

## 5. FAMILY HELP TRUST – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Community Services
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Lesley Symington, Unit Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Bruce Meder, DDI 941-5408

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Board regarding an application for funding from the Family Help Trust.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Family Help Trust have made an application for funding to the Shirley/Papanui Community Board for \$10,000 towards the salary costs for the organisation. The Trust delivers its service metropolitan wide and has previously received funding from the City Council through its metropolitan funding sources. The application was received after a deputation was made to the Shirley/Papanui Community Board at its meeting on 20 April 2005 by the Trust Director.

### BACKGROUND

3. The Family Help Trust provides intensive social work support for high risk families and their children. Their objective in this work is to break the cycle of intergenerational dysfunction. They have 9 paid full-time staff, 1 part-time staff and 15 volunteers. The Trust works with approximately 100 families per year throughout Christchurch. The Trust works throughout the city, although its offices are in Sydenham. The Trust's Director estimates that approximately 1/3 of these families reside in the Shirley/Papanui area, although because the families tend to be transient this is difficult to quantify accurately.
4. Families are referred to the Trust by other community-based family support agencies, Child Youth and Family, schools, Plunket, the Departments of Courts and Corrections, hospitals and health/medical centres. 80% of the referrals come from midwifery services.
5. The Trust presently (2004/05) receives two forms of funding from the City Council. It receives a \$37,500 Social Initiatives Fund grant as a contribution towards social workers salaries for their New Start Early Intervention service, working with families of high-risk criminal offenders. It also receives \$20,000 from the Council's Annual Grants to Community groups Fund for annual operational costs of its Safer Families Service (a child abuse prevention service run in conjunction with the midwifery services of Christchurch Women's Hospital).
6. The Family Help Trust has received funding via the Social Initiatives Scheme since the 1997/98 financial year. In the previous two financial years the Trust has received \$84,000 (2003/04) and \$37,500 (2002/03) from the Council. In each of these years, \$37,500 was from the Social Initiatives Fund and was towards the costs of social workers salaries for the New Start Early Intervention service. In the 2003/04 year they received \$30,000 from the Annual Grants to Community Organisations (formerly Major Grants) for its Safer Families Service. Also, in 2003/04 the Trust received a total of \$9,000 to undertake an evaluation of its database and recording systems plus a further \$7,500 to assist in the implementation of the recommendations from that evaluation.
7. The Trust is seeking through the Annual Plan process an increase to \$30,000 for the 2005/06 year for its Safer Families Service. They will also be seeking a renewal of their Social Initiatives grant.
8. The Trust has a financial year ending 30 June. However, as of the end of March 2005, Family Help Trust had a net surplus of \$84,511 with net assets of \$137,174 (an increase from \$45,968 in the previous financial year). Their annual expenses have been approximately \$350,000 to \$400,000. Based on their March 2005 statements this may increase to approximately \$500,000.
9. In December 2003 the Trust received funding (\$50,000) from the Lion Foundation in order to recruit two further social workers for a period of six months. They then received a further \$100,000 from the Lion Foundation to enable them to continue those positions for a further 12 months. In December they received further funding from Lion Foundation enabling them to employ a total of three extra social workers.

10. As of late May 2005, Family Help Trust are awaiting the outcome of two large applications; one of \$62,000 from Scottswood Trust and one of \$150,000 from the Lion Foundation to enable them to continue employing the three extra social workers.
11. Family Help Trust do not receive Central Government funding, consequently they are totally reliant on charitable trusts and other forms of funding.

#### **OPTIONS**

12. The Community Board has three options available to it with regard to this application:
  - a. Allocate a grant of \$10,000 to the organisation,
  - b. Decline the application,
  - c. Refer the application to the metropolitan Funding Adviser for consideration

#### **PREFERRED OPTION**

13. Having considered all of the information, it is recommended that Option C be approved ie to refer the application to the City Council Funding Adviser for consideration. This recommendation is based on the following two factors:
  - The Family Help Trust is a metropolitan organisation. Its work covers the entire city, although its office is located in Sydenham.
  - The Family Help Trust already receives significant funding from the City Council as outlined above.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board refer the request for \$10,000 from the Family Help Trust to the Metropolitan Funding Adviser for consideration.

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION**

For discussion.