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Corporate Plan Output: Community Services	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of an initiative in the Casebrook area and seek some funding assistance for this project.

The Project

KidzBus is a project developed by the Christian Outreach Centre in Bishopdale. The Centre has outfitted a bus for use after-school with 6-9 year old children in both a recreational and educational way.

The bus has been based in Morrison Avenue one day per week for the past 10 weeks offering the programme to 15 or 16 children from that area.

The aims and objectives of the bus and programme is as follows:

KIDZBUS - THE VEHICLE	KIDS IN LIFE - THE PROGRAMME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large buses converted internally into a 'time out zone' and a 'learning and activity zone'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaches that character values are the basis for successful citizenship.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes the idea 'come and play at my clubhouse - it's fun and safe to live in my neighbourhood'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops respect for the life and property of others.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops civic pride (ownership) and responsibility from a young age. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes a foundation for resolving conflict and offence.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's big, bright and exciting and acts as a neighbourhood awareness and activity catalyst. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates a responsible attitude to parental and civic authority.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is a distribution point for positive parenting and family resource eg magazines, videos, tapes and books. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages every child to recognise their unique personality is a positive key for building secure relationships.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reveals the excellent value of their life and the purpose for living.

Expansion of Programme

The results obtained from working with these children has prompted the organisers to develop the programme further:

1. To continue the programme in Terms two and three.
2. To add on a programme for 10-14 year old children.
3. To set-up a programme for parents (in particular mothers).

To enable this to happen the programme requires an extra \$5,000 funding for staff to enable these expansions to proceed through to the end of Term three.

Recommendation: That a grant of \$5,000 from 1997/98 Community Services Fund be made to the KidzBus project to enable expansion of the Morrison Avenue programme.

Chairperson's Recommendation: That the officer's recommendation be adopted, and that a progress report on the programme's effectiveness be brought to the Board at the end of term 2.