

4. APPLICATION TO FENDALTON WAIMAIRI COMMUNITY BOARD'S YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND - SARA HAMES

General Manager responsible:	Stephen McArthur, General Manager, Community Services
Officer responsible:	Catherine McDonald, Unit Manager, Community Support Unit
Author:	Maryanne Lomax, DDI 941-6730

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval for an application for funding from the 2006/2007 Youth Development Scheme.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The applicant, Sara Hames, is a 16 year old Burnside High School student and resident of the Fendalton/Waimairi ward. Sara has been accepted on an AFS school-based exchange to France in January 2007 for six months.
3. This exchange will require Sara to fully immerse herself into the local culture, live with a host family, and attend a local high school as a full-time student. Sara is excited by this challenge as France is considered to be one of the most academically challenging countries in the world.
4. In order to proceed with this wonderful opportunity, Sara must now raise approximately \$13,000 to cover the cost of this exchange. To raise this large amount of money, Sara has been working two jobs as well as juggling school commitments and sports and music activities. She has also been volunteering at Orana Wildlife Park.
5. Sara also sees part of her role in this exchange as being an ambassador for Christchurch and New Zealand, informing people about her home and community, and teaching them about our way-of-life.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. There are no legal considerations in relation to this application.
7. The total cost associated with the project is \$13,000. The applicant has also applied for an AFS Exchange grant of \$1,000 which is currently under consideration.
8. This is the first time the applicant has approached the Community Board for funding support.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee approve the application and allocate \$600 to Sara Hames from the 2006/07 Youth Development Scheme to assist with costs associated with the applicant's participation in the school-based exchange programme to France in January 2007.