



PINAL COUNTY

WIDE OPEN OPPORTUNITY

**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: 03/31/25

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: Against Abuse, Inc.

Contact person/title: Maria-Elena Ochoa, Deputy Director

Email address: maria-elenaocioha@against-abuse.org

Address: 119 N. Florence Street, Casa Grande, AZ 85122

Project name: Solar Panels

Amount being requested: \$121,054.50

Project summary: Purchase and install solar panels and inverters at AAI's shelter in the city of Maricopa, to eliminate the cost of electricity.

Beneficiaries: Funds not spent on electricity will be spent on direct and indirect funds for services and supports provided to victims of domestic and/or sexual violence. In addition, by reducing our carbon footprint, the general community will benefit from improved environmental quality.

Supervisor District: Victims are served from all of Pinal County, including Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

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
Pat Griffen, Executive Director

CINCINNATI OH 45999-0038

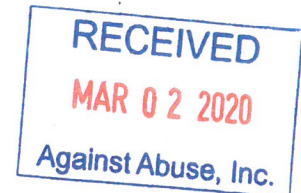
In reply refer to: 0256439177
Mar. 02, 2020 LTR 4168C 0
94-2856310 000000 00

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BODC: TE

AGAINST ABUSE INC
% PATRICIA R J GRIFFEN EXEC DIR
PO BOX 10733
CASA GRANDE AZ 85130



058438



Employer ID number: 94-2856310
Form 990 required: Yes

Dear Taxpayer:

We're responding to your request dated Feb. 24, 2020, about your tax-exempt status.

We issued you a determination letter in January, 1983, recognizing you as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3).

We also show you're not a private foundation as defined under IRC Section 509(a) because you're described in IRC Sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Donors can deduct contributions they make to you as provided in IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts under IRC Sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

In the heading of this letter, we indicated whether you must file an annual information return. If you're required to file a return, you must file one of the following by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of your annual accounting period:

- Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or Form 990-EZ
- Form 990-PF, Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

According to IRC Section 6033(j), if you don't file a required annual information return or notice for 3 consecutive years, we'll revoke your tax-exempt status on the due date of the 3rd required return or notice.

You can get IRS forms or publications you need from our website at www.irs.gov/forms-pubs or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

If you have questions, call 877-829-5500 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.,

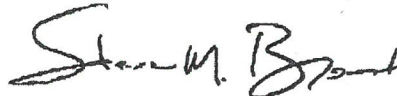
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AGAINST ABUSE INC
% PATRICIA R J GRIFFEN EXEC DIR
PO BOX 10733
CASA GRANDE AZ 85130

local time, Monday through Friday (Alaska and Hawaii follow Pacific time).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,



Steve M. Brown, Operations Manager
Operations 3-CIN



Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2025

Cover Sheet

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

Municipality Information	
1. Date of Application: 2/19/2025	
2. Name of City, Town or County: Pinal County	
3. Mayor (City or Town) or Board of Supervisor's Chairman (County): Stephen Miller, Board of Supervisors, Chair	
4. Mailing Address: 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 Manager	
Email Address: heather.patel@pinal.gov	Signature:
Applicant Information	
7. Department/Organization Name: Against Abuse, Inc.	
8. Select Organization Type: 501c3 Non-Profit If Non-profit please attach IRS Determination Letter	
9. Application Contact Person: Maria-Elena Ochoa Title: Deputy Director	
10. Phone Number: 480.734.7496	
11. Mailing Address: PO Box 10733	
12. City: Casa Grande	State: Arizona
Zip Code: 85130	
13. Email Address: maria-elenaocioha@against-abuse.org	Website Address: www.against-abuse.org
Project Information	
14. Project Title: Solar Panels for One Shelter	
15. Purpose of Grant: Eliminate the cost of use of electricity by using solar panels.	
16. Priority Funding Area	Public Safety
17. Annual amount requested	\$121,054.50
18. Number of years that funding is requested	1
19. Total amount requested (annual amount x number of years)	\$121,054.50
20. Has your organization received past funding from GRIC? If yes, list each year and amount	2019: \$58,250; 2017: \$99,990; 2014: \$100,000; 2013: 100,000; 2009-2011: \$250,000
21. Geographic area served	Pinal County

For Office Use Only:		
Data Entry	Receipt	Evaluation
☐ Approval – Amount/Term		☐ Denial



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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.

Against Abuse, Inc. (AAI) has been providing services for victims and survivors of domestic violence (DV) since 1981. In 1981, AAI started out by utilizing a Safe Home Network model, benefiting from the generosity and compassion of those who opened their homes to help victims escape violent relationships to safety. In 1986, AAI opened its first Emergency DV Shelter in Casa Grande, AZ, La Casa de Paz (The Home of Peace) serving women and children. In 2002, AAI opened its Animal Safe Home Network, realizing that often, survivors did not leave their abuser because they did not want to leave their pets with someone who may harm or kill them. In 2004, AAI opened its Transitional Housing program. Las Casitas (The Little Homes) to support those who chose not to return to a home where someone was choosing to abuse them. These survivors needed assistance as they transitioned into their own homes. In 2005, AAI opened its first community-based office in Casa Grande. Although the services have been office based, mobile services have also been provided based on the needs of individuals served. In 2009, AAI opened Arizona's first OVW funded formal Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange program, La Paloma Center (The Dove Center) to provide a safe place for victims of DV who have a child or children in common, to exchange their children with a former abusive partner. In 2012, AAI opened its second community-based office in the city of Maricopa. In 2014, AAI began providing supervised visitation and safe exchange services for families where the children have been legally removed, very often due to DV, abuse, neglect, or exploitation. In 2014, AAI opened La Casa de Paz – Maricopa, a DV shelter in the city of Maricopa. In 2017, AAI received funding and began providing services specifically for victims/survivors of sexual assault. In 2017, AAI restructured its shelters such that: 1) In Casa Grande, the large shelter is focused on serving victims of domestic and sexual violence who need crisis shelter services and the smaller shelter is focused on providing transitional housing services; 2) In the city of Maricopa, the shelter configuration has been divided so one half serves victims of domestic and sexual violence who need crisis shelter services and the other half serves survivors who need transitional living services. AAI has been an active partner in the preparation and presentation of both the Annual Pinal County DV Conference and the Annual Pinal County Child Abuse Prevention Conference.

AAI's mission is "To provide services, support and education to all who experience the effects of family dysfunction and/or violence, past and present." AAI serves victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking and sex trafficking. AAI's philosophy is to provide trauma informed, culturally responsive services that are person and family centered, strength-based and choice driven. AAI's business philosophy focuses on the concepts of satisfaction,



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effectiveness, efficiency and access to services. Our goal is to: ensure that effective services make a positive impact on those we serve; to provide those services efficiently, making the most of available funding and resources; ensure those we serve to be highly satisfied with our services and supports; and those we serve have access to the services and supports they need in their journey towards survival and their new normal.

2. To determine eligibility for this grant please select one item in the drop-down below.

Non-Profit

If Municipal, please go to number 3 below.

If Non-Municipal or Non-profit, please describe how the services provided by your organization align with a government service of the supporting municipality. Explain how this project will support that service and describe the municipality's role in the project if applicable (beyond serving as a pass-through).

During Quarter 1, 2025, AAI will work with Pinal County, among other sources, to help identify a solar panel company that will provide quality services for a reasonable price that will help us stay within budgetary constraints. In this way, they will become our partner in helping us achieve our solar panel project.

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

Project Goals and Objectives and Outline Plan to meet the Goals

The goal: Utilize cost savings from using solar panels for needs of victims of domestic and/or sexual and/or dating violence, stalking and sex trafficking.

The objective is to purchase and begin using solar panels to eliminate large electricity bills.

Timetable for implementation of the Project:

Quarter 1, 2025: Identify distributor and installer of solar panels.

Quarter 2, 2026: Purchase solar panels.

Quarter 3, 2026: Make arrangements for a site survey, CAD/permit and installation of solar panels and install them.

Quarter 4, 2026: Activation of the systems so AAI can begin utilizing solar power in AAI's Maricopa shelter.



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

This request falls under GRIC's public safety priority. Based on information received from High Desert Energy (SUNLINK), with enough solar panels at the Maricopa shelter to eliminate electricity bills, the environmental impact on the general community would be the equivalent of reducing AAI's carbon footprint by eliminating 40 tons of CO2 emissions, which is the equivalent of planting 1,402 trees. AAI will have cost savings from not having to pay electricity bills. According to AAI QuickBooks, after reviewing 33-months of electricity costs, AAI spent \$31,623.07 for utilities at the Maricopa shelter. This money could have been better used to support underfunded both emergent and non-emergent direct and indirect services and supports to maintain the safety of victims of domestic and/or sexual and/or dating violence, stalking and trafficking.

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

Based on cost savings from not having to pay electricity bills, the population that will benefit directly includes victims of domestic and/or sexual and/or dating violence, stalking, and trafficking that are receiving direct services, supports and education from Against Abuse, Inc., serving all of Pinal County. Rather than spending the money on electricity, the funds could be used for emergent and non-emergent direct and indirect costs used to support the needs of victims. With imminent budget cuts, these would be the expenses that would suffer the most by being among the first to be carved out by funders. AAI's trauma informed services are victim centered, strength based, and choice driven. As a result, each victim's needs are unique and individualized. Nevertheless, their needs may include, but are not limited to: the cost of clothing, gas cards, food cards, day care, diapers, formula, court and other legal fees (from birth certificates and marriage licenses to orders of protection), transportation, vehicle repair, bus or air fare, furniture, certifications for employment, medical copays, emergency medication needs, back rent, and more. According to AAI's database, since 2018, the Maricopa shelter provided 24,112 bednights for 381 people (men, women and children).

The other population that will benefit would be Pinal County at large, due to the positive environmental impact of using solar power for our large amount of electricity usage. Use of solar panels would offset AAI Maricopa shelter's carbon footprint by eliminating the equivalent of 40 tons of carbon emissions into the environment, the equivalent of planting 1,402 trees. (Clarence Holland of High Desert Energy (SUNLINK) (05/31/24)

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



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This is a new program. It is also a one-time purchase. Once enough solar panels are purchased, there will not be a need to purchase solar panels again. The solar panels project will sustain itself through the use of solar power vs. pulling power from “the grid.”

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

AAI anticipates spending these funds by October 31, 2026, based on when awards are made. AAI anticipates spending the funds during the course of 12 months after receipt of the funds, based on the identified program timeline.

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

During Quarter 1, 2025, AAI will identify a solar panel company that will provide quality services for a reasonable price that will help us stay within budgetary constraints. They will become our partner in helping us achieve our solar panel project. APS (Arizona Public Service) and ED3 are our current providers of electrical power. They will help us transition from utilizing power from “the grid” to using only solar power at our sites.

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

Yes, we understand that funding amounts fluctuate and, if awarded, will make adjustments in accordance with our aware, i.e. purchase less panels.

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.

AAI is continuously seeking alternate funding for services provided, especially during a time when funding is in jeopardy at the federal level, and VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) funding was in jeopardy of being cut in half.

11. Describe your plan to document progress and results.

AAI will deposit grant award funds into the agency’s bank account. AAI will obtain bids to identify a qualified solar panel provider that will meet AAI’s needs and expectations. Arrangements will be made for payment of the solar panels. Once that has been determined, the solar panel provider will submit an invoice to AAI. AAI staff will generate a PR (purchase request) to be submitted to their supervisor for approval. The supervisor will submit the authorized PR to the Finance Manager, who will pay the Solar Panel provider, as per the invoice.



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Payment will be recorded in QuickBooks under the assigned account for tracking purposes. Utilizing QuickBooks, the Finance Manager will also track the electricity bills as they are provided by APS and ED3. They will be reviewed to ensure no payment for electricity is required, other than small, regular monthly fees for the electricity company to manage the account. As indicated on the bills, AAI staff will also review the savings generated, and other potential indicators, for example, the CO2 emissions avoided, and the equivalent of the number of trees planted. Information to be tracked will be based on information found on the electrical company's "bill." If there are issues with the bills, or it seems the panels are not working correctly, the Finance Manager will alert the Associate Director and/or the Director overseeing AAI's Residential Services who will follow-up with the electrical company for details as well as the solar panel provider as needed for repairs, adjustments of the equipment, etc.

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.

Tohono O'odham: 12/28/21: \$24,542.70: Air Scrubbers for AAI facilities as well as Security System.
Ak-Chin: 02/20/20: \$39,939.63: computer workstations
06/24/21: \$24,542.70: Air Scrubbers for AAI facilities as well as Security System



Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2025

Project Budget

Budget Period: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Proposed Budget Expense (list each budget item)	Amount requested from GRIC	Amount requested or secured from other sources	In Kind or matching contributions	Total Budget
1. Click here to enter text.	\$121,054.50	\$0	\$0	\$0
2. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
6. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
7. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
8. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
10. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
11. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
12. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
13. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
14. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
15. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget	\$121,054.50	\$0	\$0	\$0



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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 attained.

1. \$121,054.50: 122 panels and 4 inverters for a system size of 49.41 kW for the Maricopa Crisis Shelter, consisting of 6,672 square feet

2. [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

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