



Four Valley Youth Sport Programs receive a total of \$8,161 from AZSTA

GLENDALE, Ariz. (Sept. 29, 2007) – The Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority (AZSTA) has awarded \$8,161 to four valley youth sport programs for new equipment, uniforms and renovations.

The City of Tempe’s Westside Multigenerational Center (WMC) received \$2,050 to replace broken and unusable fitness equipment. The WMC is one of the City of Tempe’s five community centers. Members of the city who do not have the financial resources to access a traditional fitness facility that charges a fee to use, can access the WMC. At the WMC, the community has full access to treadmills, stationary bikes, free weights, a rowing machine, and bench press free of charge. Over 1,500 Boys and Girls Club members utilize the community center each year. Over 5,000 individuals utilize the fitness room, including the Association of Retarded Citizens which holds fitness classes throughout the year.

The Thunderbird Little League received \$2,475 to assist in the baseball field renovation project at the Sunburst Elementary School. The league has been operating for 35 years in the Northwest Valley; serving youth ages 5-16. There are approximately 150 kids in the league who utilize the field during the

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season. The upgrading of the fields consists of replacing the sprinkler system, new sod and stabilizers as well as a rebuilding of the pitchers mound. Players in the league, as well as the children that attend the Sunburst Elementary School, will be safer with the renovations.

The Fountain Hills Soccer Club received \$1,293 to assist in the purchase of new soccer equipment. The club serves approximately 400 youth soccer players in the town of Fountain Hills, and is for all skill levels, from beginner to advanced. The club's goal has been to give the players the opportunity to develop a variety of soccer skills while fostering character development in an environment that is empowering and fun. By assisting with the purchase of equipment, it will help keep the registration fees at a minimum.

The Scottsdale YMCA received \$2,343 to assist in the purchase of sports equipment for their Midnight Madness program. The program has been running for over 20 years and currently serves over 100 children and their parents each night of the program. The program is currently held at the Black Mountain Elementary School and runs every Friday night from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. for any 6th-8th graders and their parents or guardians. This program provides a safe, healthy alternative weekend event that encourages activity and positive teen and adult relationships.

AZSTA is a Municipal Corporation dedicated to enhancing Maricopa County's economy and community's quality of life. AZSTA gave these awards under its Quick Grant program, a program which accepts funding applications on

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a year-round basis for smaller projects and programs requesting a maximum of \$2,500. AZSTA sets aside 5 percent of its annual Youth & Amateur Sports funding per Arizona Revised Statutes for this program and awards the funds on a first-come, first-served basis providing that the program's criteria are met. Grants are based on a completed Quick Grant Program Funding Application and project budget template and the stated need to serve youth and amateur sports, demonstration of financial need and the benefit to a local community. To get more information about AZSTA and the Youth & Amateur Sports grants go to www.az-sta.com.

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