



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: June 3, 2008
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Julie Kahn, Interim Human Services Administrator 
Subject: Report of the Recommendations of the Human Relations Council Committee for FY 2008/9 Allocation of Community Assistance Grant Funds

Attachments:

1. Table 1: Summary of Community Assistance Grant Funding Applications and Recommended Allocations for FY 2008/09
2. Human Relations Council Committee Meeting, May 8, 2008

INTRODUCTION

The Human Relations Council Committee met on May 8, 2008 to review applications and recommend grant funding allocations for FY 08/09. Community assistance grant funds available are **\$455,068.58**; community assistance grant funding requests totaled **\$696,970**. There was no increase in the amount of grant funds available from last fiscal year.

DISCUSSION

The City received 19 requests for funding from 18 agencies. The Maple Counseling Center submitted two applications, one for low-cost psychological counseling (including for City and School District employees) and a separate application for senior peer counseling. Seventeen requests from 16 agencies were for continued or expanded funding. One application was from DMG Music Association, Inc., an applicant who applied last year but did not receive funding from the City. One application was a first time request from Beyond Shelter. A prior applicant, Project Angel Food, did not apply this year. In the past, funding for the Multicultural Festival had been included in this budget. This program and its budgeted funds have been taken out of community assistance funding and moved to the Community and Cultural Events budget.

In addition to a review of the applications, the committee was asked to consider using community assistance grant funds in support of a continuation of the CLASP (Changing Lives and Sharing Places) program for a full year. In January 2008, the City contracted with Step Up on Second for outreach and engagement of homeless individuals within

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our borders. The six-month pilot program was funded with the proceeds of the sale of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds of \$41,250.

The pilot program goal, given the challenge of working with chronic, persistent mental illness and the drug and alcohol abuse that frequently accompanies it, was to move one individual of the approximately 25-35 people we could identify as calling Beverly Hills parks, parking lots and other public places home, from the streets into social services.

Step Up has exceeded expectations by engaging six individuals who have been referred to appropriate services or agencies or reunited with family. Based on this positive response, the City seeks to continue the program for a full year. The budget for a year-long program is \$85,000. The sale of CDBG funds was once again considered. However, with a weak market and estimates of less than fifty cents on the dollar anticipated, other funding was sought. The committee included funding the CLASP program in part, or in full, in their deliberations. In this case, it is the City, not Step Up on Second, who is making the request. The CLASP program is consistent with the goals of the grant funding program and Step Up on Second would be qualified for funding consideration if they were the applicant.

After review, the committee recommended that \$21,000 of grant funds be allocated to Step Up on Second. In addition, the committee supported a staff recommendation that \$64,000 from the Community Services budget that was earmarked for a gerontologist, following nearly a year-long unsuccessful recruitment for the position, be used. Gerontologist services for Beverly Hills seniors have been facilitated during this recruitment by the addition to the staff of a senior recreation specialist who formerly worked for the City as a gerontologist and services have been provided by Jewish Family Service.

Community assistance grant funding has historically been used to provide contract services that the City does not, or cannot, provide directly to meet our local and regional health, educational and cultural responsibilities. It has also provided funding for social services that provide a safety net to the community's at-risk population including the homeless, active and frail elderly, disabled and low-means residents.

Criteria for funding consideration have included:

1. Organization must be 501C.3 or in partnership with a 501C.3 organization.
2. Organization must be unique, i.e., not duplicating other providers.
3. Organization must serve a community need, including community health, education, cultural and performance arts.
4. Organization must not rely solely on community assistance funding to remain viable.
5. Organization's services would cost more to the City if the City provided them directly.
6. Organization must provide services that are vital to the health and welfare of the community's residents, visitors and employees, and the community would suffer if the organization discontinued providing the services.

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7. Organization provides services that enable the City to meet its regional obligation to help ameliorate social problems, (e.g., homelessness).

Fiscal Year 2008/9 Applications

The requests for funding come from a variety of agencies representing diverse areas of community interest/concern including:

- Performing Arts – Theatre Forty; DMG Music Association, Inc.
- Senior Services – Beverly Hills Active Adult Club, Jewish Family Service (senior case management), The Maple Counseling Center (senior peer counseling), Alternative Living for the Aging
- Community Health – Los Angeles Free Clinic, The Maple Counseling Center, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (domestic violence), Venice Family Clinic
- Celebration of Cultural Diversity – NAACP ACT-SO competition
- Educational – Beverly Hills Education Foundation fund raising efforts for BHUSD
- Local/regional Homeless Services – All Saints Episcopal Church Homeless Ministry, Beyond Shelter, Chrysalis, Good Shepherd Center for Homeless Women and Children, New Directions, Inc. (homeless veterans), People Assisting the Homeless (PATH), Westside Food Bank

The attached table contains a summary of all Community Assistance Grant Funding applications for FY 2008/9. In addition, the committee recommended provision of in-kind services to supplement support of three applicants: BHEF \$30,000 to include street closures and fees associated with three annual fund-raising events; NAACP Act-So event \$2,000 to include use of the Municipal Gallery and staff to prepare for, and break down, materials used; and Theatre 40 unspecified, with direction to explore opportunities such as City sponsorship of productions.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds were budgeted and are available within the General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the recommendations of the Human Relations Council Committee for the allocation of Community Assistance Grant funds for FY 2008/9 as shown on Table 1 (attached).



 Steve Miller

**Summary of Community Assistance Grant Funding
Applications and Recommended Allocations for
FY2008/09**

TABLE 1

Applicants	Service Provided	2006/7 Allocation	2007/8 Allocation	2008/9 Request	Recommended 2008/9 Allocation
All Saints Homeless Ministry	Homeless Assistance, Case Management, and Bus Tokens	1,200 for tokens 5,000	1,200 for tokens 8,800	18,000	1,200 for tokens 8,800
Alternative Living for the Aging	Senior Roommate Matching	12,360	1,000	14,000	0
B.H. Active Adult Club	Senior Activities Club	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
B.H. Education Foundation	Fundraising Activities for School District	10,000	13,345 20,000 in-kind**	45,000	15,000 - funds 30,000 in-kind** (3 street closures)
Chrysalis	Job Placement for Homeless	non-applicant	5,000	15,000	5,000
DMG Music Association, Inc.	Scholarships and Music Festival	non-applicant	0	6,000	0
Good Shepherd Center for Homeless Women and Children	Shelter Services for Women and Children Only	1,000	1,000	5,000	0
Jewish Family Service	Service to Seniors	46,360	49,000	50,470	50,000
LA Free Clinic	Free Medical Services	40,000	40,000	50,000	40,000
Legal Aid Foundation of LA	Domestic Violence Clinic	5,000	5,000	5,000	0
Maple Counseling Center, The	Low Cost Counseling	165,000	165,000	200,000	145,000
Maple Counseling Center, The	Senior Counseling	28,000	28,000	40,500	33,000
NAACP ACT-SO	ACT-SO Competition	2,500 in-kind **	\$1,000 2,000 in-kind**	15,000	1000 2,000 in-kind**
New Directions, Inc.	Homeless Services for Veterans	5,000	5,000	25,000	5,000
People Assisting the Homeless (PATH)	Homeless Assistance & Housing	44,500	50,500	55,000	49,000
Theatre 40	Productions and Adult and Middle School Ed.	1,000	3,000	21,000	4,000 TBD in-kind**
Venice Family Clinic	Free Medical Services	non-applicant	2,500	25,000	0
Westside Food Bank	Feeding Low Income Residents	66,500	70,000	84,000	69,000
Previous Applicants					
Project Angel Food	Meals	non-applicant	1,200	non-applicant	non-applicant
New Applicants					
Beyond Shelter	Rental Assistance to At-Risk	non-applicant	non-applicant	15,000	0
Other Funding					
Step Up on Second	CLASP Outreach and Engagement				21,000
Totals:		455,920	458,545	696,970	455,000

**In-Kind Funding



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT

Meeting Date: June 3, 2008
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Julie Kahn, Interim Human Services Administrator 
Subject: Human Relations Council Committee Meeting Notes, May 8, 2008

INTRODUCTION

The Human Relations Council Committee, Mayor Brucker and Councilmember Krasne, was convened on May 8, 2008 to discuss and make recommendations for allocations for FY 2008/09. Staff members present were Assistant City Manager Katie Lichtig, Director of Community Services Steve Miller, Interim Human Services Administrator Julie Kahn, and Community Services Management Analyst Carolyn Johnson.

DISCUSSION

Community assistance grant funds available for FY 08/09 are \$455,068.58; community assistance grant funding requests total \$696.970. There was no increase in the amount of grants funds available from last fiscal year. The committee reviewed all applications and considered them individually and collectively. Assistant City Manager Lichtig excused herself and left the room due to a conflict of interest when the application of Chrysalis, Inc., was before the committee.

The recommendations of the committee will be considered by the City Council at the Informal Session on June 3, 2008.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds were budgeted and are available within the General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION

For information only.

Steve Miller 
