

10. YOUTH FOR CHRIST, LINK - APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

General Manager responsible:	Stephen McArthur, General Manager, Community Services
Officer responsible:	Lesley Symington, Unit Manager, Community and Recreation Unit
Author:	Maryanne Lomax, DDI 941-6730

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to provide information in relation to an application for funding from Youth for Christ LINK for \$11,000 from the Board's 2005/06 SCAP or discretionary fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Youth for Christ - LINK are seeking financial assistance towards the costs involved in running the following programmes:
 - Kiwi Culture and ESOL – a weekly course for migrants who wish to learn or improve their English.
 - Discovery – a fortnightly support group for international students who need academic assistance, emotional support or cross-cultural fellowship.
 - Amity – a monthly support group for Asian women.
3. These programmes are targeted at migrants from the Fendalton/Waimairi area and are based at Burnside Elim Church in Grahams Road.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4. There are no legal considerations in relation to this application.
5. Funding requested is broken down as follows:

Kiwi Culture and ESOL	\$3,000
Discovery	\$2,000
Amity	\$3,000
Contribution to LINK Coordinator's wages	\$3,000
6. The total cost of the above projects is \$35,585. Additional funds are obtained through user fees, Centaury Foundation, and the Community Trust.
7. Previous funding received from this Board is as follows:

2004/05	LINK Programme (CD Scheme)	\$3,000
2004/05	LINK Programme (SCAP)	\$3,000
2003/04	Asian Women's Support Group	\$1,000

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

Approve the application for funding from Youth for Christ for operational costs and allocate a reduced amount of \$8,000 from it's 2005/06 SCAP or discretionary fund.

BACKGROUND

8. Youth for Christ LINK has been operating at Burnside Elim Church for the past three years and has worked with 150 students and 50 families during this time.
9. Their aim is to support Asian young people and their families through providing educational, recreational, and advocacy activities.
10. They are currently providing support to 20 students with the majority of these students coming from Japan. They also have students from China, Korea, Malaysia, Russia, Chile, and Taiwan.
11. LINK is open to all young people within the 8-25 year age group but has a special emphasis on young people and families from Asian backgrounds.
12. The weekly English language programme currently operates from 9.30am-12.00 noon. Classes provide support for beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels which are determined through the registration process. The participants are also encouraged to participate in other LINK activities.
13. Classes have a practical link to the community and topics covered include:
 - introducing yourself and others
 - telephone conversation skills
 - health
 - banking
 - shopping
 - driving in winter
 - community services
14. Students also undergo a review of their academic skills and abilities. In consultation with school teachers and tutors, a development plan is developed and monitored. Key subjects support are English, mathematics, economics, accounting, physics and chemistry.
15. Workshop groups are also provided and topics covered in these include:
 - New Zealand culture
 - How to Deal with Racism
 - Study Skills
 - Career advice
 - Employment issues and options
 - Budgeting
 - Legal Rights
16. The women's support group provides an environment for Asian women to meet and develop relationships and receive support for issues they are facing. A number of these women are 'geographically' single mothers as their husbands are working in their home countries.

OPTIONS

17. In relation to this application the Community Board could choose to:
 - a) grant the full amount requested to Youth for Christ LINK
 - b) grant a portion of the amount requested as per the staff recommendation
 - c) decline the application