



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wesley Community and Health Centers ANNOUNCES GRANT FROM THE NINA MASON PULLIAM CHARITABLE TRUST

PHOENIX, Ariz. –May 19, 2021 – Wesley Community and Health Centers has received a grant totaling \$75,000 from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust.

“Wesley Community and Health Centers (Wesley) has provided safety-net primary family health care to low-income, uninsured, and underinsured families paired with community center programs and services such as free ESL, licensed after-school and summer programming, daily aerobics classes, community gardening and much more since 1950,” Blaine Bandi, CEO said. “This grant from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust will give us additional resources to better meet the increasing and emerging needs of our community as a result of COVID. The Pulliam funds help to offset the decreased funding received from programming and services being cancelled, reduced, or limited due to COVID and the “Stay at Home Order.” The grant also allows us to support new programs to meet new needs related to COVID. Examples include all day childcare for children with no option for in person schooling, so they have access to high-speed internet and are in a safe, supervised place to complete their on-line schooling; a free, healthy, nutritious meal program for children as well as to-go meals for families in need and COVID testing and vaccines.”

“We’re pleased to support Wesley in offsetting impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, which hit families with low incomes particularly hard. Wesley is providing a tremendous service for families striving to provide safe childcare, essential nutrition and enriching summer programs for their children,” said Trustee Chair Carol Schilling, Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust.

Funding from Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust ensures that Wesley continues to operate in the community and provide services such as primary health care, COVID testing and vaccines, after-school and summer programming for children and youth, free childcare for first responders, and free meals program for children and free to-go meals program for adults. These funds allow Wesley the opportunity to grow and expand these programs or shift to any other emergent need the community may have as a result of COVID – which has been changing the landscapes of our daily lives for over one year.

Since the Trust began its grant making in 1998, it has awarded more than \$340 million to 1,003 organizations in its home states of Arizona and Indiana. For more information about the Trust and its programs visit www.ninapulliamtrust.org.

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