



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

Name of the Tribal Community: Tohono O'odham Nation

Due date of the application to the Tribal community: June 7, 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: Manes and Miracles

Contact person/title: Lindsey Pittman

Email address: Lindsey@manesandmiraclesaz.org

Address: 43421 N Friend Ave, San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

Project name: Equine-Assisted Therapies and Activities Scholarships


Amount being requested: \$14,560

Project summary: One month of equine-assisted activities or therapies scholarships for 14 special needs children of low income families.

Beneficiaries: Developmentally disabled children 3-18 years old in the Phoenix East Valley

Supervisor District: Supervisor Mike Goodman, District 2

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.

Lindsey Pittman 
Director name and signature



Manes and Miracles Proposal Tohono O'odham Nation



A) As a single mother of four disabled, adopted children, Kara longed for her children to participate in physical therapy with equines but thought it was not within her means to afford. Evidence shows the far-reaching physical, mental, emotional, and cognitive benefits of using horses and other unconventional, yet highly effective outdoors-based tools as a part of therapeutic programs for individuals with disabilities. Unfortunately, the high cost of participation fees generally makes it out of reach for the children and families who benefit from it most, like Kara's. That is until the establishment of the Manes and Miracles Scholarship Fund. Kara's children received full scholarships and she has been amazed at the progress they quickly achieved at the Ranch.

Kara's story is quite common. The burden of medical care expenses that families with special needs children are saddled with is immense. We firmly believe that finances should not play a role in determining the best plan of care for a child. We seek to lift this burden by offering the life-altering healing that comes with equine-assisted therapy at little to no cost. After 6 years of successfully providing equine-assisted physical and occupational therapy for up to 70 children each week, we are now pleased to answer the demand for additional programs as we introduce adaptive riding, equine-assisted learning, and summer camps.



These new programs bring hope, happiness, and healing with horses to even more children with autism, down syndrome, PANDAS, ADD/ADHD, anxiety, and other physical and emotional disabilities. Through adaptive riding, higher-functioning children will build confidence as they learn horsemanship skills adapted to their unique abilities and goals. Equine-assisted learning teaches children vital life skills such as confident decision-making, communication, emotional regulation, positive social interactions, self-advocacy, responsibility for self and others, consideration, and more through their guided interactions with our horses and other ranch animals and environment.

Each session at Manes and Miracles bears an expense of \$285, a price that would be out of reach for our clients, 18.1% of whom are below the poverty level. While similar facilities in Arizona charge between \$30/session to \$200/session, we proudly offer

scholarships to every client, allowing clients to pay what they can afford with scholarships covering the remaining expense. During the 2022-2023 season, the Manes and Miracles Scholarship Fund provided \$110,580 in scholarship assistance for equine-assisted physical and occupational therapy alone. Inflation has seen expenses rise as much as 260%, making the Scholarship Fund more vital than ever. Our request for \$14,560 will provide one month of majority scholarships for 14 underprivileged children, like Kara's.

B) Manes and Miracles serves children between 3 and 18 years old with developmental disabilities in Pinal and East Maricopa counties. 67 children with physical, mental, and emotional disabilities receive deeply impactful services with us. 6% of our clients are Native American, 5% are black, 20% are Hispanic, 3% identify as multiracial, and the remaining 66% of clients are white. 32% of our clients are adopted or in foster care and 35% have a sibling or other family member also with a disability. We have around 140 children on our waitlist. Additionally, over 350 volunteer hours are



logged each week, many from individuals with disabilities themselves such as autism and PTSD. Individuals seeking to benefit from this proposal will apply for assistance based on their financial need and the recommendation of their supervising therapist ensuring that the funds are honored as disclosed in this application.

C) Manes and Miracles is requesting \$14,560 from the Tohono O'odham Nation's 12% Gaming Distribution for equine-assisted therapy and activities scholarships.

Manes and Miracles Scholarship Program Budget 2024		
Program-Specific Expenses Requiring Scholarship Funds		
Animals	\$55,057	Feed and supplements, vet care, farrier(hoof care), bodywork, bedding, etc for 6-8 horses, 3 goats, 2 pigs, 15 chickens.
Facility	\$68,267	93% of the 3.3-acre facility is used for the program exclusively.
Program management	\$70,200	The program director and barn manager oversee the safe and effective program implementation.
Insurance	\$5,300	
Appreciation	\$2,250	Recognition and appreciation for program contributions by volunteers and donors.
Utilities	\$10,230	93% of the overall organization utility expenses providing water for the animals & shade trees, electricity for arena lighting, waste removal, etc.
Total Program Expenses	\$211,304	The overall Manes and Miracles budget for 2024-2025 fiscal year is \$382,248. Direct program expenses represent 55% of the overall budget with most of the difference being staffing, fundraising, vehicles, bank fees, marketing, and other organizational overhead expenses.
Budgeted program fee income	\$33,300	Income from program fees, budgeting \$12,000 from equine-assisted therapy, \$11,000 from equine-assisted learning, \$6,600 from adaptive riding, and \$3,700 for summer camps.
Total Scholarship Budget	\$178,004	Total program expenses, less income from program fees, leaving the budget necessary for the Scholarship Fund.
Tohono O'odham Grant	\$14,560	One month (4 sessions) of majority scholarships for 14 children with special needs to participate in equine-assisted activities and therapies. (\$260/session x 14 children x 4 sessions)
Other Grants	\$65,000	Grants identified in section D as well as several others identified and will be applied for within the 2024 fiscal year.
Private Donations	\$57,500	Donations requested to be applied to the scholarship fund.
Fundraisers	\$40,944	Fundraising dollars to cover any deficiency in the scholarship budget.
Total Scholarship Funding	\$178,004	

D) To sustain our Scholarship Fund, we partner with community leaders whose values align with ours including but not limited to, the following:

- Donald C Brace Foundation, \$20,000 grant, funded.
- The Giving Machines, \$22,700 grant, funded.
- Ak-Chin Indian Community, \$14,000 grant, funded last season with some budget remaining for the 2024-2025 season. An additional \$14,000 grant application for the current season is under review.
- Walmart, \$15,000 grant, funded with \$3,000 earmarked for scholarships.
- Walmart, \$70,000 grant, under review.
- Gila River Indian Community, \$14,000 grant, under review
- Private Donor, \$7,500, under review.
- Additional grants and fundraisers will be submitted.

E) We have not previously received a grant as part of the 12% distribution from the Tohono O'odham Nation. We received \$14,000 from the Ak-Chin Indian Community on March 1, 2024 as a part of the 2023 Tribal Gaming Grant.

F) Designated contact and alternate contact:

Designated Contact

Lindsey Pittman
Co-founder & Executive Director
lindsey@manesandmiraclesaz.org
(480)359-6470
43421 N Friend Ave
San Tan Valley, AZ 85140
(no fax number)

Alternate Contact

Rebecca Thompson
Program Director
programs@manesandmiraclesaz.org
(480)359-6470
43421 N Friend Ave
San Tan Valley, AZ 85140
(no fax number)

G) The equine-assisted therapy scholarship proposal falls under the priority areas of **health care** and **child advocacy**.

H) Manes and Miracles will make an agreement with **Pinal County** if funds are granted.

Thank you for your time and consideration!



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

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date:

MAY 11 2018

MANES AND MIRACLES
1180 W ROSEMARY AVE
QUEEN CREEK, AZ 85140-0000

Employer Identification Number:
82-5409126
DLN:
26053528010188
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:
April 20, 2018
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. 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.

Letter 947

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



So many things in Kyle James' life are hard. He works for every step, every accomplishment. Coming to Manes and Miracles isn't hard. It is FUN. It's a special day for him. He has no idea he is working. -Kyle James' mom



Riding the horse allows her to experience life in a whole new way that her own body is not physically able to do. It is amazing to see the progress and the joy she has found in this. The love of being on the horse brings a whole other level of motivation to work on fine motor skills plus muscle strengthening. - Lucy's Mom



There is power and peace when being here with these horses- it's a feeling that is hard to put into words. They work really hard to keep the cost down, which keeps it affordable for us- compared to many ranches, it's a big difference. - Maverick's Mom



I love Manes and Miracles because it's a safe place for my son to learn and grow. The facility is... full of amazing activities and obstacles to help the physical and mental growth and development of the participants. - Camden's dad

Hippotherapy has been a game changer for my child. On top of meeting her occupational therapy needs, my child is also able to have her emotional needs met by working closely with the horses. Seeing the look of accomplishment on her face [is] awesome! -Mila's mom

