

## 8. OLDER ADULTS FUNDING REPORT 2002-2003

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Community Board of the outcomes of the Older Adults funding grants that were distributed to community groups and organisations in the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board area during the 2002-2003 financial year.

### SUMMARY OF PROCESS

Community Board Project Funds provided over \$5,000 toward local programmes and providers to support/enhance existing programmes for older adults in the Spreydon/Heathcote area during the 2002-2003 financial year. Letters were sent to a database of over 80 local providers requesting that they apply for funding for a specific project involving older adults in leisure activities. Distributing funding in this way is an efficient way to both assist several local community groups which work with older adults and to reach a large number of local older residents. Criteria for funding was based on the parameters the Community Board agreed upon the previous year. These were:

- Projects which target older adults with the least access to recreation and arts opportunities
- Projects which target older adults in the Barrington and Spreydon Communities
- Projects to develop or continue gentle exercise classes

Recipients of funding were:

Beckenham Friendship Club	\$350
Huntsbury Community Centre Gentle Exercise Group	\$96
Manuka Cottage	\$350
Nazareth House	\$300
Rowley Resource Centre/Tongan Community Centre	\$2,178
Sacred Heart (Addington) Friendship Group	\$974
St. Martins Friendship Club	\$300
St Mary's (Addington) Social Club	\$100
Special Needs Toy Library	\$80
Whareora Trust	\$300
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$5,037</b>

#### Beckenham Friendship Group

Some of the regular bus outings by older adults attending this group were subsidised by the funding provided. Each month this group organises three activities – a social afternoon that caters for 50-60 people, a bus trip that caters for 30-35 people, and a popular Housie afternoon. In addition, there are bi-annual dinners catering for 85 people. Attendances at bus outings: 360

#### Huntsbury Gentle Exercise Group

A small amount of funding enabled this group to purchase exercise mats. The group has been meeting weekly for many years. In the beginning the group were instructed by a paid tutor, but now with dwindling numbers they choose to go through their routine by listening to an audio tape rather than attending one of the numerous alternative gentle exercise exercise classes available in the local area.

#### Manuka Cottage

Older adults in Addington in conjunction with Manuka cottage, have organised several outings to places and/or activities of interest in Christchurch. Outings were advertised locally and the funds were used to subsidise the costs for these older adults who have little discretionary funding. Due to health issues of several of the organisers, a number of planned outings did not eventuate and these have been postponed until the summer months. The funds will be spent by the end of February 2004. A total of over 50 attendances are anticipated.

#### Nazareth House

Funding provided assisted with costs associated in holding a Garden Fete, which was attended by residents of three local Rest Homes. Held during Show Week, the event was a chance to "bring the country to the city" for residents who were no longer mobile enough to attend the Show. Donkeys, miniature horses, vintage cars, roving entertainers, and live music provided a festive atmosphere. Attendances: approximately 300

**Rowley Resource Centre/Tongan Community Centre**

Classes in Gentle Exercise, a new initiative for older adults have been held twice a week at the Rowley Resource Centre. The classes are taken by a qualified tutor and attracts regular customers from the local area. An additional class by the same tutor, who is Tongan, is being held at the Tongan Community Centre and attracting a consistent group of 13 older women. The funding allows these three classes per week to be held, bridging the gap between income (a gold coin donation ) and tutor costs. Attendances: 434

**Sacred Heart Friendship Group**

This group was assisted with to continue with a Gentle Exercise class. Attendees pay \$2 per session for a one-hour session of exercise to music and chair exercises led by a qualified instructor. The funding provided covers the shortfall between income and cost. Attendances: 286

**St. Martins Friendship Group**

Entertainment costs were for regular weekly meetings were subsidised by the funding provided to this group. The group meets weekly and members range in age from age 60 to over 90 years, with an average thirty people attending each meeting. Attendances: approximately 600

**St Mary's Social Club**

A social afternoon for older adults was organised by this group. Funding was used for the provision of live musical entertainment. Attendances: 55

**Special Needs Toy Library**

Therapeutic musical instruments for older adults with very limited mobility were purchased with the funding provided to this organisation, based in Huxley Street. Local nursing homes and retirement villages, as well as families of older adults have been making use of this equipment. Usage of the equipment is estimated to be at 120 people.

**Whareora Trust**

The Friendship group at Whareora Trust caters for older adults who are largely socially isolated and on low incomes. The funding provided enabled the group to go on a variety of outings by subsidising the costs involved. Nine monthly outings were enjoyed by between six and fifteen people. Attendances: 81

**Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received