

**7. DRAMA THERAPY RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMME  
AT KINGSLEA CENTRE**

RR 10819

<b>Officer responsible</b> Robyn Moore	<b>Author</b> Youth Advocate
Corporate Plan Output: Funding and Monitoring Youth Advocacy	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee about a request for funding from Jim Moriarty (Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu) regarding a drama therapy residency at the Kingslea Centre.

The residency will run from 3 October 1999 until 20 December 1999 and will culminate with an 18-night season, whereby the Christchurch public can attend the drama presentation. It is the same group that recently worked with women inmates of Christchurch prison to produce the very successful season of Watea.

A maximum of ten facilitators will work with Kingslea residents. It is hoped that the experience will assist the young people in their rehabilitation and will also create an improved understanding of Kingslea by the wider Christchurch Community.

Jim states in his letter of application that “the overall aim is to try and bring greater harmony and understanding between the Kingslea Centre and the wider Canterbury community, based on the belief that centres such as Kingslea house people who belong to all of us, and who will one day reintegrate back amongst us”.

As the funding application clearly fitted the objectives of the Youth Policy and the Community Social and Well-being Policy, a \$2,500 contribution has been approved.

Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu is also receiving assistance with this project from CYPFA, the Health Sponsorship Council and the Cathy Pelly Maungaronga Trust. The group has also applied for financial assistance from the Health Funding Authority.

In addition, if the “season” proves popular with the Christchurch public there is the potential to raise substantial funds. Jim Moriarty is hopeful that the contributions received to date, combined with door sales, will mean that the drama residency should be financially secure.

Advocacy Office staff have arranged to meet with Jim Moriarty and Kingslea representatives on a regular basis throughout the residency. There are several areas where we could offer assistance further down the track, especially in promoting performances and sharing networks.

The City Council is strengthening its communication with Kingslea with elected members and Council officers meeting Kingslea staff and management on a regular basis. Currently Councillor Carole Anderton is on the Kingslea Liaison Board, as are two Community Board members – Don Rowlands and Glenda Burt.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received
  2. That no further funding be approved at this point, but that progress be monitored and assistance considered at a later date if appropriate.

**Chairman's Recommendation:** That the above recommendation be adopted and that Committee members contact the Advocacy Office should they wish to accompany the Youth Advocate on a visit to Kingslea.