

<b>Officer responsible</b> Community Advocate	<b>Author</b> Ruth Evans, Community Development Adviser Bev Adams, Bromley After
Corporate Plan Output: Discretionary Funds	

The purpose of this report is to request interim funding (to cover a two school term period) for a third worker for the Woolston Development After School Programme.

The Woolston Development Project is a professional and highly effective community organisation that plays a vital role in strengthening the Woolston community.

Bev Adams, Recreation Co-ordinator/After School Programme Supervisor writes:

*"I am writing on behalf of the Woolston Development Project to request financial support for our After School Programme.*

*This programme provides after school activities for new entrants to Form 1 children Monday to Thursday each week of the school term. The ASP has run successfully for 10 years and now the numbers attending range between 30-40 per day.*

*Only a quarter to one third of families using the programme do so for child care reasons, the other children choose to attend at their own discretion. Most families fall within an extremely low income category and we support their children by keeping the cost to attend the ASP to an absolute minimum (\$1.00 per child, per day). We are not accessing the OSCAR subsidy, established earlier this year, as we would be required to increase our cost to the families involved, resulting in the loss of many children whose parents are ineligible for the subsidy.*

*We feel that the service we provide for children within the Woolston and neighbouring areas is vital in providing quality recreation activities and the opportunity to learn social skills in a safe supportive environment. Two trained staff supervise the programme every day with the assistance of 4 young volunteers (1 from Lincoln University, 2 from Linwood High and 1 from Avonside Girls' High, who have set days to work) but as an increasing number of children attend per day we have found it necessary to bring in our on-call relief worker on a regular basis to meet appropriate staff: child ratios as per safety guidelines.*

*Unfortunately the Woolston Development Project does not have the financial resources to employ a third worker and will not be able to, until next year's funding round. We currently receive funding from CFA, Lottery Youth, Community Trust, COGS, and the Christchurch City Council Community Development Fund which is all tagged to meet salaries and running costs of all of our programmes until the end of April 2000.*

*These funds are already being stretched due to the decrease in funding from COGS and Creative Communities over the past year.*

*I would like to request that the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board please consider supporting a third worker position for two school terms (4th term 1999 and 1st term 2000) at a cost of \$106 per week. This becomes a total of \$106 x 20 weeks = \$2,120.*

*For the past few years our statistics show that over 250 children have attended our After School Programme and Holiday Programmes per year. The ASP children attend four local primary schools in Woolston, Linwood and Opawa.*

*The two hours per day they spend in our programme provides them with participation in co-operative games, art and craft activities, creative play, cooking, sports, a positive reinforcement programme for modeling good behaviour, trips, appropriate conflict resolution and social skills.*

*We would be extremely grateful for any financial assistance you may be able to offer. If you should wish to visit please feel free to contact me, I'd be more than happy to show you around.*

*Thank you for your consideration of this matter and the previous support you have given to the Woolston Development Project.”*

**Recommendation:** That the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board allocate \$2,120 of its 1999/2000 discretionary funds towards the salary of a third worker for the Woolston Development Projects After School Programme.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the officer's recommendation be adopted.