

9. YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT FUND – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

General Manager responsible:	Group Manager Community Services, DDI: 941-8534
Unit Manager responsible:	John Filsell, Recreation and Sports Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Community Board approval for an application for funding from its 2006/07 Youth Achievement Fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Funding is being sought by the applicant, Kate Duncraft, a 14 year old girl who lives in the Cashmere area, towards costs associated with representing Canterbury at the 2006 Friendship Games hosted by NSW Soccer to be held in Sydney from 3-8 July 2006.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

3. There are no legal issues to be considered. The following outlines budgetary requirements for 2005:

Activity/Competition	Date	Cost
Air fare (incl taxes)	July 2006	\$ 750
Accommodation	July 2006	\$1,200
Other	July 2006	\$ 200
Total Cost		\$2,150 inc gst

4. The squad have been fundraising since February 2006, putting together events such as a movie night, a hypnotist night and a silent auction to name a few. Currently Kate has accumulated \$600 towards her trip cost through this fundraising and the squad are hoping to raise another \$500 per player prior to the Games.

BACKGROUND ON THE YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT FUND – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

5. Kate was selected in December 2005 by Mainland Soccer to train with the Girls High Performance Centre. This squad has been preparing by playing in the Under 14 years section 1, boys grade in Christchurch, as well as training two evenings a week with coach Steven Henshaw. Kate is a pupil at Christchurch Girls High School and plays in the first 11 in the Wednesday competition.
6. The 18-strong squad will play six games during the annual Friendship Games. Rather than a traditional tournament the Friendship Games focus us is on player development. The ethos is to foster a pressure-free atmosphere for the players which enables them to perform at their best in a tournament situation. The Mainland team that went to the 2005 Games really benefited from the trip and this was reflected in their performance at the national tournament in Napier last December when they came second.
7. The Duncraft family are heavily involved with competitive Soccer, with two other siblings representing Canterbury in their age group. Kate is a very sporty individual; she swam for Wharenui Swim Club from 5-12 years, representing Canterbury at the NZ Junior Nationals for three years. Kate decided to focus on efforts towards soccer from the age of 12 years and this had paid off selection for the Canterbury team for the past three years. Kate's long term goal is to represent Canterbury in all age levels and focus on selection for the New Zealand squad.
8. This is the first time the applicant has approached the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board under the Youth Achievement Fund for funding assistance.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board agree to allocate \$300 from its 2006/07 Youth Achievement Fund to assist with costs associated for Kate Duncraft's trip to the Friendship Games in Sydney, Australia from 3-8 July 2006.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be supported.