

## **Community Service Partnership (CSP) one-time transition funding recommendation**

**Date:** May 15, 2017

**To:** Community Development and Recreation Committee

**From:** Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration

**Wards:** 12, 17

### **SUMMARY**

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St. Clair West Services for Seniors is a Community Services Partnership (CSP) funded organization that voluntarily merged in 2017 with Reconnect Community Health Services. The new organization has incorporated as Reconnect Community Health Services. This report recommends one-time transition CSP funding to Reconnect Community Health Services.

St. Clair West Services for Seniors ("SCWSS") is no longer eligible for Community Service Partnership ("CSP") funding, as it ceased to exist as of April 1, 2017. The non-profit organization dissolved as a corporate entity and transferred the corporation's assets, programs, services and employees to Reconnect Community Health Services ("Reconnect"). Information provided by Reconnect to City staff indicates that the organization does not meet the CSP organizational eligibility criteria, as the organization does not have a registered voting membership (i.e. does not have an open membership structure), membership does not reflect the community and the target group, and the organization is not accountable to registered members through an Annual General Meeting.

City staff recommend that a one-time amount of \$51,055.00, the value of the 2016 CSP funding provided to SCWSS, be approved for disbursement to Reconnect to accommodate the transition of the two CSP programs formerly operated by SCWSS: Escort and Transportation and W.I.S.E. Senior's Program (Client Intervention). Both programs work to achieve independent living and decrease isolation for seniors living in York.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council approve allocation of one-time funding from the Community Services Partnership (CSP) funding program to Reconnect Community Health Services in an amount totalling \$51,055.00, to support the transitional operation of the two CSP programs formerly operated by St. Clair West Services for Seniors.

## FINANCIAL IMPACT

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The recommendations in this report will have no financial impact beyond what is included in the 2017 Operating Budget for Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFA), with funding available in the 2017 Community Partnership Investment Program.

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

## DECISION HISTORY

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The City of Toronto provides support to the, e 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)

The 2017 Operating Budget for Social Development, Finance and Administration includes funding for the Community Partnership Investment Program (CPIP), which includes Community Services Partnership funding.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.EX22.2>

## COMMENTS

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The City of Toronto uses grants to support a strong and vibrant voluntary sector; achieve its social, cultural and economic goals; engage residents in civic life and participate in decision-making; and leverage resources from the community, business and other levels of government.

CSP provides ongoing and stable support to Toronto's not-for-profit organizations to enable them to offer high quality and relevant services that strengthen the city's well-being and work to improve social outcomes for vulnerable, marginalized and high-risk communities.

SCWSS was one of the one hundred and ninety nine (199) organizations funded through CSP. SCWSS had been receiving CSP funding for two programs (CSP 2016 amounts):

- Escort and Transportation: \$8,260.00
- W.I.S.E. Senior's Program (Client Intervention): \$42,795.00

In 2016, SCWSS reported a total of 2,094 service users for the whole organization and 1,670 for the CSP funded programs. Both CSP funded programs work to achieve independent living and decrease isolation for seniors living in York by offering transportation to medical services, social activities, and appointments, and by offering telephone assurance, friendly visiting, shopping services, health clinics, crisis support, congregate dining, outreach, education and counselling support.

At a Special Meeting held on January 19, 2017, SCWSS members decided to transfer all the assets, program and services of the corporation to Reconnect and dissolve as a corporate entity. On April 1, 2017 the two organizations were effectively merged under the name Reconnect Community Health Services.

Reconnect Community Health Services has not been previously funded through CSP. Representatives of the newly merged organization completed and submitted a CSP organizational assessment form and the organization was deemed ineligible for CSP, as:

- The organization has indicated that it does not have a registered voting membership (i.e. does not have an open membership structure);
- The organization has indicated that its membership does not reflect the community and the target group
- The organization has indicated that it is not accountable to registered members through an Annual General Meeting

Reconnect has assured City Staff that it will continue to run the CSP programs at the same locations and in the same manner in which SCWSS operated them.

City staff recommend that Council approve one-time funding to support Reconnect in the transitional operation of the two CSP programs formerly operated by SCWSS. Following Council's approval of the disbursement of this one-time funding to Reconnect, the CSP funding that was formerly allocated to SCWSS on an annual basis will be reallocated based on a review of community needs and priorities.

The W.I.S.E. Senior's (Client Intervention) Program is an Elderly Persons' Centre (EPC) program co-funded by Ontario Seniors Secretariat (OSS). In order to be eligible for the Provincial portion of EPC funding, the organization must receive a municipal contribution. Reconnect receives City of Toronto funding of \$309,567.00 from Shelters, Support and Housing Administration (SSHA) Division, to support a Streets to Homes program for recently housed individuals. This funding is provided through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process that began on Oct 1, 2014 and will conclude by March. 31, 2019. The OSSS has confirmed that this funding constitutes the municipal contribution to the EPC funding.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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