

4. KAHOA TAULEVA CHRISTCHURCH TRUST – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI: 941-8534
Officer responsible:	Catherine McDonald, Acting Community Support Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Strengthening Communities Action Plan Committee a request from Kahoa Tauleva Christchurch Trust for funding assistance towards the cost of relocating the Tongan Homework class from the University of Canterbury to Rowley Primary School and a contribution towards operating costs. The costs include computer workstations (12), network connection, software, rent, and associated resources totalling \$11,176.27. Kahoa Tauleva Trust are requesting \$9,176.27.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Kahoa Tauleva Christchurch Trust is committed to providing educational and training services for the Tongan Community. They work holistically within a framework of Christian principles.
3. The Kahoa Trust has been operating since 1996. The groups main activities are: Fe'ungamalie Pre-school (the pre-school has operated since 1999 at Rowley Primary School); horticulture training and work skills; weekly radio programme at Plains FM 96.9; and Fe'ungamalie computer and homework training. There is a parent trust in Auckland called New Zealand Kahoa Tauleva Trust 2000, and also affiliated trusts in Tonga and Australia which have similar objectives. Each trust operates as a separate entity.
4. Fe'ungamalie Computer and Homework training has been operating since 2004. The computer skills and homework training aims to promote and encourage computer literacy in Tongan and English language and is providing this service to Tongan children and adults. They provide after school study support for primary aged students in years 4,5,6,7 and 8, assisting in their learning and achievement, and have been operating as a community programme with volunteer staff for the past two years. They have been operating from the University of Canterbury who have assisted with a venue and provided computers for the group. Some funding has been secured to cover the costs of preparing course booklets. The Trust is keen to work towards securing Ministry of Education funding support as a homework centre or study support centre. They cater for a wide range of children who have varying needs, particularly children who require assistance with learning and weekly homework assistance. They provide extra resources to achieve this. Fe'ungamalie offer this programme free of charge.
5. Kahoa Tauleva Christchurch Trust also offer computer training for adults and they provide affordable access to participate in digital technology, and upskilling for the Tongan community. They are wanting to relocate into the Rowley area so that they are located near their people.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. There are no legal considerations. The total cost of the relocation is \$11,176.27. Kahoa Tauleva Trust have already received \$2,000 towards the relocation, and are requesting \$9,176.27. The \$2,000 already received was allocated towards the computer workstations and annual rent. Other costs for the group are software licences (XP, Office and ICDL) \$2,137, wireless networking \$1,003.47 including PCI adaptors & Access point which means the computers can be shifted with ease and operate in another classroom, resources for teaching \$1,050, volunteers (teacher 2 hour sessions twice a week, and teaching assistant), for the year \$2,960, and administration \$600.

7. The Kahoa Tauleva Trust has received funding previously through the SCAP committee. The table below highlights previous funding.

Year	Amount	Purpose
2004	\$2,400	Grant towards operating costs including venue costs.
2005	\$3,389	Tongan Homework Club grant towards resources and operating costs (SCAP) Committee.
2006	\$2,000	Grant towards computer workstations in Rowley.

8. A financial statement from the Kahoa Tauleva Trust has been viewed as have their business plan, policies and procedures, including a progress report on 2005 funding. Accounts are to be audited later in the year.

BACKGROUND ON TONGAN HOMEWORK CLUB PROGRAMME

9. The Tongan Homework Club's primary aims are:
- To assist students with their weekly homework and assignments.
 - To improve literacy and numeracy skills of school students.
 - To provide tutorial assistance to students.
 - Introduce basic Tongan language.
 - Develop and reinforce study skills to increase and sustain academic success.
 - Develop and reinforce basic to intermediate level computer literacy within a word processing context.
 - Develop and reinforce basic information retrieval techniques in an on-line environment and also in a library environment.
10. The programme will run all year and operate on Monday's and Tuesday's from 6pm-8pm of every week at Rowley Primary School. The goal is to provide computer classes for the parents or the wider community on Thursday's, with a longer term plan of providing a learning centre at Rowley for community and the homework class. Fe'ungamalie Pre-school is also based at Rowley Primary School and is aiming to be fully licensed this year. The relocation will assist the Trust achieve integrated support with and for the local Tongan Community, with the plan to provide a learning centre in the future.
11. The Trust has recently applied to the Ministry of Education to gain funding support for the ongoing operation of the homework class. The Ministry of Education assist senior primary school students at risk of underachievement by funding study support centres. Funding under this initiative is only for operational costs and employment of staff. Funding is not available for buildings or computers under this scheme.
12. The Tongan Homework group has been operating for two years, in this time the following developments have been noted:
- The number of pupils attending the Homework group have increased (regular attendance of 20-30 per session).
 - Increasing competency in numeracy and reading skills.
 - Increase in number of parents attending. (Parent's are encouraged to participate in their children's learning thereby establishing a partnership that is needed to support their educational growth).
 - Growing competency in researching information, including the use of the internet. Many do not have access to a computer at home.

OPTIONS

13. That the Strengthening Communities Action Plan Committee agree to fund the Kahoa Tauleva Trust \$6,000 towards the Tongan Homework Club's relocation and operational costs the Rowley Primary School.
14. The SCAP Committee decline funding the Tongan Homework Club.

PREFERRED OPTION

15. The preferred option is that the Strengthening Communities Action Plan Committee allocate \$6,000 to the Kahoa Tauleva Christchurch Trust to fund the Tongan Homework Club for relocation and operational costs for this year. The Tongan Homework Club is ready to start up. If the application to the Ministry of Education is ongoing and operational funding is successful, they will be able to employ a trained teacher to tutor the students. Volunteers will still be needed. The Tongan Homework programme has been operating for the past two years with volunteers. If the SCAP committee agree to fund the programme this will give the Homework Club a good foundation of funding to get established in Rowley. Part of the funding request includes a wireless network set up (\$1,000) to run the 18 computers. This will allow the group to shift the computers with ease. Being based at Rowley Primary School is a good location. However if any future changes were to occur including a classroom shift this would not involve any data cabling costs. There is a very clear need for this initiative in Rowley. The population of the Tongan community in Christchurch is growing, access to computers and the internet is much lower for pacific people compared to other cultures.

16. The Tongan Homework club contributes to the following Community Outcomes:

A Safe City, A City of Lifelong Learning, A City of Inclusive and Diverse Communities, and A Prosperous City.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Strengthening Communities Action Plan Committee allocates \$6,000 to the Kahoa Tauleva Christchurch Trust towards the Tongan Homework Club relocation and operational costs.