put on hold or forgotten about all together. These inconsistencies have affected the department's overall efficiency. Presently, the current chief is in the process of correcting the deficiencies that exist, but with limited financial strength the tasks are at times very difficult to attain. Elfrida fire's budget often runs in the negative. This is triggered due to two main components:

- a.) Not enough tax revenue is generated due to many community members not paying their property taxes in a timely manner, thus a budget shortfall.
- b.) Payment for ambulance runs from insurance companies or Medicare tends to be a lengthy process and many times Elfrida fire has to justify the ambulance run which adds additional time for payment.

Currently, Elfrida fire runs approximately \$200,000 in the negative annually. Therefore, the need to request assistance in purchasing new equipment is necessary to correct past inconsistencies and to maintain the level of service needed to preserve our communities' needs.

On behalf of Elfrida fire, our fire board members and the communities we serve. I would like to Thank-You for the opportunity to apply for financial assistance via applying for the Ak-Chin Community 12% grant. Thank-You for considering our grant application.

Respectfully,



Veronica Adcock

Elfrida Fire Chief

Appendix A

Cochise County Board of Supervisors Acknowledgement



**Cochise County
Board of Supervisors**

Public Programs...Personal Service
www.cochise.az.gov

TOM CROSBY
Supervisor
District 1

RICHARD G. KARWACZKA
County Administrator

ANN ENGLISH
Chairman
District 2

SHARON GILMAN
Deputy County Administrator /
Interim Clerk of the Board

PEGGY JUDD
Vice-Chairman
District 3

July 9, 2024

To whom it may concern:

RE: Cochise County as a Pass-Through Agent

Please consider this letter an acknowledgement that should Elfrida Fire District's proposal be awarded, Cochise County will accept the funds and enter into an IGA with the entity to accept funding on their behalf.

We have successfully done this previously with other Special Districts in Cochise County when they were fortunate enough to receive generous contributions to their programs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lara Loewenheim
Deputy Clerk of the Board

Appendix B

Tax Letter

ELFRIDA FIRE DISTRICT

10293 N. Central Hwy
PO Box 68
Elfrida, AZ 85610
Phone: (520) 642-3749 Fax: (520) 642-3725
Elfridafiredistrict.com



EIN – 86-0369554

Elfrida Fire District is a non-profit organization.

Veronica Adcock, Chief

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V Adcock".

520-678-0968

vadcock@elfridafiredistrict.com

Appendix B

Letters of Support

Elfrida Elementary School District #12



Proud Home of the Mustangs!

4070 W. Jefferson Road

Elfrida, AZ 85610

Office (520) 642-3428 – Fax (520) 642-3236

Ak-Chin Community,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Elfrida Fire Department and their proposed Heart Start equipment modernization grant application. I can personally attest to the urgent need for this modernization of vital equipment in our community.

Elfrida fire understands the challenges that rural communities like ours face every day. They have been a trusted resource and source of support for our school, providing critical emotional, physical and specifically, medical support for our school, staff and students.

The Heart Start equipment modernization project has the potential to make a real difference in the lives

of the people in our community. By providing access to modern, up to date equipment this program will not only help save lives but will continuously provide the necessary information to the EMT's to make a medical decision while responding to a call.

I believe that the Heart Start project is vital to the livelihood of our communities in conjunction with Elfrida's fire execution, expertise, compassion, dedication and attention to detail while responding to calls our communities health and well-being is in safe, trusted hands.

I am proud to support Elfrida fire's Heart start initiative and their efforts to make our community a better place.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Justin Price", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Sincerely,

Justin Price



McNeal Elementary School



DISTRICT No. 55
P.O. Box 8
3979 McNEAL ST.
McNEAL, AZ 85617

(520) 642-3356
FAX (520) 642-3356

Ak-Chin Community,

I am writing to express our support for Elfrida Fire Department and their proposed Heart Start equipment modernization grant application. Our school being a small rural school understands the urgent need for this modernization of vital equipment in our community.

Elfrida fire understands the obstacles that rural communities like ours encounter. They have been a steadfast resource and source of collaboration for our school, delivering responsive, physical, emotional, educational and especially medical support for our school, staff and students.

The Heart Start equipment modernization project has the capability to make a real difference in the lives of the people in our community. Elfrida fire's ability to have access to state-of-the-art equipment will not only help save lives but will assist the EMT's by providing the necessary information to make a urgent medical decision rapidly while responding to a call.

I believe that the Heart Start project is vital to all of our communities in conjunction with Elfrida's fire implementation of said new equipment, proficiency, benevolence, dedication and attention to detail while responding to calls our communities health and well-being is in safe, trusted hands.

I am proud to support Elfrida fire's Heart start initiative and their efforts to make our community a better place.

Thank you for your consideration of Elfrida fire's grant application

Respectfully,



Ron Aguallo

Superintendent

McNeal Elementary School District #55



Valley Union High School

4088 W. Jefferson Rd

Elfrida, AZ 85610

520-642-3492

Ak-Chin Community,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Elfrida Fire Department and their proposed Heart Start equipment modernization grant application. I can personally attest to the urgent need for this modernization of vital equipment in our community.

Elfrida fire understands the challenges that rural communities like ours face every day. They have been a trusted resource and source of support for our school, providing critical emotional, physical and specifically, medical support for our school, staff and students.

The Heart Start equipment modernization project has the potential to make a real difference in the lives

of the people in our community. By providing access to modern, up to date equipment this program will not only help save lives but will continuously provide the necessary information to the EMT's to make a medical decision while responding to a call.

I believe that the Heart Start project is vital to the livelihood of our communities in conjunction with Elfrida's fire execution, expertise, compassion, dedication and attention to detail while responding to calls our communities health and well-being is in safe, trusted hands.

I am proud to support Elfrida fire's Heart start initiative and their efforts to make our community a better place.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alma Garcia". The signature is written in black ink and is located below the word "Sincerely,".

Alma Garcia

Valley Union Board President