



CITY OF HAYWARD
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 12/14/99
AGENDA ITEM 5
WORK SESSION ITEM _____

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Director of Community and Economic Development
SUBJECT: FY 2000-2001 Social Services Funding Priorities

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the use of FY 2000-01 Category B Social Services funds to support the projects described below.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with City policy, \$170,000 is available to fund one or more projects identified as City Council's priorities in FY 2000-01 using Category B Social Services Funds. This year Council is using a two-step process to determine which specific projects it would like to support using these funds. In the first step Council members identified which broad issue areas they wanted to address; specific projects and funding amounts will be identified in the second step.

At the November 16, 1999 City Council Work Session, several options were presented for Council members to consider. The top broad issue areas which four or more Council members identified as being important are:

- A) Older Adults
- B) Health
- C) Youth

Under the categories of Older Adults and Health, Council members also identified specific projects to support. Under the category of Youth, Council members were supportive of increasing the accessibility of childcare services to low-income Hayward families. Staff has identified a specific project for Council to consider that will help to achieve this goal.

PROJECTS FOR COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION

The following provides a brief description of an identified need under each issue area, a recommended project to address that need, and the amount of funds recommended. Historically, Category B funds have been used to provide one-time only grants for projects which assist low-income Hayward residents; these guidelines were used in choosing the projects listed below:

Older Adults

Identified Need: Approximately 40 low income Hayward seniors who are at-risk of premature institutionalization have been assisted by the HOPE for Elderly Independence Program operated by the Alameda County Housing Authority for the past five years. Federal funding for this project will end on June 30, 2000. Interim funds are needed to continue to the services currently provided while the Housing Authority works to secure permanent financial support for the program. Staff recommends funding for one year only to assist in bridging the financing gap.

Recommended Project: Provide funding to pay for support services (i.e., home delivered meals, errand services, housekeeping, emergency response services, case management and other community services), in combination with Section 8 housing subsidies, to approximately 40 low income Hayward seniors so that they are not prematurely institutionalized. The estimated cost is approximately \$1800 per person for one year.

Recommended Funding: \$72,000

Health

Identified Need: Although several no cost or low cost health insurance programs are available for children from low income families, many eligible families are not enrolling in these programs.

Recommended Project: Educate families about available health insurance for their children by conducting a community-based outreach program designed to overcome barriers to participation. City funds would be used to support a coordinated campaign, supplies, materials and services.

Recommended Funding: \$75,000

Youth

Identified Need: When a child becomes sick, when a low-income working parent must take on a temporary overtime assignment, or when a primary childcare provider is temporarily unable to provide childcare, then short-term "back-up" childcare services are needed so that the parent can continue to work. While the Alameda County CalWorks program provides childcare subsidies for primary childcare services for CalWorks recipients, these benefits are often not accessible for back-up childcare services. Consequently, these parents must pay for the back-up childcare themselves (when they can afford it), or stay home which can jeopardize their employment. Low-income working parents who are not CalWorks recipients are not eligible for these benefits at all.

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Recommended Project: Provide funding to pay for back-up childcare services for low-income working parents living in Hayward. It may be possible to work with the Alameda County Social Services Agency to create a Childcare Revolving Fund. This fund would help bridge the time gap that exists between the time that a CalWorks recipient identifies the need for back up childcare and the time that it takes the County to make the childcare subsidies available. Another possibility would be to administer the funds through a local nonprofit organization that would disburse assistance based upon an agreed upon eligibility criteria.

Recommended Funding: \$23,000

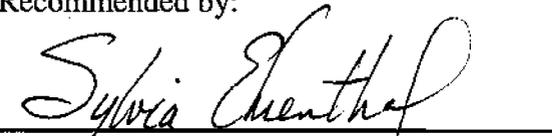
The decision made by Council will be incorporated into the FY 2000-01 City budget. A Request for Proposals will be distributed for each project chosen by Council; contractors will then be identified who will implement the project(s) in FY 2000-01.

Prepared by:



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Recommended by:



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Approved by:



Jesús Armas, City Manager