

5. DELTA COMMUNITY SUPPORT TRUST
- “LIVE TO THE MAX!” PROJECT

RR 10405

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Barbara Lindsay, Community Secretary
Corporate Plan Output: Shirley/Papanui Discretionary Funds 3.1.text 27	

The purpose of this report is to convey a request for funding for a new individual empowerment project that is being run by the Delta Community Support Trust.

BACKGROUND

Members will recall that Mike Coleman and Tony McCahon made a presentation at the Deputations Meeting on 14 July 1999.

The Delta Community Support Trust currently employs seven staff and has 24 volunteers. It takes a holistic approach to poverty, seeking to create a sense of community. Services offered at the centre include a weekly lunch, advocacy, food parcels, counselling, free firewood, a friendship link, spiritual fellowship and a kids' club.

NEW PROJECT

From this hands-on approach to working with the urban disadvantaged grew a new individual empowerment scheme, “Live to the Max”. The desire to address deeper concerns such as abuse, psychiatric disorder, addiction etc led to the belief that new and innovative approaches were called for.

Referrals come from other agencies and from self-referral. Each participant is required to be part of a community support group.

Each person on the scheme has a support worker. A self-assessment questionnaire, developed by the Delta Trust in conjunction with other professionals in Christchurch, helps to identify real problems. With the support worker it is used to plan a way forward. The way the goals are set, strategies and steps put in place have all been worked through with people experienced in behaviour modification. “Live to the Max” is therefore much more than an advocacy service. It is a scheme involving three levels of participation. The level a person comes into the scheme depends on their commitment. The scheme enables people to self assess and self direct in their goal setting. The support worker and the support groups act as a guide and a reinforcement in their journey to help themselves.

The scheme generates quantifiable feedback to help assess its effectiveness. It has been piloted over four months and its effectiveness has been demonstrated.

A reference in support of the project from Tim Barnett, MP has been forwarded to each Community Board member under separate cover.

BUDGET

The following is the budget for the “Live to the Max” scheme:

Support Worker	\$10,140
Administration Costs	<u>\$1,000</u>
Total	<u>\$11,140</u>
Funds raised by Delta Trust to date	\$4,500
Shortfall at this point	\$6,640

CONCLUSION

In this unique scheme, the Delta Community Support Trust is attempting to make a positive effort to support the urban disadvantaged to help themselves and grow in their life.

The Community Board is asked to consider making a grant towards operating expenses. A similar request will be put to the Hagley/Ferryhead Community Board at its September meeting.

Recommendation: That consideration be given to approving a grant from 1999/2000 Discretionary Funding towards the “Live to the Max!” project of the Delta Community Support Trust.

Chairperson’s

Recommendation: That a grant of \$3,000 from 1999/2000 Discretionary Funds be approved towards the project “Live to the Max!”.