

Food-Related Capital Grants - Final Allocations

(City Council on December 14, 15 and 16, 1999, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Community Services Committee recommends the adoption of the following report (November 18, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services:

Purpose:

To report on the use of the 1999 Food-Related Capital Grants Program and request approval for two food-related capital grant requests.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

An amount of \$100,000.00 has been set aside within the approved 1999 Consolidated Grants Budget for this program. To date, \$54,650.00 of the budget has been allocated. This report recommends the allocation of \$42,000.00, resulting in a total expenditure of \$96,650.00.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) an allocation of \$25,000.00 be made to the All Saints Church Community Centre for food-related capital costs associated with the Toronto Friendship Centre;
- (2) an allocation of \$5,000.00 be made to the Open Door Centre and Rooms Registry Service;
- (3) an allocation of \$12,000.00 be made to the Yonge Street Mission pending submission of the required documentation; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

At the Budget Committee meeting of April 6, 7 and 8, 1999, it was directed that "\$100,000.00 be earmarked in the Consolidated Grants Budget for the express purpose of providing capital funding, on a one-time only basis, for the purchase of refrigerators, ovens, etc., on an emergency basis for volunteers providing food to the homeless, the said funding to be at the sole discretion of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services." This direction was approved by Council as part of the 1999 approved Operating Budget. On June 9, 1999, Council approved the report titled "Allocation Criteria for a Food Related Capital Grants Program," (Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, Clause No. 15, Report No. 10) which established the guidelines for the administration of the food-related capital funding. One of the administrative

requirements recommended was that requests for funding in excess of \$1,000.00 be forwarded to the Community Services Committee and Council for approval.

Comments:

A total of twelve requests for funding were received. Appendix "A" provides a list of the requests. Of the twelve requests, five were for amounts of \$1,000.00 or less and therefore approved by the Commissioner upon review and recommendation from staff. Six of the requests were for funding in excess of \$1,000.00, three of which have been approved by Council and three of which are recommended in this report. The three requests recommended here were reviewed by staff of the Social Development and Administration and Public Health Divisions and meet all criteria for funding under the Food-Related Capital Grants Program. The final request was incomplete and is not recommended for funding.

Toronto Friendship Centre:

The Toronto Friendship Centre, located in the All Saints Community Church, is a drop-in program providing critical services to people who are homeless and socially-isolated in the east Downtown area. Funding has been requested to purchase two commercial microwaves, freezers, refrigerators, one stove, and the required electrical upgrading. Currently, the Centre does not have the capacity to store the significant food donations currently being received. In addition to the food service provided to drop-in users, the Centre recently received funding from the United Way of Greater Toronto and the F.K. Morrow Foundation to support the development of a community kitchen program for individuals living in local rooming houses.

Open Door Centre and Rooms Registry:

The Open Door Centre and Rooms Registry has worked with low-income homeless and underhoused people for over 25 years. A major part of the Centre's program is the food bar which offers very low cost nutritious food from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Centre has requested funds to replace a commercial gas stove which was donated to the agency 17 years ago.

The Yonge Street Mission – Evergreen Centre for Street Youth:

The Evergreen Centre provides service to over 5,000 different street youth each year. The Centre is requesting funding to purchase a walk-in freezer as a part of a broader program initiative to renovate and expand the kitchen facilities and subsequently expand its food programs. The capital funding will enable the Centre to leverage other fundraising income and increase the quality and level of food services.

The allocation to the Yonge Street Mission will be held pending receipt of documentation establishing an exemption from the Ontario Human Rights Commission regarding hiring policies.

Conclusions:

The Food-Related Capital Fund provided funding to 11 community-based agencies providing food-related programming to people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. This report recommends the final three allocations under the Fund.

The Food-Related Capital Fund was established by Council as a one-time initiative and has not been included in the 2000 Consolidated Grants budget request.

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List of Attachments:

Appendix "A": 1999 Food Related Capital Fund Allocation

Appendix "A"

1999 Food Related Capital Fund Allocation

Agency	Amount Allocated
Christie-Ossington Neighbourhood Centre	\$ 9,000.00
Food For All Street Kids (FFASK)	\$30,000.00
STOP 103	\$11,000.00
Agincourt Community Services Association	\$ 1,000.00
Anishnawbe Health Toronto	\$ 1,000.00
Yonge Street Mission	\$12,000.00
Neighbourhood Link	\$ 950.00
The Friendship Centre	\$25,000.00
Open Door Centre and Rooms Registry	\$ 5,000.00
Youth Without Shelter	\$ 1,000.00
Bloor Street United Church – Out of the Cold	\$ 700.00