

8. APPLICATION TO THE SPREYDON/HEATHCOTE COMMUNITY BOARD YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT SCHEME – LAUREN ALEXANDER

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Community Services, DDI 941-8607
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager, Community Support
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present a request by 15 year old Lauren Alexander of Hoon Hay, to the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board for \$500 from its Youth Achievement Scheme.
2. The request is for \$500 towards the costs of Lauren taking part in a Riccarton High School study trip to Vietnam in April 2011.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. Lauren Alexander is a 15 year old student of Riccarton High School and resides in Kaiwara Street Hoon Hay. Lauren is aiming to take part in a study trip to Vietnam that Riccarton High School has arranged for history and geography students. The trip is being organised by the Defining Moments travel company. The tour itinerary involves cultural sight seeing and visits to historical sites in major cities, the demilitarised zone, and includes some traditional village experience.
4. The development benefits for Lauren of taking part in the trip will be:
 - Greatly improved knowledge of history and the world
 - Improvements in speaking French which she has studied for three years
 - An increase in personal confidence from experiencing life beyond her current boundaries
 - Increased bonds with class mates through shared new experiences
 - Better appreciation of her own quality of life by visiting an orphanage, and
 - Further understanding of a different (Vietnamese) culture.
5. Lauren's wider involvements in the local community include a six year history of playing football; at the moment she plays for both Riccarton High School and Cashmere Wanderers, and is on the field four times per week. Every Thursday night Lauren attends the Pioneer (Scouts) Venturer Unit, and is working towards her Queen Scout Award. She is also working towards her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, and is a member of the school Blue Light Leadership Group. A further interest is playing the guitar.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6. This is the first time the applicant has applied for funding from the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board Youth Achievement Scheme. This application is not considered a high priority as participation in the study trip is not based on a selection process due to outstanding achievement, but is part of a school trip.
7. The total cost of the trip including air flights, local transport, fees and accommodation is \$5,475. At the time of writing, approximately half of this amount had been raised by Lauren and her parents.
8. There is currently \$5,400 available in the Spreydon/Heathcote Youth Achievement Fund.

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

9. Yes.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

10. Not applicable.

Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

11. There are no legal considerations.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

12. Yes.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

13. Yes.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

14. This application aligns with the following Council Strategies:

- Strengthening Communities Strategy
- Youth Strategy

15. This application aligns with the following Community Board Objectives:

- A culturally inclusive Spreydon Heathcote Community
- Improve social well-being in Spreydon/Heathcote

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

16. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend that the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board declines a Youth Achievement Scheme grant of \$500 to Lauren Alexander towards the costs of her learning trip to Vietnam.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.