2012 Global AIDS Initiative Allocation Recommendation

Date: June 25, 2012

To: Board of Health

From: Chair, AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program Review Panel

Wards: None

Reference Number: 

SUMMARY

This report outlines the history of the Toronto Global AIDS Initiative and the funding allocation recommendation for 2012-2013.

The TPH 2012 approved operating budget for AIDS Prevention Community Investment Programme (APCIP) includes an allocation of $104,040. This report recommends an allocation of $104,040 to Schools Without Borders for the Toronto Global AIDS Initiative to be used between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2012 AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program Review Panel recommended that:

1. The Board of Health recommend Toronto City Council approve the allocation of $104,040 to Schools Without Borders as recommended by the 2012 APCIP Review Panel in Appendix B of this report.

2. Authority be granted to the Medical Office of Health to execute Letters of Understanding on behalf of the City.
Financial Impact
There is no financial impact beyond what has been approved in the TPH 2012 Approved Operating Budget. The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY
Toronto City Council, at the June 19, 20 and 22, 2007 meeting, approved the establishment of the Toronto Global AIDS Initiative (GAI) as part of the AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program funding envelope and as a tangible legacy of the XVI International AIDS Conference (IAC) held in Toronto in 2006. The purpose of the GAI is to establish information exchange and skills transfer with international partners in countries whose populations are disproportionately at risk for HIV/AIDS. http://www.toronto.ca/legaldocs/mmis/2007/cc/decisions/2007-06-19-cc10-dd.pdf. In 2007, additional monies were added to the APCIP budget for the GAI through the Community Partnership and Investment Programme (CPIP).

At its meeting on February 27, 2012 the Board of Health appointed ten members and two alternates to serve on the 2012 APCIP Review Panel, see Appendix A. The assessment of GAI proposal and recommendation for funding has been conducted by the APCIP Review Panel as part of their roles and responsibilities since the establishment of the legacy initiative.

ISSUE BACKGROUND
In August 2006, the City of Toronto was host to the XVI International AIDS Conference (IAC). As part of the conference, Mayor David Miller, on behalf of the Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS in Africa and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), issued a proclamation that local governments must play a role in the response to HIV and AIDS. Key to the response is the need "to promote and protect the human rights of women, children, youth, and people living with HIV and AIDS while addressing the underlying issues of stigma and discrimination."

The City of Toronto, under the leadership of Toronto Public Health, had a history of HIV/AIDS capacity building given a partnership that was developed with South East District Council (SEDC) and supported by FCM with Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) funding. The South East District Youth Empowerment League (SEDYEL) was a youth engagement initiative that emerged from the partnership with the City of Toronto.

FCM’s support ended in 2008 after funding was re-allocated to 4 priority countries, according to CIDA criteria. TPH’s mentoring and support of the partnership with SEDYEL and SEDC continued, with the support of Schools Without Borders which has received funding through the GAI. SWB has been funded for the past 5 years to work on projects mainly in Kenya and Botswana. In 2011, Africa’s Children/ Africa’s Future partnered with SWB to expand programming into Tanzania.
COMMENTS
The Global AIDS Initiative is promoted through a focused call for project applications. Organizations wishing to apply for the GAI must meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrated capacity to provide knowledge exchange and skills transfer regarding HIV/AIDS capacity building.
- Track record of involvement in HIV/AIDS in a global context and/or international development with an interest in HIV/AIDS.
- Demonstrated partnerships and collaboration with key stakeholders including representatives of the intended population, in implementation of the project.
- Demonstrated epidemiologic basis of need.
- Potential to leverage additional resources.
- Could include onetime capital funds to support a specific HIV/AIDS project sustainability.
- Demonstrate collaboration with Municipalities in the communities where the Toronto Global HIV/AIDS Initiative will be implemented.
- Toronto based office

As in previous years, the Review Panel assesses funding in relation to program objectives and priorities, and recommends final allocations to the Board of Health. All Review Panel members are asked to declare any conflicts of interest prior to each review session and are not present during the review of applications when there is a conflict.

The 2012 APCIP Review Panel, at its meeting on May 17, 2012, recommended an allocation of $104,040.00 to Schools Without Borders (SWB) to strengthen program and organizational effectiveness of the existing Safe Spaces project for girls in Nairobi, Kenya; Ramotswa, Botswana; and Tanzania. SWB will also work in partnership with Africa's Children – Africa's Future (AC-AF) in the mutual exchange of project models. SWB will be primarily responsible for Kenya and Botswana and AC-AF will be adapting a similar model of work in Tanzania. The 2012 proposal places emphasis on the development of micro-lending and enterprise development initiatives.

Schools Without Borders (SWB) is a Toronto based community agency that has worked in AIDS prevention globally. Appendix B details the services required and related budget allocation. Schools Without Borders continues to meet the established funding criteria, submitted recent audited financial statement to assess the reasonableness of their unrestricted reserves and met all reporting criteria.

Africa's Children - Africa's Youth is a Toronto-based organization that is dedicated to providing sustainable and holistic support (campaigns and innovative solutions) to orphaned children and youth in Tanzania who are directly affected by HIV/AIDS.

On January 17, 2012, City Council approved funding for the Global AIDS Initiative to be administered by TPH.  
Medical Officer of Health will report to the Board of Health as part of the 2013 budget process on options for the future of the municipal funding which supports the Global AIDS Initiative.

CONCLUSION
The APCIP Review Panel is recommending an allocation in 2012-2013 of $104,040 to Schools Without Borders to work in partnership with Africa's Children – Africa's Youth to strengthen program and organizational effectiveness of existing Safe Spaces projects for girls in Nairobi, Kenya; Ramotswa, Botswana; and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

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SIGNATURE

John Maxwell, Chair
AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program Review Panel

ATTACHMENTS
Appendix A: AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program review panel terms of reference
Appendix B: Recommended Global AIDS Initiative activities for 2012/2013