



**Proposition 202 Tribal Gaming  
Application Sponsorship/Support Form  
Requesting Pinal County serve as the Fiscal Agent/Pass Through Entity**

**Name of the Tribal Community:** Gila River Indian Community

**Due date of the application to the Tribal community:** April 1, 2024

The following information will be used by Pinal County to 1) send the resolution and grant documents for the applicant to submit to the Tribal community, 2) send the funds, if awarded.

**Name of the Non-profit:** Hope International Food Pantry, Inc.

**Contact person/title:** Audrey Warren, President

**Email address:** audri42@gmail.com

**Address:** 1280 N. Arizona Blvd., Coolidge, AZ 85126

**Project name:** Hope International Food Pantry Supplemental Nutrition Program

**Amount being requested:** \$30,000

**Project summary:** To serve vulnerable, food insecure residents of Pinal County with supplemental nutritious food as part of the TEFAP program.

**Beneficiaries:** Low to moderate income Pinal County residents

**Supervisor District:** Mike Goodman

The undersigns hereby certifies they have read and comply with the responsibilities set forth in the PINAL COUNTY TRIBAL GAMING GRANT PROGRAM  
Request for fiscal agent/pass through support documentation.


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director name and signature



## Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024

### Cover Sheet

Click field or use up/down arrow keys to move among fields

Municipality Information	
1. Date of Application: 2/12/2024	
2. Name of City, Town or County: Pinal County	
3. Mayor (City or Town) or Board of Supervisor's Chairman (County): Mike Goodman	
4. Mailing Address: 31 North Pinal Street, PO Box 1348	
5. City: Florence	State: Arizona Zip Code: 85132
6. Acknowledgement of Submission by Authorized Municipality Representative: Typed Name/Title: Heather Patel, Grants Administrator Email Address: heather.patel@pinal.gov Signature:	
Applicant Information	
7. Department/Organization Name: Hope International Food Pantry, Inc.	
8. Select Organization Type: 501c3 Non-Profit  If Non-profit please attach IRS Determination Letter	
9. Application Contact Person: Audrey Warren Title: President	
10. Phone Number: 480-826-3775	
11. Mailing Address: 1280 N. Arizona Boulevard	
12. City: Coolidge	State: Arizona Zip Code: 85126
13. Email Address: audri42@gmail.com Website Address: www.HopeInternationalFoodPantry.org	
Project Information	
14. Project Name: Hope International Food Pantry Supplemental Nutrition Program	
15. Purpose of Grant: To serve vulnerable, food insecure residents of Pinal County with supplemental nutritious food.	
16. Priority Funding Area	Healthcare
17. Annual amount requested	\$30,000
18. Number of years that funding is requested	1
19. Total amount requested (annual amount x number of years)	\$30,000
20. Has your organization received past funding from GRIC? If yes, list each year and amount	No
21. Geographic area served	Pinal County

For Office Use Only:		
Data Entry	Receipt	Evaluation
<input type="checkbox"/> Approval – Amount/Term		<input type="checkbox"/> Denial



## *Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024*

### Narrative

Please structure your proposal to provide the following information in the order indicated. Provide the narrative in paragraph form in the text field provided. Please be thorough but strive for brevity.

#### 1. Briefly describe your organization's history, mission and goals.

Hope International Food Pantry (HIFP) is fueled by a commitment to meet the basic needs of families in our community. Originally established as a program of Hope International Ministry, our food pantry began meeting the needs of our area's most vulnerable families in 2016. As demand for the food pantry program increased, the pantry was ultimately established as an independent entity to fulfill its mission by offering opportunities to improve the physical and spiritual health of needy families in the Pinal County area. Our goal is to serve anyone and everyone who finds themselves in need of supplemental nutritious food. Although our main objective is to serve the people in our immediate community, our services are available to anyone who comes to our food pantry on the designated dates and times. We never turn anyone down because they don't live within our community.

Recognizing the continuously increasing demand for our services in Pinal County, it was an integral component of our 2020 strategic plan to increase unrestricted funding, allowing us a greater ability to meet the needs of the hungry residents and those with food insecurity in our service area. We had seen the number of individuals served monthly grow from 367 in January 2020 to 809 by April of 2021. We planned to distribute a significantly increased number of emergency food boxes, and proved successful. With the help of funding from Pinal County, during the height of the pandemic in 2020 we were able to distribute almost 3,000 emergency food boxes valued at over \$115,000. In 2021, this number increased again to almost \$120,000. As our community continues to recover from the pandemic, the demand for supplemental food aid has not waned. In 2022 we distributed over \$130,000 in supplemental food and last year our food distribution grew again to an incredible \$152,000. As demand has grown, we have identified the need for improvements to our facilities and infrastructure, including increasing the availability of refrigeration and freezers, shelving, and storage.

In addition to our supplemental food aid program, HIFP also meets other basic needs in the community through the delivery of a comprehensive suite of social assistance. This includes the distribution of school supplies to families in need, entrepreneurial opportunities for women, holiday assistance, and the provision of vouchers for temporary shelter for the homeless. As a result of our commitment to the community, Hope International Food Pantry was recognized by the Coolidge Chamber of Commerce as its 2021 Nonprofit of the Year.



## *Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024*

2. To determine eligibility for this grant, if the applying organization is non-municipal or non-profit, please describe your relationship with the supporting municipality, how this project will benefit the municipality, and the municipality's role in this project, if applicable. If the applying organization is a municipality or a municipal sub-division please enter the text "Not applicable" and go to item 3.

Hope International Food Pantry works with Pinal County in providing services as a Partner Agency. In 2020 we received funding from Pinal County via the county's allocation of Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus aid. In 2021-2023 we were funded as a Partner Agency via the General Fund. Funds were used to provide emergency food relief to individuals and families in Pinal County.

3. Describe the proposed project, objectives, and your plan to implement.

Our primary initiative is our emergency food relief program. Unfortunately, we are living in a time where it is becoming harder for families to make ends meet and to put adequate, healthy food on the table. Hunger and food insecurity are very real concerns for many Americans, and Pinal County is no exception. Our food outreach program equips at-risk, struggling individuals and families, immigrants, the unemployed, and others facing personal or financial crises with fundamental resources in order to position them to be successful, self-sufficient, productive members of their communities.

Our food pantry thus distributes emergency food boxes every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 8:00-10:00 a.m. These boxes contain a variety of fresh, frozen, and nonperishable food items, seeking to provide each recipient with the necessary elements of a well-balanced diet.

Hope International Food Pantry is a participant in The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). We also work closely with local churches, other local pantries, and other not-for-profit agencies to provide for the needs of our communities. Some of our partners currently include Arizona Midwest Food Bank and United Food Bank. We purchase food in bulk from wholesalers to supplement donations received from various individuals, churches, businesses, and community groups.

In addition, we aim to serve local residents with other social services, such as emergency cash assistance, clothing aid, and assistance with shelter and other immediate needs.

Our overarching goal is to alleviate hunger in our community. In 2024, our organization aspires to:

- Encourage quality nutrition, and thus enhance health and wellbeing, through the distribution of nutritious food to those in need.
- Provide continuous socioeconomic support in the Pinal County area through comprehensive community support initiatives.
- Build long-standing partnerships with other organizations in the community that share the same vision.



## *Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024*

Specifically, our quarterly and annual outcome objectives include:

1. Increase food distribution participation to serve 1,000 unique families in 2024.
2. Distribute at least 1,250 emergency food boxes quarterly and 5,000 annually during 2024.
3. Provide other charitable aid, such as cash, clothing, and medical assistance to 50 individuals annually during 2024.

As a result of the growing demand for stop-gap food assistance in Pinal County, our organization's resources have become strained. In order to continue to maintain adequate food inventory to meet the demand, and to successfully serve these families with vital basic aid, it is essential that we invest in capital improvements. Specifically, we face a need to obtain a cooler van for efficient transport of refrigerated food items, more efficient refrigeration, and additional shelving and storage options.

4. Describe how the proposed project satisfies one or more of the priority funding areas identified by the Gila River Indian Community.

GRIC guidelines give priority to projects promoting healthcare, and adequate nutrition is a critical part of health and wellness. We recognize that good nutrition is essential for keeping people of all ages healthy across the lifespan. Malnutrition adversely affects the physiological and mental capacity of individuals; which in turn hampers productivity levels, making them and their respective countries more susceptible to poverty. A two-way link exists between malnutrition and poverty, creating a vicious cycle with each fueling the other. Malnutrition produces conditions of poverty by reducing the economic potential of the population and likewise, poverty reinforces malnutrition by increasing the risk of food insecurity.

On the other hand, adults who eat a healthy diet live longer and have a lower risk of obesity, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and certain cancers. Healthy eating can help people with chronic diseases manage these conditions and prevent complications, as well as help healthy people fight off disease.

5. Identify the needs/problems to be addressed, target population and number of people to be served by the project.

Though many of us may not realize the grave disparities that exist in our own communities, people struggle with hunger in every community in Arizona, including Pinal County. In some communities, more than half of all residents are food insecure. Hunger and food insecurity don't discriminate: they affect people of all ages, races, and genders. They happen everywhere and could be affecting someone in your neighborhood today. They could be our neighbors, kids in our children's classes.



## *Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024*

Food insecure households often survive on limited budgets and are confronted with choices between paying for food and paying for other essentials. These dilemmas can put households in the position of choosing between competing necessities. A majority of food insecure households report having to choose between paying for food and paying for utilities (69%), transportation (67%), medical care (66%), or housing (57%) at some point during the year. Among households making these spending tradeoffs, typically one-third report doing so every month. These households make choices between food and educational expenses least frequently, perhaps because not all households contain students, although 31 percent of households still report choosing between food and education at some point in the past year.

Food Stamp benefits, income deductions, and other qualifications for federal nutrition assistance have not kept pace with inflation, nor do they accurately reflect rising household and living expenses, such as the price of gasoline, electricity, food, or medicine. Families need additional support to thrive. Now, the pandemic has changed everything, particularly for certain vulnerable populations. Before the pandemic, the monthly poverty rate for white individuals was 11 percent, versus nearly 24 percent for Black and Hispanic individuals. While the estimated poverty rate crept up to 12.3 percent for white individuals in August, it increased to 26.3 percent for Black individuals and 26.9 percent for Hispanic individuals that same month. In other words, the poverty gap between white people and Black and Hispanic people widened during the pandemic. Fortunately, together charitable food assistance programs like ours and federal nutrition assistance programs weave a nutritional safety net for households in need.

### **6. Define the project as a new or continuing program. Has GRIC previously funded this project?**

This is a continuing program, with no prior GRIC funding.

### **7. Provide a brief timeline including start and finish dates. Indicate if the timeline is flexible.**

Our emergency food relief program operates on an ongoing basis. However, once funds become available to serve an increased number of area residents, we plan to make rapid changes to our pantry's infrastructure. Over the course of approximately 30 days, we could obtain the necessary equipment and supplies and, relying on our committed volunteers, update the facility to accommodate the additional demand for services. While the upgrades are needed as soon as possible, we have the flexibility to begin once funding is obtained.



## *Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024*

### 8. Identify other organizations, partners or funders participating in the project and their roles.

We have received funding for the supplemental food program from Pinal County, as well as from Tohono O'odham Nation. In addition, we have relationships with several other agencies which contribute significantly in-kind to our programs, including the Arizona Midwest Food Bank, the federal TEFAP program (The Emergency Food Assistance Program), Assoc. of Arizona Food Banks, Shope's IGA, and United Food Bank.

### 9. Would you be able to implement the proposed plan if your organization received partial funding for this project?

Yes, our food distribution program operates on an ongoing basis and we will generously serve as many individuals as possible with a partial award. While the number of families we are able to serve is limited by the amount of funding received, it is always our objective not to deny assistance to any individual or family in need of food aid and we will make every effort not to do so.

### 10. Describe your plan for project financial sustainability beyond the grant period. If this is a program/project previously funded by the Gila River Indian Community describe efforts made towards the previously described sustainability plan.

We plan to rely on the generosity of our existing donors to support the food pantry's ongoing operations, including those that contribute in-kind as well as those making financial contributions and donations of time. Our donor base has expanded greatly in the last several years of operations, and we expect to continue to garner community support. Our staff has a long history of community involvement, with proven success in other charitable efforts, resulting in many long-standing relationships through which we hope to secure increased funding for our efforts.

### 11. Describe your plan to document progress and results.

We realize the importance of being an outcome-based organization and thus will focus heavily on producing sustainable results for those we serve. The effectiveness of our programming is determined by assessing the impact of our programs on individuals and families, using a number of criteria to evaluate their progress in academic, economic, and professional areas.

We plan to develop a database through which to effectively track the number of clients served, the resources provided, and the impact achieved, potentially including the following metrics:

- Total clients served
- Total number of food boxes distributed monthly/quarterly/annually
- Total partnerships maintained
- Average duration of client participation



## *Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024*

- Number of positive placements with other resource programs
- Percent of clients achieving self-sufficiency
- Other measurable metrics, as identified

We are working to develop processes through which we may evaluate more long-term outcomes of our work. All funders of the organization will receive annual reports during the award year, as will board members, the executive director, and other interested individuals

12. Indicate any application to and/or awards made by a tribe other than the Gila River Indian Community for state shared revenues for this and any other project for the past five (5) years. If this information is included in a separate attachment, please indicate that here.

We submitted an application for Prop 202 funding in 2022 but did not receive an award.





## Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024

### Project Budget

Budget Period: 2024

For each budget item listed here please provide a narrative description on the following Project Budget Detail page.

Proposed Budget Expense (list each budget item)	Amount requested from GRIC	Amount requested or secured from other sources	In Kind contributions	Total Budget
1. Building Lease	\$0	\$38,400	\$0	\$38,400
2. Storage Unit	\$0	\$4,560	\$0	\$4,560
3. Utilities	\$0	\$17,040	\$0	\$17,040
4. Food Distributions	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$150,000	\$195,000
5. Shelter Aid to Individuals	\$0	\$3,600	\$0	\$3,600
6. Other Aid for Basic Needs	\$0	\$2,400	\$0	\$2,400
7. Back to School Supply Event	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200
8. Women's Dress for Success Event	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
9. Small Business Expo	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
10. Thanksgiving Baskets	\$0	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
11. Christmas Dinners/Holiday Gifts	\$0	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000
12. Nonemployee Compensation	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000
13. Storage/Packaging/Supplies	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$20,000
14. Freezers/Refrigeration	\$5,000	\$4,600	\$0	\$9,600
15. Cooler Van	\$0	\$18,000	\$0	\$18,000
Total Budget	\$30,000	\$146,800	\$150,000	\$326,800



## *Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024*

### Project Budget Detail

Please provide a narrative description for each of the project budget items listed on the previous page. Include the dollar figure and how it was derived.

1. Building Lease: 12 months @ \$3,200 = \$38,400
2. Storage Unit: 12 months @ \$380= \$4,560
3. Utilities: Telecommunications @ \$330/month; Water @ \$200/month; Trash @ \$200/month; Sewer @ \$90/month; Electricity @ \$600/month = \$17,040
4. Food Distributions: 5,000 boxes distributed @\$39/box = \$195,000
5. Shelter Aid to Individuals: Estimated \$300/month in hotel aid x 12 months= \$3,600
6. Other Aid for Basic Needs: Estimated \$200/month in clothing/medication/cash aid x 12 months= \$2,400
7. Back to School Supply Event: 100 students served at \$12.00/student = \$1,200
8. Women's Dress for Success Event: \$1,500
9. Small Business Expo: \$1,000
10. Thanksgiving Baskets: 100 baskets distributed @ \$25 each = \$2,500
11. Christmas Dinners/Gifts: Christmas community dinner serving 100 @ \$15/person = \$1,500; Christmas Giving Tree serving 100 @ \$25/person = \$2,500
12. Nonemployee Compensation: Bookkeeping & Other Professional Fees @ \$3,000; Nonemployee Program Staff @ \$5,000 = \$8,000
13. Storage/Shelving/Supplies: Shelving, packaging materials, other program supplies and equipment @ \$20,000
14. Freezers/Refrigeration: 6 units @ \$1,600 each = \$9,600
15. Cooler Van: Van/Insurance/Fuel for 12 months @ \$1,500/month = \$18,000

Other explanation: [Click here to enter text.](#)

**To ensure a complete application and proper submission please refer to the Grant Application Instructions.**

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
P. O. BOX 2508  
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date:

**MAY 08 2020**

HOPE INTERNATIONAL FOOD PANTRY  
C/O AUDREY WARREN  
1280 N ARIZONA BLVD  
COOLIDGE, AZ 85128-0000

Employer Identification Number:  
84-2471262

DLN:

26053500001960

Contact Person:

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ID# 31954

Contact Telephone Number:

(877) 829-5500

Accounting Period Ending:

December 31

Public Charity Status:

170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:

Yes

Effective Date of Exemption:

March 5, 2020

Contribution Deductibility:

Yes

Addendum Applies:

No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to [www.irs.gov/charities](http://www.irs.gov/charities). Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

HOPE INTERNATIONAL FOOD PANTRY

Sincerely,

*Stephen A. Martin*

Director, Exempt Organizations  
Rulings and Agreements