

### 13. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATION - RUKA WALKER

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Community Services , DDI 941-8534
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Recreation and Sports Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Diana Saxton, Community Recreation Adviser

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present an application for funding to the Community Board from the 2005/06 Youth Development Scheme.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The applications is for Ruka Walker, a 13 year old seeking funds to assist in travel to Oahu, Hawaii for a camp and cultural exchange with "Ke Ola Hou", a native Hawaiian Youth organisation.

This event will occur from 23 June to 7 July 2006.

3. This is the first time the applicant has approached the Community Board for funding support.

#### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4. There are no legal issues to be considered. The following tables provide a breakdown of the funding requested:

<b>Expense</b>	<b>Cost (\$)</b>
Travel to and from Auckland, accommodation, departure tax	385
Airfare (return)	1,510
Insurance	125
Accommodation (\$US300 - Exchange rate \$1.60)	480
Camp/activities (\$US170 - Exchange rate \$1.60)	272
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>2,772</b>
Amount raised by applicant (hangi, food stall, garage sales and a dance party)	1,900
Other funding being applied for but pending consideration	500
<b>Amount Requested from Community Board</b>	<b>\$500</b>

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board allocate funding of \$300 Discretionary funding.

#### CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be adopted.

## **BACKGROUND ON RUKA WALKER**

5. Ruka is 13 years old and lives in Shakespeare Road, Waltham and attends Waltham school. He has been given the opportunity to attend due to an unforeseen, last minute cancellation. Every young person going on the trip is expected to take a leadership role and have been identified as a young person with leadership potential. Ruka has also been identified as a leader through Te Ora Hou and at school and has the school's full support to attend this cultural exchange.
6. Ruka will be going as part of a Te Ora Hou national group, including Te Ora Hou youth groups in Whangarei and Hastings. As part of the trip they are required to learn haka, waiata and be prepared to share what life is like in New Zealand. They are also required to interact proactively with others their own age, learn new skills and experiences and appreciate different cultures and customs. The organisation, Te Ora Hou, focuses on at risk youth at large but who are predominantly Maori and Pacific. Their aim is to build positive relationships with young people and for young people to develop the skills and self esteem required to lead constructive, successful lives.
7. This is a reciprocal exchange. Last year Ke Ola Hou travelled to New Zealand to take part in Tautoko, the Te Ora Hou National Youth Hui based at Nga Hau E Wha.
8. The total cost of the trip is \$2,772. Ruka and a committed team of fundraisers have been arranging various fundraising activities, getting after school jobs, sponsorship and generally working really hard to raise the required money. For a 13 year, this has been a demanding and a worthwhile challenge to gain a life changing experience that he will never forget.