

City of Tempe
Community Services
Escalante Community Center
2150 E. Orange St.
Tempe, AZ 85281
www.tempe.gov/escalante



January 31, 2018

Tempe Diablos Charities,

The Escalante Community Center is owned and operated by the City of Tempe. The Escalante Center opened in 1971 to serve the low-socio economic families in the Victory Acres and Escalante neighborhoods just north of Thew Elementary School. We strive to improve the quality of life for patrons by creating an enriching environment and providing a variety of programs that are affordable, innovative and responsive to community needs. Through collaboration and creative strategies, we promote sustainability that creates positive change in our community. We provide recreation, education, social, and cultural programs & activities to underserved and less privileged populations. We currently serve patrons ranging from toddlers through senior citizens in a variety of programs.

The Escalante Center serves multi-generational families by providing Early Childhood Education Programs; After-School Programs; fitness programs for youth and adults; computer classes via a City of Tempe Public Library satellite site; music programs via a partnership with the Phoenix Conservatory of Music; special events and field trip opportunities to teens; resume, job search assistance, and workforce development via a partnership with Maricopa County; as well as daily meals, special events and programs for seniors. Many of these programs are grant-funded and available at low or no cost to patrons.

The past two years, the Escalante Community Center has very fortunately received a grant award from the Tempe Diablos. We implemented a co-ed 5th grade intramural soccer league in collaboration with Tempe Elementary School District (TD#3). The first year, 10 schools participated. Due to increased interest and the continued generosity of the Tempe Diablos, we expanded to 16 TD#3 Schools for the second year of the program. This after school club was designed to incorporate school teachers and target kids that don't have the opportunity to play in a structured league. The excitement and interest at the elementary schools has been outstanding, allowing 256 kids to participate in the second season. We are applying for grant funding to continue the program with all 16 TD#3 Schools that have 5th grade students. Due to continued demand, grant funding will be used to expand the number of participants from each school. If awarded, grant funds will be used to purchase additional uniforms, replace some uniforms and equipment, and schedule soccer officials for games. This is a great opportunity to introduce a team atmosphere while igniting school spirit and competing in a friendly environment throughout the City of Tempe.

Sincerely,

Alex Jovanovic



