Arlington H. S. Receives $200,000 Grant for New Synthetic Turf Football Field
Award is part of $2.5 million in new grants nationwide from NFL Foundation Grassroots Program

RENTON, Wash. – The Seattle Seahawks, in partnership with the NFL Foundation, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) and Impact Capital, announced today that Arlington High School will receive funding to install a new synthetic turf football field with a $200,000 grant through the National Football League Foundation Grassroots Program. The grant is part of $2.5 million in field refurbishment awards allocated to cities across the country this year. The new surface will replace a worn natural turf field at John C. Larson Stadium, about 40 miles north of Seattle.

"Congratulations to Arlington High School for taking advantage of this program through the NFL," said Seahawks VP Community Outreach Mike Flood. "The new synthetic turf football field will provide a quality playing surface for the students and community for many years to come."

The NFL Foundation Grassroots Program – a partnership between the NFL Foundation and LISC, the nation’s leading community development support organization – has supported the construction or renovation of 290 football fields nationwide since 1998. During that time, the NFL Foundation has granted nearly $37 million to revitalize playing fields in underserved neighborhoods. Fields are newly built or significantly renovated, with improvements such as irrigation systems, lights, bleachers, scoreboards, goal posts and turf. Grassroots grants are issued once established funding thresholds are reached for each project.

LISC identifies local, nonprofit, community-based agencies that have an interest in building or refurbishing football fields in schools and neighborhood parks. Through the program, local agencies are provided with the necessary financing and technical assistance to improve the quality and safety of fields in their communities. The agencies oversee the construction, maintenance and programming of the fields.

“These fields are useful in so many ways,” said Michael Rubinger, LISC’s president and CEO. “With them, local organizations can promote good physical fitness, teamwork, and community spirit – all critical elements of neighborhood health. The NFL Foundation has been a great partner in creating these essential community assets.”

In the summer of this year, Impact Capital, LISC’s affiliate partner in Washington State, and the NFL Foundation, chose Arlington High School as a recipient of the award. This award frees up capital for the school to use for other needed facility repairs and creates a safer playing field. It also comes at a time when the community is still recovering from the effects of the Oso mudslide in March.

“We know that the benefit of these fields goes beyond playing a game,” said Judith Olsen, Executive Director of Impact Capital. “Friday night football is one of the oldest traditions across the country, and one great thing about a field like this is that it can bring Arlington residents together and enhance their sense of community. We’ve already seen this region step up to tackle a huge disaster and demonstrate just what community means to them. Thank you to the NFL Foundation and congratulations Arlington.”

Arlington High School was also awarded an additional $25,000 grant from ESPN to help cover the costs of installation or refurbishment of bleachers, concession stands, lighting, a scoreboard and/or fencing.
**About the NFL Foundation**
The National Football League Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of those touched by the game of football – from players at all levels to communities across the country. The NFL Foundation represents the 32 NFL clubs and supports the health and safety of athletes, youth football, and the communities which support our game. For more information on The NFL Foundation, visit: [www.NFLFoundation.org](http://www.NFLFoundation.org).

**About LISC**
LISC combines corporate, government and philanthropic resources to help nonprofit community development corporations revitalize distressed neighborhoods. Since 1980, LISC has raised more than $13.8 billion to build or rehab more than 313,000 affordable homes and develop 51 million square feet of retail, community and educational space nationwide. LISC support has leveraged nearly $41.2 billion in total development activity. For more information, visit [www.lisc.org](http://www.lisc.org).

**About Impact Capital**
As the Pacific Northwest affiliate of LISC, Impact Capital is the leading catalyst in building equitable, vibrant and sustainable communities throughout Washington State. Impact Capital provides loans, grants and technical assistance to nonprofit community development and affordable housing organizations serving low- and moderate-income individuals. To date, Impact Capital has invested over $135 million in Washington’s underserved communities.

**About ESPN Corporate Outreach**
ESPN has been entertaining sports fans for nearly 35 years and strives to be a responsible corporate citizen. The corporate citizenship program of ESPN encompasses our multi-faceted community initiatives, including employee volunteerism, charitable giving and cause marketing, while also utilizing our diverse media assets. ESPN strives to have a positive impact on our employees, fans and communities worldwide.

**Contacts:**
- Clare Graff (NFL)  
  (212) 450-2435  
  Clare.Graff@nfl.com
- Judith Olsen (Impact Capital)  
  (206) 658-2602  
  judith@impactcapital.org
- Suzanne Lavender (Seahawks)  
  (425) 203-8024  
  SuzanneL@Seahawks.com