

9. ST STEPHEN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE - FUNDING APPLICATION

General Manager responsible:	Stephen McArthur, General Manager, Community Services
Officer responsible:	Lesley Symington, Unit Manager, Community and Recreation Unit
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to provide information in relation to an application for funding from St Stephen's Community Centre for \$3,890 from the Board's 2005/06 SCAP fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. St Stephen's Community Centre has submitted an application for funding to the Board for \$3,890 to provide two more 'Parenting with Confidence' programmes starting in the first term of 2006.
3. The Board provided funding to Presbyterian Support in September to run this programme in October 2005 through the St Stephen's Community Centre and they received an overwhelming number of families interested in attending. Fourteen families attended the October course and another 28 families are on the waiting list for the next courses.
4. The October course was extremely successful and parent feedback indicated that the course material was 'excellent and thought-provoking'. The parents also stated that the provision of childcare during the course made it possible for them to attend.
5. The St Stephen's Family and Community Worker, Marcel van der Weerden, runs the programmes.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. There are no legal considerations in regard to this application.
7. The funding requested covers two six week courses and is broken down as follows:

Parenting with Confidence course fee	\$1,890
Childcare provision	\$1,090
Advertising	\$ 360
Preparation and administration	\$ 560
8. The Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board currently provides financial support for the Family and Community Worker's position through the Board project funds.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

Approve the application for funding from the St Stephen's Community Centre for parenting programmes and allocate \$3,890 from the Board's 2005/06 SCAP fund.

BACKGROUND

9. The Family and Community Worker's main role is to provide counselling to families within the Fendalton/Waimairi area, particularly low income families in the Bryndwr area. This has grown to a full client load and the main issue his clients are presenting is parenting challenges of various kinds.
10. To respond to this identified need the Family and Community Worker wishes to support these parents by providing an accessible parenting programme targeted at parents of pre-schoolers.
11. The 'Parenting with Confidence' programme has been chosen due to the high quality material included and it is also a nationally recognised programme which makes it more attractive to parents.
12. Each course runs over a six week period with one three hourly session each week. The standard course fees for this programme range between \$60 to \$90. The funding they are requesting will reduce this fee to \$10 which will make the course a great deal more accessible to the parents they wish to target. There will be 14 places available on each course.

13. Childcare is also a barrier which stops families from attending these courses. This funding will also provide childcare for the parents during course time.
14. The total cost of the two courses is \$5,317 of which the fees will provide \$280 and the St Stephen's Community Centre will contribute \$1,147. They are requesting the remaining costs of \$3,890 from the Board to cover the use of the Parenting with Confidence Course fee, childcare costs and advertising.

OPTIONS

15. In relation to this application the Community Board could choose to:
 - a) grant \$3,890 to the St Stephen's Community Centre for the purpose of running two Parenting with Confidence courses
 - b) grant a portion of the amount requested
 - c) decline the application