


## 2022 Ak-Chin Indian Community Grant Application Cover Sheet

Name of Applicant:	Applicant is a: City/Town/County (circle) <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Mayor/Supervisor/Chairman/President:	Interim Mayor Vincent Manfredi	
Contact Person and Title:	Nathan Ulliyot	
Applicant Address (administrative office):	39700 W Civic Center Drive	
City:	Maricopa	Zip Code: 85138
Applicant Mailing Address (if different):		
City:		Zip Code:
Phone Number:	520-316-6966	Fax Number:
E-mail Address:	Nathan.ullyot@maricopa-az.gov	
Fiscal Agent for any Applicant that is not a City, Town, or County <i>(Special Taxing Districts/Fire Districts must have a Fiscal Agent)</i>		
Contact Person:		
City/Town/County Mailing Address:		
City:		Zip Code:
Phone Number:		Fax Number:
E-mail Address:		

**JUL 08 2022**

Program or Project Name:	Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water	
Purpose (Check all that apply)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> health <input type="checkbox"/> environment <input type="checkbox"/> promotion of commerce <input type="checkbox"/> economic and community development	
Program will provide	water safety lessons to 800-1000 kids as a part of their school day.	
Beginning and Ending Date of Program or Project:	March of 2023 through October 2023	
Amount Requested:	\$15,000.00	Total Cost: Approximately \$34,500
Geographic Area Served:	Greater Maricopa and Ak-Chin Community	

By the execution of this Grant Application the undersigned agrees that the information contained in this Application is true, to the best of the Applicant's knowledge. The Applicant shall notify the Community if any information in this Application changes

Signature:   
 For the Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 7-6-22

Typed/Printed Name and Title: Nathan Ulliyot - Parks and Recreation Director

For the Fiscal Agent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (If applicable)  
 Typed/Printed Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ak-Chin Indian Community**  
**2020 Prop 202 – 12% Contribution Grant Application**  
**Outline for Narrative**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Applicants must submit a narrative explaining the proposal for which the Applicant is requesting funding. The Narrative submitted with the application shall follow the outline format provided below. Narratives shall not be more than five (5) pages, not including attachments, if any.

**OUTLINE**

**A. Purpose of Grant.**

1. Describe the proposed program or project (collectively, the “Project”). This description should identify the needs/issues the Project will address.

The importance of water safety is always at the forefront of peoples’ minds in Arizona as adolescent drownings are a seemingly regular occurrence. According to the Centers for Disease Control, drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death of children 1-14. Unfortunately, drownings continue to occur despite increased awareness. In fact, according to the Arizona Department of Health Services, between 2016 and 2018 there were 32 water-related incidents that required hospitalizations in Pinal County, the majority of which were in a swimming pool.

The Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water program is designed to combat these preventable tragedies and specifically to remove existing barriers for area youth and families by providing basic water survival classes. These barriers include cost, transportation and time. The partnership between Global Water, Maricopa Unified School District, and the City of Maricopa has allowed us to address and remove all three barriers. By generously supporting the program financially, Global Water has removed the barrier of cost and has provided funding for the initial pilot and limited expansion of the program for the first three years. This generous support also provides for transportation services to and from the schools, thus eliminating the burden on the school district. At present, Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water is not a budgeted school function, so this financial backing was critical to the partnership. Maricopa Unified School District staff saw the vision and value of the program and worked to identify the best opportunity to conduct a pilot program during school time so that first graders at Maricopa Elementary and Butterfield Elementary Schools could attend. Through this partnership, all three barriers were removed and during the 2019-2020 school year 198 first-grade students received water survival lessons at Copper Sky through the pilot program.

The initial 198 1st graders for the pilot program consisted of students from Maricopa Elementary School and Butterfield Elementary School. Of the 198 students, only 15 of the children indicated that they had some formal swim lessons prior to this program. At the first day assessment, 160 of the 198 children were afraid to jump into water 3 feet deep. None of the pilot program participants were able to complete the assessment to the Starfish Institute’s National Standard for swimming skills. After the four-week program, 190 of the 198 children were

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able to jump into water over their heads and return safely to the wall. In other words, 95% of the children were given a chance to survive if they fell into the water. Before beginning the program, we also surveyed parents of the participating children and only 50% of the parents believed their child would survive falling into the water unattended when the program started. After the four-week program, 89% of parents believed their child now had a chance to survive. Additionally, 100% of parents saw an increase in their child's confidence in and around water. This is important because experts say that overcoming the fear of water is key to learning to be safe in it. Finally, 100% of parents saw the program as a good use of school time. Clearly, for the children we are able to provide this program to, it is absolutely effective and potentially life-saving.

For the pilot program, before schools were unfortunately shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to provide water safety classes to every first grader from two elementary schools in the Maricopa Unified School District (Maricopa Elementary and Butterfield Elementary). When schools reopen, the program will expand to serve every school in the district. With the generous support of the Ak-Chin Community, we hope to continue this expansion and provide basic water survival education to every Maricopa area youth by the time they reach third grade, regardless of what school (charter, homeschool) they attend. The third-grade milestone is important, because according to the American Red Cross, if a child doesn't learn to swim by the time they reach third grade, they will likely never learn.

2. Identify the target population that will be served by the Project.

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The target population for Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water is children who attend elementary school in the City of Maricopa and the surrounding areas. Based on our own surveys and assessments, the majority of these children are not safe around water, that is, they are not able to self-rescue in a water-based incident. Therefore, the children of our community will benefit from the program in that they will be able to save themselves in the event of a water-based incident. Crucially, they will also be confident in and around water. Families will benefit through the comfort of knowing that they have been proactive in avoiding a potential drowning. The City of Maricopa community and surrounding areas will benefit by avoiding unnecessary tragedy – including the monetary cost of such tragedies.

For 2023, we want to expand on our pilot program number of 198 and provide 400 first graders from Maricopa and the surrounding areas with free water safety lessons. With proper funding, this quantity of children served is well within the abilities of the City of Maricopa and Copper Sky Aquatics and brings us closer to every child under third grade in the area attaining water safety.

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

The ultimate goal of Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water is to provide access to free water safety lessons to every child, third grade and under, in the City of

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Maricopa and the surrounding areas, with the attainable rate of 90% of these children able to achieve the primary national standard StarFish benchmarks as indicated on their “Maricopa Swims – Learn to Swim Progress Card” after four weeks of classes. Essentially, our goal is to proactively eliminate the risk of drowning for elementary-age children in the City of Maricopa and the surrounding areas. For our pilot program, this statistical goal was achieved for 198 Maricopa Unified School District first graders. Building toward the ultimate goal, our objective for 2021 is to provide 800 first graders from public and charter schools with free water safety lessons, again, with the target of 90% of children passing and being deemed water-safe.

Our plan to meet these goals will be as follows: a) the City and Maricopa Unified School District will schedule each elementary school to participate in the four-week program. The City will also reach out to charter schools in Maricopa with the opportunity for their participation. These charter schools will then be scheduled as well. b) Each first-grade class attends a weekly 45-minute lesson at Copper Sky’s Aquatic Center. The total time they are out of school is 90 minutes each week for four weeks – this includes changing time and transportation. Children are assessed individually based on the national standard for swimming ability and then placed in the appropriate curriculum. Children not only receive instruction in the water, but also learn water safety education including personal awareness around water as well as how to react if they see someone else struggling in the water. c) After the four-week program we established benchmarks that indicate each child’s improvement, and most importantly, their ability to safely return to the wall or edge after jumping or falling into a body of water. Every participant receives a report card with a pre- and post-assessment that shows their growth throughout the program.

4. Provide a timetable for implementation of the Project.

The timetable for Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water in 2023 will begin in the Spring of 2023 and conclude in Fall of 2023. During this time we will be contacting and scheduling all the schools in the Maricopa Unified School District that have not completed the program. We will also be contacting and scheduling willing charter schools to start the program in the spring. Lessons will be in the mornings every weekday throughout March, April, May, August, September, and October. Finally, in October, we will use the statistics we have gathered from our own swim assessments as well as parent surveys to evaluate our success. Success, again, will be determined by the objective of 400 area children having completed the program with at least 90% deemed water safe.

**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.

Currently, the City of Maricopa just completed a three-year sponsorship agreement with Global Water Resources, Inc. Global Water Resources is the

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water resource management company that provides water services for the City of Maricopa. Global Water has agreed to continuing the partnership and directing \$10,000 yearly towards the Safe in the Water and Maricopa Swims program. With continued and additional support we can reach our goal of making water safety available to every child in Maricopa by the time they reach 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

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.

The Maricopa Unified School District has been a key partner in making Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water a success thus far. Obviously, taking first-graders out of the classroom for 90 minutes is a serious commitment, and from day one the administration and teachers in the district have been enthusiastic and supportive. The district has also allowed us to use their buses to transport the children to and from Copper Sky, thus allowing us to take the burden off parents by doing the lessons during school hours.

3. Define the Project as a new or continuing project. If the Project is awarded a grant, how would the Project continue after its grant funding is expended? If the Grant from the Community will replace other funding lost due to the economy, how will the Project be continued after the grant from the Community is exhausted?

Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water is a continuing project in its second full year. It is also an expanding project with the objective of growing from serving 198 first-graders in 2019/2020 to serving 800 kids in 2023. Beyond 2023, as the grant funds have been expended, we will continue to seek expanded sponsorship opportunities and/or grant funding, with the potential option of using City of Maricopa operational funds if absolutely necessary.

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

- a. Pending or unsuccessful 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.
- 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.

Funding Tribe	Amt Awarded	Summary
Ak-Chin	\$ 278,712.00	Family Advocacy Center - Maricopa PD to provide services for victims
Ak-Chin	\$ 17,500.00	Maricopa in Motion - To provide additional equipment for the Maricopa In Motion F
Ak-Chin	\$ 10,070.70	Homebound Program - Maricopa Library to provide additional services
Ak-Chin	\$ 40,000.00	Electronic Forensic Training - Police Electronic Forensics Training for Maricopa PD
Ak-Chin	\$ 16,910.00	Maricopa PD trauma-informed crisis response and advocacy

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Ak-Chin	\$ 180,000.00	Assistance for the Maricopa Wells Technology Project
Ak-Chin	\$ 64,000.00	Maricopa PD - Command post in alignment with the National Incident Management
GRIC	\$ 37,881.00	Maricopa PD - Maricopa Family Advocacy Center healthcare services

**D. Reports:**

All funds and expenditures will be tracked separately from all other department and city expenses in a separate account. The accounting string will begin with a 220 (grants) designation and will be housed in the Parks and Recreation Department ledger. Reporting will be provided on an annual basis in January after the completion of the calendar year.

Project progress and results will be tracked through assessments and parent surveys. When a class's first lesson is approaching, a survey is given to parents to assess how safe they believe their child to be around water. The first aspect of the actual Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water program is a swim assessment given to every child in the program. Their swimming and comfort levels are then recorded and they are placed in the appropriate group for their level. At the conclusion of the four-week course, assessments are again given with the results recorded and shared with the families through "Maricopa Swims – Learn to Swim Progress Card." A final survey is also given to parents of the participants, asking them to assess again how safe they believe their child to be around water, and with additional questions asking them to assess the program as a whole. A report with these findings and expenditure tracking will be shared at the close of the program in the fall of 2023.

**E. Budget:**

The City of Maricopa is requesting \$15,000 for the 2023 program. Additional funding provided by Global Water Resources and the City of MaricopaThe funding would help offset the cost of the program as outlined below:

Item	Cost estimate
Transportation to and from local schools and Copper Sky	\$ 14,000.00
800 hours of swim lesson instruction	\$ 12,000.00
200 free swim lesson vouchers for home school students	\$ 7,000.00
Materials	\$ 1,500.00
<b>Total (less donations)</b>	<b>\$ 34,500.00</b>

**F. Additional information:**

As the Maricopa Unified School District serves as the educator for most of the Ak-Chin community's youth, Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water will directly serve the Ak-Chin community. This program will be a direct and proactive step in assuring safety around water for the children of the Maricopa and Ak-Chin community. Please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=os4WluSK1pc> for an informative video detailing the pilot Maricopa Swims – Safe in the Water program.