

7. YOUTH INSEARCH – CHRISTCHURCH ESTABLISHMENT

RR 9735

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| Officer responsible Community Advocate | Author Penelope Goldstone, Community Development Adviser |
| Corporate Plan Output: Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Vol 1 3.1 text 6 | |

Grant Harris (Field Worker in Schools, Hornby) is currently co-ordinating the establishment of Youth Insearch in Christchurch and the inaugural camp. This is a voluntary role Grant has taken on in addition to his Field Worker position.

The camp will be held at Living Springs on 4-6 June 1999. Places will be available for 20 young people from Timaru/Ashburton and 20 young people ex Christchurch (at least five of these will be from Riccarton/Wigram wards).

Referrals are from Police Youth Aid, social workers, principals etc and are only accepted if the referral agency ensures that ongoing weekly support will be provided for them.

The Christchurch steering committee includes:

- Robyn Moore, Christchurch City Council Youth Advocate
- Tonto Neilson and Gary Watkins, Christchurch City Council Youth Workers
- Jasmine Dawe, Ngai Tahu Youth Advocate
- Annie Smith, Field Worker Papanui
- Grant Harris, Field Worker Hornby

The cost of running the inaugural camp is \$10,800 (\$8,000 to fly Australian leaders in and \$2,800 for the venue, food and the programme). Future camps will only need to cover venue, food, programme and New Zealand leaders' expenses. The New Zealand leaders have been to Australia to train – this is the last time the Australian leaders will need to be present.

Participant cost is \$60 – paid for by the referral agency. In future this fee will almost cover the entire cost of the camp.

Due to the extra cost of airfares, the shortfall per attendee is therefore:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \$10,800 \div 40 & = & \$270 \text{ cost per person} \\ - & & \underline{\$60} \text{ fee} \\ & = & \$210 \text{ per person shortfall} \end{array}$$

The total amount still to be raised for Christchurch is \$5,000.

The ongoing follow-up provided by referral agencies and the committee is free and will continue until the young person no longer needs it.

An evaluation of the camp will be carried out and forwarded to all funders.

SUMMARY

My recommendation is to support this successful programme to help some of our young people to get some direction and regular support in their lives. The Australian experience has been going for 14 years and has very real and impressive statistics proving that it works. And it not only helps the individual young person but their new behaviours also impact on their families and friends.

It is not a one-off experience but an intensive start on a journey of improvement, with plenty of support along the way.

Additional information, including a report from the Christchurch City Council Youth Advocate, Robyn Moore, is attached as pages 11 to 14.

Recommendation: That \$1,050 be granted for the Youth Insearch Camp from Community Initiatives Funding.

**Chairperson's
Recommendation:** For discussion