



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Community Safety Investment Program 2011 Allocation Recommendations

Date:	June 14, 2011
To:	Community Development and Recreation Committee
From:	Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This report recommends allocations for funding under the 2011 Community Safety Investment program. Of the 63 applications received, 22 are recommended for funding of \$665,600.00 and an amount of \$31,260.00 is held for appeals.

The Community Safety Investment (CSI) supports community based involvement in creating safe communities for Toronto residents. The goals of the CSI are to:

- increase access for communities to information, skills and supports that prevent violence and increase safety, and
- increase the capacity of communities to address systemic causes of violence.

CSI provides short-term project funding to community organizations that can demonstrate the project's contribution to the CSI goals and its impact on the community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration recommends that:

1. City Council approve the 2011 Community Safety Investment allocations totalling \$665,600.00 to 22 organizations as described in Appendices 1 and 2 of this report, and that an amount of \$31,260.00 be held for appeals.

Financial Impact

The recommendation in this report will have no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the 2011 Approved Operating Budget.

The Community Partnership and Investment Program (CPIP) 2011 Approved Operating Budget includes funding of \$696,860.00 for the Community Safety Investment program. This report recommends allocations for 22 community-based organizations totalling \$665,600.00. An amount of \$31,260.00 has been held for appeals.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Equity Impact Statement

The community investment provided through the CSI program supports the capacity of not-for-profit organizations and residents to act on safety concerns in their neighbourhoods and communities and address the CSI mission to create safe communities for people in Toronto.

Each year, funding applications are solicited from organizations that have identified a local need related to the program's mandate, and have designed a local response that is practical, leverages other resources and involves volunteers and participants in the project activities. By working through community-based organizations, the City is able to support a broader range of safety and violence prevention opportunities for ethno-cultural communities and equity seeking groups than it would be able to offer on its own.

Decision History

The City of Toronto provides support to the not-for-profit sector through funding programs under the general authority for making municipal grants provided in Section 83 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* (S.O. 2006, c.11).

Background

The causes of violence have been identified as a complex mix of social and economic factors which require multi-faceted strategies. While much violence is also a crime, vulnerable people experience violence and unsafe situations that they do not always identify as crime and that may not have a direct law enforcement solution. Examples of these types of violence continuums include bullying, harassment and elder abuse. The City's approach to improving community safety has balanced prevention activities with law enforcement and direct services to people affected by violence, drawing on the particular knowledge and capacity of each sector to create a continuum of activities addressing residents' safety needs.

The CSI program makes resources available to organizations that are in a unique position

to reach vulnerable communities with safety information, violence prevention activities, and community-based responses that reduce violence and increase safety. Some examples of previously funded projects that have been successful in providing service and sustaining the impact of their activities include:

- Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto Chapter delivered a project that challenged the traditional perception of abused women in the Mandarin-speaking community through education and outreach. The project model has been implemented by other service agencies.
- CSI funding was used to re-establish the Black Youth Helpline leading to ongoing support from the provincial and federal governments
- Mornelle Court Resident Action Coalition has developed a "Walk Safe" program which brought parents together in response to fear of violence, to ensure children got to and from school safely. The initiative serves as a preventative measure to ensure children are not at risk before and after school.

Application and Assessment Process

Applications for the 2011 CSI application were available in December 2010 with a submission deadline of February 22, 2011.

Application process:

CSI program applications were completed and submitted using an on-line system for the first time in 2011. The on-line funding system is part of the City's plan to manage funding program requests and grant recipient reporting more efficiently.

A total of six online training and program information sessions were delivered to 40 participants. Applicants were required to register to obtain the username and password to access the online application system. 95 groups registered for access to the on-line system, and 63 completed and submitted the application by the deadline date.

In addition to the online training sessions, three workshops were attended by 30 participants for an overview of program and eligibility criteria and the grant approval process. Applicants were also able to schedule meetings or phone calls with staff to receive help with their applications.

Organizations that registered to use the on-line system were asked to complete a satisfaction survey to provide information on their experience of the system. A total of 31 organizations completed the survey: most indicated they were satisfied with the experience and staff will use the detailed responses to make improvements to the process for the 2012 funding cycle.

Assessment Process:

All applicants recommended for funding must meet eligibility criteria for City of Toronto funding support. To be eligible an organization must demonstrate financial accountability by either being incorporated as a not-for-profit organization or applying with a trustee organization to provide financial management for the project. Eligible organization must have a board of directors or governing structure selected by the general membership and these board members must serve in a voluntary capacity and be representative of and accountable to the community they serve or intend to reach.

The assessment process includes a review of the organization's documents, progress reports, administrative and human resource capacity, audited financial statements and evidence that the organization sought other funding or in-kind support for the proposed project. The review may also include site visits, telephone calls or meetings with applicants. Assessment of previously funded applicants considers their track record in providing progress and final reports on past project implementation and outcomes. Applicants must demonstrate that they will involve the community in the project through volunteers, that the project work plan is feasible and achievable and that the project effectiveness and outcomes will be tracked and reported back to the community. Staff may also contact other funders for information about the status of other funding sources for the project.

The application assessment determines the extent to which a proposed project will:

- increase access for communities to information, skills and supports that prevent violence and increase safety, and
- increase the capacity of communities to address systemic causes of violence

Allocation Recommendations

Of the 63 applications received, 22 are recommended for funding and 41 are not recommended for support. The recommended allocations are listed in Appendix 1, and individual summaries of all applicants are included in the detailed summary sheets in Appendix 2.

Of the 22 projects recommended for support, all are neighbourhood based and 17 will provide activities in priority neighbourhoods.

The 2011 CSI investment in the recommended projects will provide opportunities for 9,500 residents to participate in program activities. Over 700 volunteers will contribute over 98,000 volunteer hours. The CSI investment of \$665,600.00 recommended in this report will leverage an additional \$1.5M from other funding sources and over \$360,000.00 is reported for in-kind support.

The project activities focus on four key areas included in the chart below. These activities, along with initiatives of other sectors, services and institutions, work together to reduce the incidence of violence and increase feelings of safety for vulnerable residents across the city.

Project focus areas:

Examples of activities:

<p><i>Outreach and Awareness:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build understanding and awareness of violence prevention and safety opportunities. • These projects often take place in communities with unmet needs or developing infrastructures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops and community information sessions, • Newsletters or safety kits • Developing information for particular target groups • Testing new outreach strategies to reach isolated and vulnerable people
<p><i>Training and Education:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities improve quality of current programs. • Increase skills or improve outcomes for violence prevention or safety programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • train-the-trainer programs, • peer training programs, • mentoring programs, • education for family members of program participants • volunteers, staff or community participation
<p><i>Community Capacity to address systemic issues.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community capacity can be defined as the ability to perform functions effectively, efficiently and sustainably. Projects that build capacity will be designed to build relationships and knowledge that help a community plan, manage and access resources. • Systemic causes of violence include attitudes and practices within service systems, institutions, public policies and social structures that allow, ignore or encourage violence against vulnerable people. Projects that address systemic causes will be designed to educate, influence, change or improve the ability of systems to prevent violence and address the needs of everyone affected by violence. • Projects that address systemic issues demonstrate effective partnerships and appropriate management and evaluation skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing a plan or strategy for addressing youth violence/or elder abuse/or violence against women or other groups within a particular community; • developing new service models between partner organizations, • undertaking public education on successful approaches to safety problems. • developing and implementing protocols for service delivery across a sector, • action research on the particular experiences of a marginalized group, • piloting a new program to fill service gaps, developing advocacy approaches for promising programs or policies, • holding a conference to share best practices.
<p><i>Crisis Response</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities engage volunteers and non-crisis services to support residents and neighbourhoods affected by violence. • Community meetings for information and access to services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer and front line staff training and education sessions, • facilitating community safety audits, and • fostering the development of innovative, community safety projects • providing neighbour support in crisis situations

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1: 2011 Community Safety Investment program -- Allocation
Recommendations

Appendix 2: 2011 Community Safety Investment program -- Detailed Project
Summaries

Appendix 1
2011 Community Safety Investment
Allocation Recommendations

<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2010 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2011 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2011 Recommended Allocation</u>
Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services	20	n/a	\$31,739.00	\$0.00
Africanadian Mediation & Community Services	8	n/a	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
Agincourt Community Services Association	41	\$26,000.00	\$49,968.00	\$0.00
Albion Neighbourhood Services	1	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Amadeusz	1	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Arts Etobicoke/Expect Theatre	5	\$29,150.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Bangladeshi-Canadian Community Services	32	n/a	\$49,570.00	\$0.00
Belka Enrichment Center/Caribbean Global Missions	8	n/a	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Bereaved Families of Ontario-Toronto	20	\$12,500.00	\$28,000.00	\$0.00
Boost Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention	27	n/a	\$28,422.00	\$0.00
Breakaway Relief Care	12	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Canadian Cambodian Association of Ontario	8	n/a	\$40,000.00	\$0.00
Canadian Tamil Youth Development Centre	38	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$40,000.00
Canadian Training Institute (CTI)	30	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Carefirst Seniors and Community Services Association	39	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$35,000.00
Centre for Spanish Speaking People	9	n/a	\$27,893.25	\$0.00
Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto Chapter (CCNC)	20	\$12,500.00	\$37,642.00	\$0.00
Community MicroSkills Development Centre	2	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Concerned Kids Charity of Toronto, The	20	n/a	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
Council of Agencies Serving South Asians (CASSA)	35	\$33,660.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Dixon Hall	28	\$31,200.00	\$36,666.00	\$0.00

<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2010 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2011 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2011 Recommended Allocation</u>
Doorsteps Neighbourhood Services	7	n/a	\$39,996.00	\$0.00
East Metro Youth Services	38	n/a	\$37,492.00	\$0.00
East Scarborough Storefront	43	\$35,700.00	\$49,292.00	\$35,700.00
Elements	7	n/a	\$129,607.00	\$0.00
Ethiopian Association in the Greater Toronto Area and Surrounding Regions	31	n/a	\$45,795.60	\$0.00
Film Stars Project, The	7	n/a	\$33,000.00	\$0.00
FoodShare Toronto	18	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
For You Telecare Family Service	25	n/a	\$16,000.00	\$0.00
Friends in Trouble Youth Initiative	9	n/a	\$36,925.00	\$0.00
Frontline Partners with Youth Network (FPYN)	20	\$30,000.00	\$40,277.00	\$30,000.00
Grassroots Youth Collaborative	14	\$24,700.00	\$31,724.00	\$24,700.00
Iraqi Canadian Society of Ontario, The	2	n/a	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Jane/Finch Community & Family Centre	8	n/a	\$19,951.00	\$0.00
Leave Out Violence	15	n/a	\$33,274.00	\$0.00
Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Youthline	27	\$25,500.00	\$43,723.00	\$0.00
Malvern Family Resource Centre	42	n/a	\$46,000.00	\$30,000.00
Mornelle Court Resident Action Coalition, The	43	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00
Muay Thai Training Centres, Inc	20	n/a	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
Native Child and Family Services of Toronto	27	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$30,000.00
New Canadian Community Centre	24	n/a	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
North York Community House	15	n/a	\$15,889.00	\$15,800.00
North York Women's Centre	16	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00
Ontario Council for Agencies Serving Immigrants	16	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00

<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2010 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2011 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2011 Recommended Allocation</u>
Parkdale Community Health Centre (PCHC)	14	n/a	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Peace Theatre	31	n/a	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Peacebuilders International (Canada)	28	n/a	\$35,652.00	\$35,600.00
Ralph Thornton Centre	30	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
REH'MA Community Services	7	n/a	\$44,892.00	\$44,800.00
Rexdale Community Health Centre	2	\$26,000.00	\$37,319.00	\$0.00
Rexdale Women's Centre	1	n/a	\$49,869.00	\$0.00
San Romanoway Revitalization Association	8	n/a	\$35,634.00	\$0.00
Shakespeare in Action	19	n/a	\$16,000.00	\$0.00
Somali Youth Association of Toronto (SOYAT)	2	\$31,200.00	\$31,057.00	\$31,000.00
Souls Friendly Ministry	28	n/a	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
St. Alban's Boys and Girls Club	20	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Street Health Community Nursing Foundation	28	\$30,600.00	\$32,000.00	\$30,600.00
Support Enhance Access Services Centre (S.E.A.S. Centre)	28	n/a	\$25,462.00	\$0.00
Vasantham - A Tamil Seniors Wellness centre	37	n/a	\$29,000.00	\$0.00
Warden Woods Community Centre	35	n/a	\$22,483.96	\$22,400.00
York-Fairbank Centre for Seniors	15	n/a	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Young and Potential Fathers	11	n/a	\$70,000.00	\$0.00
Youth Assisting Youth	23	n/a	\$65,507.00	\$0.00
Grand Total:			\$2,428,721.81	\$665,600.00
Appeal Fund:				\$31,260.00
2011 Approved Budget:				\$696,860.00